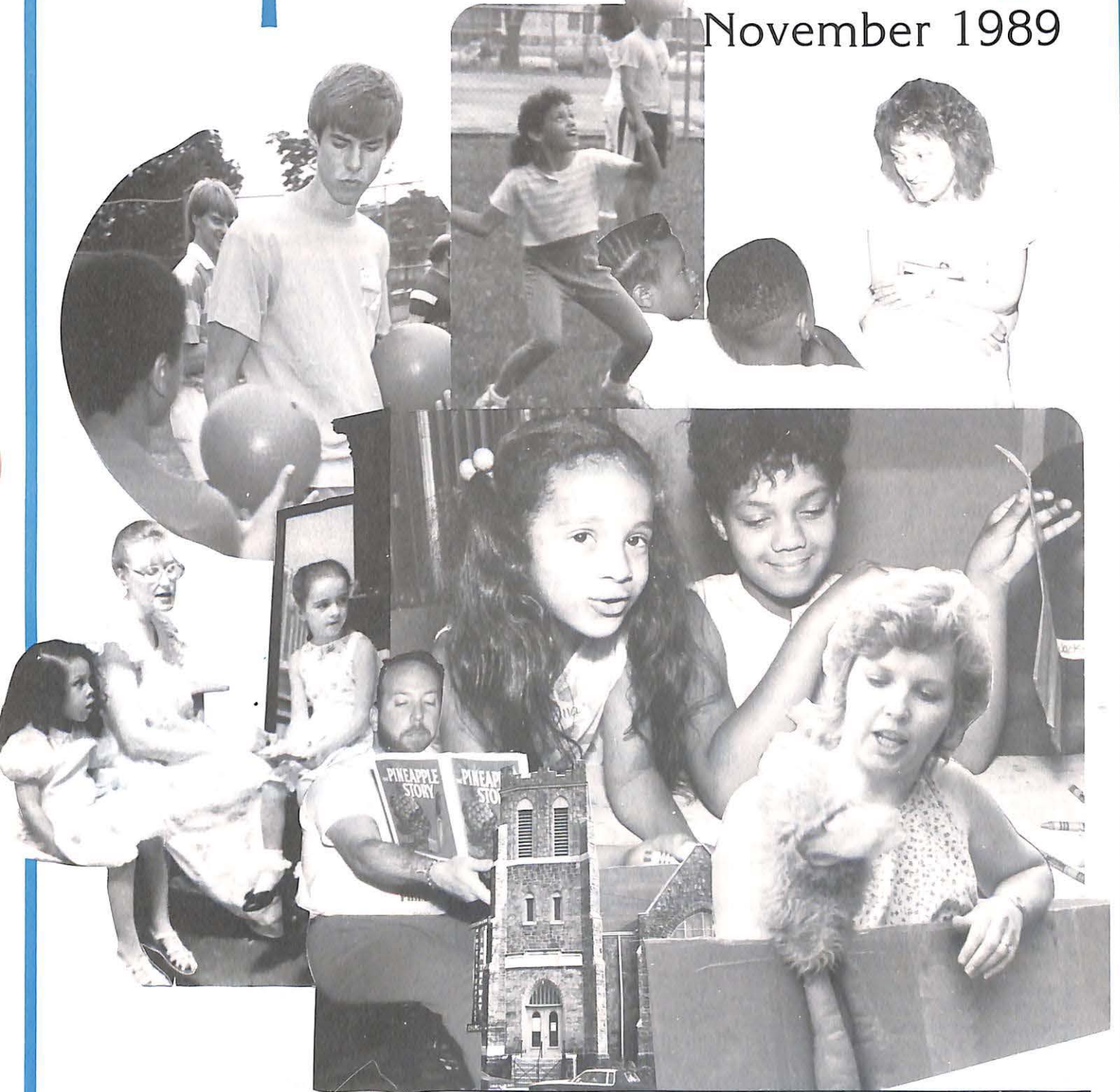


# Baptist Herald

November 1989



*California Youth Serve in  
Inner-city Philadelphia*



# A Personal Perspective

by Lewis Petrie

I have been involved in the North American Baptist Conference since 1983, when I began pastoring a Conference church in Melville, Saskatchewan.

At the beginning, I experienced what I believed was a healthy pastor's skepticism toward denominational ministry. I suspected that it was a necessary burden (some of you thought I was going to say "evil" — be honest now!).

As I matured in my relationship to the Conference through activity in the local church and association, I began to realize that there was much more to the Conference than just being "a necessary burden."

Now that I have spent some time at the International Office (since January 1988), I begin to understand what a tremendous responsibility we have as believers, disciples, and stewards in the Kingdom of God.

It is my conviction even in the age of declining denominational loyalties in many areas that we, as North American Baptists, have maintained our "vision" as people dedicated "to reconciling the world through Christ." I would like to see this continue until our Lord Jesus returns!

There is a concern that our Conference has become an increasing "burden" in terms of finances needed to fund our mission and ministry commitments. There always seems to be a need, a challenge to be met, and a dollar to be given. This is always going to be true for consecrated people who desire to see God's Kingdom extended and edified.

No longer am I skeptical about our cooperative ministries. God has the plan and purpose for the North American Baptist Conference. I want to be a part of that plan and purpose.



**"There always seems to be a need, a challenge to be met, a dollar to be given. This is always going to be true for consecrated people who desire to see God's Kingdom extended and edified."**

It helps me to realize that when the Son of God looked down upon the world (of which we are a part) that He saw "a necessary burden."

He gave of Himself completely to meet that burden, and now I am expected to do the same.

*"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. And here*

*is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, as it is written: 'He that gathered much did not have too much, and he that gathered little did not have too little.'" (II Corinthians 8:9-15 NIV).*

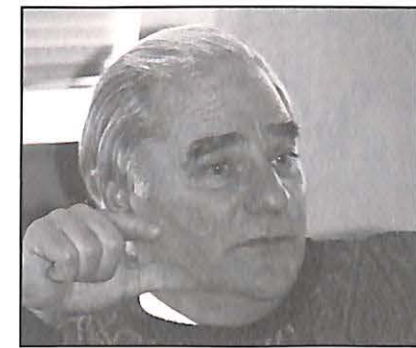
Your gift towards the Basic Mission and Ministry Goal of \$4,750,000 helps us to meet the "burden" of ministering to many in the name of Jesus Christ.

I trust that our involvement in the mission and ministry of the North American Baptist Conference will reap benefits for eternity. □

*The Rev. Lewis Petrie is Development Director for the North American Baptist Conference.*

<b>1989 Basic Mission and Ministry Goal</b>	<b>\$4,750,000</b>
<b>Contributed as of 10/22/89</b>	<b>2,570,858</b>
<b>Needed by 12/31/89</b>	<b>\$2,179,142</b>

**Pray that the goal will be reached and that ministries to reach people for Christ may continue.**



6



11



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BAPTIST HERALD (USPS 042560) (ISSN-0 005-5700) is published monthly (except January/February and July/August bi-monthly) by the North American Baptist Conference, a binational conference of churches in Canada and the United States, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Phone: (708) 495-2000. Fax: (708) 495-3301. Second class postage paid at Villa Park, IL 60181 and at additional mailing office, and registered as Second Class Mail under permit #9327 at Norwich, Ontario.

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

ADVERTISING RATE: \$8.00 per inch single column (2 1/4 inches) black and white. OBITUARIES: \$8.00 U.S., \$9.00 Cdn., to accompany obituary, (100 word limit).

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

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



# Thank You, Thank You

by G. Roger Schoenhals

A woman boarded a bus. Every seat was filled. She was tired and carried several packages. Noticing her plight, a man stood and graciously offered his seat. The woman sat down and promptly fainted.

After she was revived, she looked up at the man who had relinquished his seat and said, "Thank you." Whereupon he promptly fainted.

Sometimes I feel like fainting when someone says, "Thank you." Those two words are about as rare today as a Model T Ford. But what's worse than not hearing an occasional "Thank you," is hearing it from insincere lips.

Like the "automated" lady at our local supermarket. She rings up my groceries, takes my money, and says, "Thank you for shopping at \_\_\_\_\_." I can tell she doesn't mean it because of the wearisome, sing-song tone of her voice. And because she's looking toward the next customer as she speaks. I walk away thinking I've been waited on by a machine.

Saying "Thank you," to customers is probably company policy. And I suspect at first she said it thoughtfully and with a smile. But as the days and weeks passed, the practice became a habit, and the habit became a mechanical response.

Come to think of it, expressing thanks was also rare in Jesus' day. Do you remember the ten lepers who were healed by Jesus? Only one came back and said, "Thank you."

As Christians, our "company policy" is: "In every thing give thanks" (I Thessalonians 5:18a). We are to be thankful people in conversations with others and in our prayers to God. Indeed, we who have been redeemed and enjoy the living presence of Christ in our lives have every reason to give thanks. We of all people should find it easy to say, "Thank you."

Consider the example of the Apostle Paul. He was thankful for his brothers and sisters in Christ (Acts 28:15), for the unspeakable gift of Christ (II Corinthians 9:15), for victory through Christ (I Corinthians 15:57), for the ministry given to him by God (I Timothy 1:12), and for the spiritual growth taking place in believers (Colossians 1:3-5).

Paul knew the value of a thankful spirit and so he

exhorted others to follow his example. To the Philippians he wrote, "with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." He told the Ephesians to turn from worthless speech to thankful speech (5:4).

But Paul goes even further. Giving thanks is to be not only associated with our prayers and speech, it's to flow from us in all that we do (Colossians 3:17). A lifestyle of thanksgiving.

Like the gal at the check-out counter, we can become careless and cold in our giving of thanks. We can mouth words without expressing true gratitude.

So how do we keep fresh and genuine in giving thanks? How do we keep from expressing automated gratitude?

I think we can do it by building a thankful prayer life. If we can nourish a thankful attitude toward God, we will find ourselves overflowing with thankfulness in our relationship to His creation. The beauties of the world, the kindnesses of people, the various events of life will provide countless opportunities for us to say, "Thank you, Thank you."

Before launching into your prayer to God, spend a few moments meditating on His greatness and goodness. By focusing your thoughts on Him, you'll become freshly aware of how worthy He is to receive your gratitude.

Next, consider the blessings you have received from the Lord. James tells us that "Every good gift... is from above" (1:17). Enumerate some of the good things that have happened to you. You have eternal life. You have a God who guides you day by day. As my dad always used to say to me, "Son, you've got a lot to be thankful for."

Now, having considered His goodness and having counted your blessings, begin to express your gratitude item by item. Be specific. You might even want to keep a list where you can add new blessings as they come to mind.

And, finally, every so often devote your entire prayer to thanksgiving. Ask for nothing. Simply thank God for every gift you can recall. The experience will revitalize you. You'll begin to discover the gift of thanksgiving. And you'll begin to express genuine gratitude in every area of your life. □

## What Makes Worship Meaningful?

*The following contains informal excerpts from a conversation interview with three seminary professors discussing the subject of worship. You are 'listening' to Dr. Ron Carlson, associate professor of evangelism and church development, Prof. Denise Muir Kjesbo, instructor of Christian education, and Dr. Hugh Litchfield, associate professor of homiletics.*

### What makes worship meaningful for you?

**HUGH LITCHFIELD:** When I am given opportunity through music and word to experience a bit of the transcendence of God; just to be in His presence is a privilege. And at the same time, to sense the immanence of God, that He is with me; that He is there, that He is here.

**RON CARLSON:** Worship is meaningful for me when there is a sense of orderliness of worship, a sense of flow purposefully planned. There is room for spontaneity, but there is a direction. The early church modeled the dynamic of horizontal and vertical fellowship. People who haven't seen each other for a week or longer use conversation to renew their acquaintance and find support. Rather than seeing this as "blockage to worship," we need to incorporate this as part of worship. It is being free to converse with one another, and have this as part of worship.

### What are the historical roots of evangelical and liturgical worship?

**LITCHFIELD:** What we have are the elements of worship, not how they were really used, or how important, or in what order they were particularly used. They were worshiped through forms like the Lord's Supper; they worshiped through baptism, through preaching, through confessions of faith. So it is left to adaptation. There never has been any set way of "this is the way to worship."

**CARLSON:** I don't think we can say there is a biblical formula or prescription for worship, but there are indications of how a church did worship. Some form of order is stressed in the Bible by Paul.

**LITCHFIELD:** Everything is to be done neatly and with order. It wasn't just, "let's get together, and let's do our own thing." There was some thought given to worship.

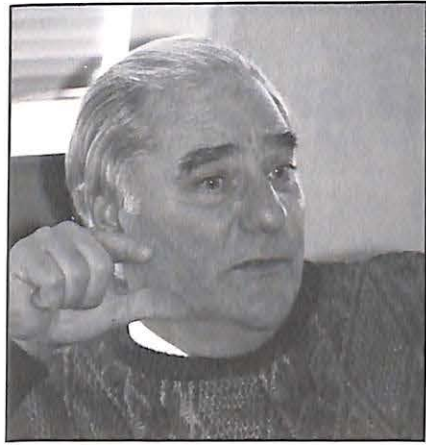
Whenever you have a group of people meeting together, there has to be thought given to worship.

### Should music include traditional and/or contemporary music?

**DENISE MUIR KJESBO:** We need music that meets needs of the various people in the congregation so they can indeed worship. Some people can worship through contemporary and some through traditional music. We need to have both kinds! Certainly, as you plan worship over a longer spectrum of time, you need, at times, a higher liturgy and higher participation and, at other times, maybe allow for a bit more continuity, so people are not always wondering: "What are they going to make me do today?" It is a balancing act, and there is a real gift of discernment needed.

**LITCHFIELD:** In my church, we told people if they did not like the music we sang this Sunday, they should come to the next service, and





Hugh Litchfield

they may like that music. My theology of music is that God is a God of variety and speaks in many different ways, in many different forms, and in many different types of music. If we only used one type, then we limit the way God can speak. In some churches, it seems to be forgotten that there was music written before 1980 that is good Christian music for worship.

**KJESBO:** Sometimes folks also don't realize there was any music written after 1980.

**CARLSON:** More important for me than the form of music, though that's important, is the content. There are old hymns that are theologically incorrect or trite, and there are some praise songs that substantially are very shallow. I have noticed that many times in worship hymns are chosen because of the melody rather than having anything related to the worship theme.

**LITCHFIELD:** My concern about preaching and other parts of worship is that we're competing for priority. That we, as preachers, are the reason to come to worship. The electronic media has fostered this image. "Here comes the preacher, spotlights on him, here he is..." It is the "star complex," which is never what worship is. In the evangelical tradition, preaching is a major component. But preaching is the means to an end and that end is worship. Preaching must serve that end. Therefore, it is a part of worship and not the only part. Other parts of worship are not preliminar-

ies. Sermon, symbol, music, all of it, must be in place for true worship.

**CARLSON:** Worship is the primary aspect in coming before God. In worship, we come into God's presence, and we address God. The other aspect is that God comes into our presence and addresses us. The sermon is primarily the word from God (in the form of worship) to God's people and the application of that word in our lives.

**LITCHFIELD:** A sermon is not casual chitchat from God. A sermon is the Word, as all parts are. If it's the Word, people will take what you say as the Word of God. They will listen to you and believe you; therefore you, as preacher, must make sure that, to the best that you understand it, what you say is true.



Ronald Carlson

### How can we involve our "church people" in worship?

**LITCHFIELD:** We need to use laity more in worship, but I think that when we use them, we ought to prepare them. We need to train them to read the Scripture and the responsive reading as well as to pray. We need to have laity preach! Church people should participate in other aspects (besides congregational singing and the choir), but it is our job, as ministers, to help them become worship leaders.

I feel I have a contract with the church members who come to worship. My responsibility to them is to provide the best kind of experience for them. Nothing will guarantee worship if the Spirit of God isn't there. But my feeling is,



Denise Kjesbo

when we come to worship, that's a "given": The Spirit is there.

**KJESBO:** There also needs to be individual preparation for worship. I've heard several say "the days of the Saturday night bath" and "polishing shoes for Sunday" are definitely over. But maybe that helped us begin to think in terms of preparing ourselves to meet with the people of God and worship.

**CARLSON:** A worship service needs to be well planned. A worship committee can function as a cooperative effort by a team of people from the congregation working together to plan worship.

**KJESBO:** We need to equip people in advance and then support them so that it is an action-reflection. We equip our people in leadership, and then we meet together to discuss what happened last week: what went well and in what areas we can grow more.

**LITCHFIELD:** In the early church, what they did first was worship and then went out and changed the world. Sometimes we don't think of it this way. We try to change the world, and then we come in to worship. The early church didn't change the world and then decide to worship; they worshiped and then they went out.

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## mission news

### Come With Me on Trek in Africa for Medical Clinics

by Myrna Goodman

After an all-day drive, gripping the wheel to keep the motor on the rutted, boulder-filled roads, we reached our farthest Mbem LAP post about 4 p.m. A woman sitting near the door of the Life Abundant Programme post held an eight-year-old girl in her arms. The child was listless and gave little response. A brief check revealed the child had a severe anemia, and we advised the family to take the child to Mbem Health Center to receive a blood transfusion.



Myrna Goodman

The next day, we learned the child had died about 4 a.m. We visited the compound before beginning the day's clinic. Though we explained that the cause of death was due to the "lack of blood," the family delayed burial to arrange for a "post mortem" exam to discover whether the cause of death was due to a spell cast on the child or whether the child herself was a "witch." This would be determined by how they viewed the blood clot in the heart.

During the next two days clinics, we saw many more very malnourished children in that area. What a challenge to try to encourage teaching and prevention of these problems when all the people seem to want is medicine from the box. Lack of food

is not a problem, but knowledge of how to use it is. Other illnesses, such as sickle-cell anemia, may be checked if the anemia is found and treated early. Please pray that we may build up our LAP work in the villages with regular infant welfare clinics and that needless deaths may be prevented.

From this village, we traveled to five more in succession, each one having its own problems. The LAP program includes not only how to prevent disease but also presents the Gospel and gives spiritual counsel.

At one village, the church was trying to deal with the problem of six persons who had supposedly been "transformed" into a leopard, and four of them had died. By the end of our trek, all six had died, and one other child was believed to have died from the same cause. Our field pastor met us there and after showing gospel films two evenings, 11 people responded for counseling. The second evening, he asked all the church leaders and Christians to stay. He gave a very good challenge on the power of God and the need for Christians to separate themselves from these beliefs. Please pray that they will be faithful to God's work and trust in His power alone.

On our final trek to a small village on the Mbaw Plain, we received a very positive response to the films. They were shown Friday and Saturday evenings. We closed with a challenge on Sunday morning using the Scriptures and simple message of "Steps to Peace with God."

What a testimony to the power of God's Word as two came for first-time commitment and six for counseling and rededication. We talked with them and encouraged them to be faithful in Bible study and personal devotions. What a need for a discipleship group!

This church has no pastor now, and we can only pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to nurture and help these Christians to grow. Will you join us in praying that this would be the nucleus to a real spirit of renewal and revival for that church? □

Myrna Goodman of San Antonio, Texas, is serving as a short-term missionary with the Life Abundant Programme (LAP) in Cameroon.

### Worshipping in French

by Scott and Ruth Clark

"Nous chanterons page 137." In the back row, a couple listened intently and hesitantly began leafing through the pages of their hymnal. At last, they found a page and snuck covert glances at their neighbor's books to see if they had gotten it right. Hallelujah!

The highlight of our first several months of worshipping in French was finding the right hymn. Even now, I still feel that surge of excitement when I get it right...



Scott Clark

Ron Salzman Photo



Scott, Ruth, and Karissa Clark

Ron Salzman Photo

A recent cover of the Baptist Herald proclaimed, "Worship the King." It hit me not as a suggestion or a good idea but as a command — something I must do out of obedience to the Lord Jesus. "Worship the Lord with reverence" (Psalm 2:11) and "Worship the Lord in the splendour of His holiness" (Psalm 29:2) are orders we need to follow.

But, but, but Lord, I can't worship in French-speaking Switzerland; I don't even know the language! The



Lord's answer was clear, "Yes, you can — go to the assembly and look for my Presence."

Our little church in Switzerland was called "Action Biblique" or Biblical Action, a great name for a church! We had about 50 believers there who always greeted us with a smile and a friendly, "Ca va?" (how is it going?)

The service is always the same — prayer, announcements, two or three songs, prayer, and then the sermon. That's it! Perhaps once a month, there is a special number by the all-women choir or a cute elderly couple who sing duets. At a first glance, what is there to help us worship the Lord?

The strangest things have come to our attention...we have sensed the presence of the Lord and worshipped... almost to our amazement. The simplest things...such as a hymn to a tune we know...have moved us to tears and a deeper sense of worship than we have known before. Other times, it has been the preacher (normally one of the members — the pastor only preaches once a month) giving a message with incredible passion and love in his eyes. We don't know what he said, but he communicated God with his very life.

It's rather ironic that one of the most difficult tasks we face as missionaries is going to church (not very spiritual sounding, eh?). It's hard work, but...there is always something that strikes us. First though, we have to come expecting God to touch us, devoting ourselves to worship the King. He alone is worthy!

*Scott, Ruth, and Karissa Clark, missionaries, have completed French language study in Switzerland, began serving in Cameroon, West Africa, and were flown to the U.S.A. in October due to a herniated disc in Ruth's back.*

## Spletzer Organized Theological School Library in Nigeria

MBU, NIGERIA. In the short time Trudy Spletzer was in Mambilla, she cataloged more than 1,200 books, organized more than 120 sections of

books and magazines, developed the card catalog system, and provided visual aids for each subject in the library to help theological students



find books more easily. Trudy, who had served as a short-term missionary previously at Hillcrest School in Jos, Nigeria, served this time as a volunteer-in-missions. Her task: to improve the Mambilla Baptist Theological School library in Mbu, Nigeria. Trudy also visited four different churches on the Mambilla Plateau to encourage each church.

Not only did Trudy, who comes from Kelowna, BC, advance the work of the Mambilla Baptist Convention, she also inspired us in our work as missionaries to continue on with the work God has called us to do.

Six weeks is not a long time, but great things can be done over such a short period. God can also use your talents and gifts to help His work move ahead on our North American Baptist Conference mission fields.

Will you consider how God can use you to help develop and promote the work of God's kingdom as a volunteer in missions?

## Cameroonian Pastors Lead Sunday School Teachers' Seminars

NDU, CAMEROON. Pastor Timothy Ngonge, graduate of the Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary with a Certificate of Theology and student in the present B.Th. class, led one of the four sessions at the Sunday School Teachers' Seminar in the Ndu area, Cameroon, this year. Some 50 Sunday school teachers of Ndu Field attended.

Ngonge taught "Preparation to Teach a Sunday School Class." Pastor Oliver Ngala dealt with "The Importance of the Sunday School in Church Growth." A former pastor and present student in the Certificate of Theology Course, William Njah, lectured about "Methods for Teaching Adults." Missionary Annemarie Hattenhauer demonstrated a number of teaching aids and methods to be used to teach a children's Sunday school class.

Pray that all Sunday school teachers, who attended, will find continued joy and success in their teaching.



# What Can Kids Do?

by Mary Jo Stockdale

While in Cameroon as a Volunteer in Missions, I visited the children's ward at Mbingo Baptist Hospital. A three-year-old child grabbed my attention. His bandaged legs, bent at the hips, hung in traction. He would lay in this position for at least another week.

He had nothing in his hands and nothing to look at except nurses bustling from one patient to another. Added to these, a rather scary-looking white doctor appeared once or twice a day, as well as mamas who tended other little sick folk there.

"He needs a toy or something," I said to Gene.

"Oh, he has this balloon," Gene picked up an inflated I.V. bag from the floor and gave it to him.

That was the extent of the little boy's diversion.

I put myself in his traction, and looked through the eyes of the beautiful little two-year-old Fulani child in another bed. I tried to feel what these children must feel, and I thought, "I'm going to make some stuffed animals for the kids to pass their time and to make this a more friendly place."

Stuffed animals about six or eight inches long would be just the toy, or some picture books on stiff cloth, or some put-together things, like things to button, snap, or lace. But when will I have the time or materi-

als to make such things? My machine is still in our cargo that hasn't caught up with us yet.

Then I thought of my granddaughter with her multiple creative talents. I could sure use her here.

Well, why not? Why not invite a host of other junior high and high school kids to get involved in something in addition to their offerings — maybe a once-a-month sewing, cutting, pasting time. Yes, the boys, could get into the act as well.

Many boys and girls have the opportunity to take sewing and

*"Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me"*

*(Matthew 25:40).*

woodworking classes in middle or junior high school. What about using their newly learned skills to make a toy? No, ladies, this isn't for you. It's something our young people could do and have fun

doing. They will also have the joy of knowing they're making a significant contribution to small, suffering children in the ward at Mbingo or Bansa Baptist Hospitals and even at the clinics.

I think of the little girl who was scared into terrifying screams when my husband Gene, a volunteer medical doctor, had to lance her foot. Wish I'd had a little toy to give her to calm her down. It would also have helped to let her know "Doc" was still her friend.

You ask, what type of toys? They would have to be sturdy and washable, bright and colorful, with no removable eyes, noses, or other things that might get swallowed. Yes, these children know about trucks, taxis, and motorcycles, and they are even more familiar with trees, flowers, birds, and bugs.

For the joy and open door to hearts, I don't think you can beat a toy. That almost rhymes...

To give some joy,  
Make a toy;  
Send it to some ailing  
Little girl or boy!

How about your youth group taking on a project like this and taking the responsibility of mailing it to Cameroon? □

*Mary Jo Stockdale of Tacoma, WA, is a free-lance writer and has served with her husband Gene, a medical doctor, as a volunteer in missions in Cameroon several times.*



challenged to grow

# Kids of the Kingdom at Trenton Are Growing!

by Maritza Patet

**B**elieving fully that children need to be encouraged to grow in the Lord, and to be challenged in their spiritual walk, we formed a group we call "Kids of the Kingdom." This group of eight to ten children meet each Sunday evening at First Baptist Church in Trenton, IL, to learn more about the Christian life and what it means in practical terms in their young lives now.

The children, ages five to eleven, began meeting one and a half years ago to memorize Scripture. We called this memory program, "Keys to Growing in the Lord." Each week each child received a verse of Scripture written on a poster board "key." As the verse was memorized, it was added to that child's "key ring." Quickly, the key rings began to fill.

We begin our meetings with a circle sharing time. The children tell about joys and/or concerns. Next, they recite the verses for the week. Finally, we share prayer requests and several children lead in prayer. A singing and praise time follows. The children sing their favorite songs and learn new ones. During the lesson time, we study such topics as prayer — how and why we pray, parts of a prayer. On one occasion to coincide with a series on the Lord's Prayer being taught by our pastor, we studied the Lord's Prayer, defined terms, and together created our very own "Kids of the Kingdom" paraphrase.

We have talked about missionary service and have been made aware of all the countries where the North American Baptist Conference supports missionaries. Each child then chose a missionary family to correspond with. Receiving the replies from the missionaries has been delightful and very informative.

We most recently discussed church planting, how it is carried out, and what is involved in starting a new church. We then "adopted" the church planting church in Carol Stream, IL, (Cornerstone Baptist) and

***"But Jesus said, 'Let the children alone and do not hinder them from coming to me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these'" (Matthew 19:14).***

wrote letters to encourage that congregation. We drew pictures of what we thought their church building might look like one day. They now send us their newsletter. Cornerstone Baptist Church has become a permanent part of our prayer time, and the newsletter gives us specifics to pray for. It's exciting to see the results of our prayers.

On our project night, we discussed T-shirts. Why T-shirts, you might ask? Well, we discussed all the things you might read on clothing these days and decided that we'd like to

create a shirt that has a message worth reading. Each child decided on a biblical concept or verse we had studied together and then created on the T-shirts their own visual concept of it.

We had a fun-time creating these T-shirts. When the kids wore their shirts to school, they commented, "People really do read what shirts say." It helped us realize we are to be discriminating in what we advertise and wear and, hopefully, this will touch the lives of those who "read" us in a positive way.

Since then, we have visited a nursing home near us, sung songs, and served snacks to the residents there.

We've tried to emphasize our Christian "learning" is not an isolated thing, but something which compels us to reach out, to do, to practically touch the lives of others. May God continue to grow His word in these young lives!

*Maritza Patet, the pastor's wife at First Baptist Church, Trenton, IL, serves as director of the group. Judy Stepp, mother of two in the group, is a leader, also.*



*Making a T-shirt with a message worth reading: "Jesus Has Risen!"*

# A Week's Vacation in the Inner-City

Text by Leslie Yater and photos by Lois Wolf-Reilly

**S**ummertime — time for vacation. Why would twelve single adults and four college students from Stockton, California, cross the country to spend a week of their vacation in inner-city Philadelphia? Was it simply to begin a Day Camp, to train others to do a Day Camp, or to take needed hands to remodel bathrooms and paint? No, we desired to be stretched by God and to serve Him in a new environment.

A new environment is exactly what we got! Inner-city Philadelphia definitely provided the cross-cultural experience — everything from row houses strewn with garbage and graffiti to groups of small children who, out of pure boredom, roamed the streets late at night. This was a definite challenge for those of us who are used to small-town North Stockton and who rarely venture down to South Stockton because of the dangers that lurk there!

The dedicated members of Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church most graciously received the Quail Lakes Baptist Church group. The Fleischmann Church members, small in number but mighty in their commitment to God, desire to minister to their neighborhood.

We, as a team, gave of ourselves. We worked hard, but, I feel, we received more than we gave.

The Fleischmann people encouraged us as they gave a special welcome. They told us how some in the congregation had given up their own vacations to work side-by-side with us in both the day camp and on the construction projects for the week. We learned from them what ministry tools, they feel, are most effective in their neighborhood. This Church, organized in 1843, is the oldest in the North American Baptist Conference.

So together, we launched a day camp for neighborhood children. Approximately 46 children attended each day, even with two days of torrential downpour. The children listened, sang, and participated in all the activities.

"The Quail Lakes group, experienced in leading day camps, started the day camp program," says Pastor James Correnti, "and trained the Kingdom Builders supply team, who served for nine weeks. Their ministry, under the direction of Bart Campolo, made possible a summer-long day camp/meal program, regular visitation, and the development of an evening teen program."



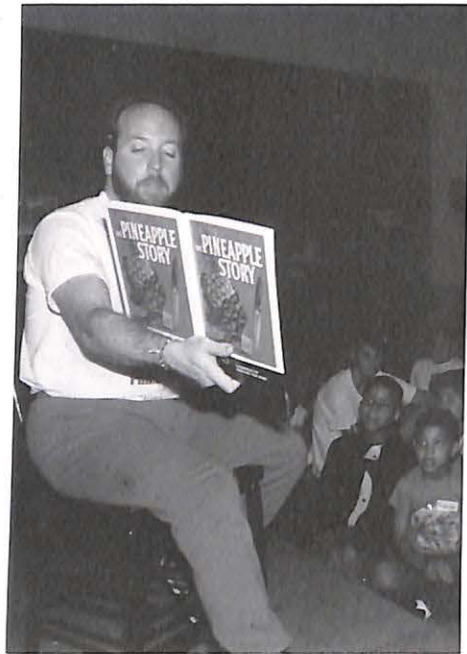
*Barbara Binder Photo*





# Day Camp

Brad (Quail Lakes Baptist Church) told mission stories to the children.



Darcie and Konnie (right photo) (QLBC) handed out the "Wordless Book" to the children and explained it to them.



Konnie (QLBC) encouraged Nicole as she made her puppet.



Paula and Knuffles (above) (QLBC) provide a Fourth of July puppet show in the park across the street from Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church.



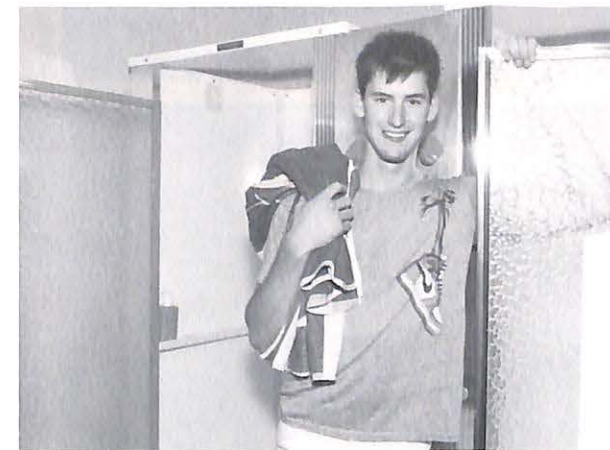
Following a presentation of the Gospel, 39 children spoke individually with counselors about what it means to receive Christ. The same night, counselors and church members visited 17 of the children's parents to tell them of their child's response. They asked them if they were prepared to help their child grow spiritually. Through this, we shared the Gospel with parents four times. Becky (QLBC), pictured, told Bible stories to a day camp group.



Phil, (left photo) the Quail Lakes day camp leader, got things ready for recreation with the help of a day camper.

Blair (QLBC), center, helps children with their crafts.

# Construction



Prior to their coming, two new showers were installed for the convenience of summer teams living on-site in the Fleischmann Memorial Church building. They were provided by a grant for urban ministry (\$3,200) from North American Baptist Conference Capital Funds. "This is the first time Fleischmann has received financial help from the Conference," states Pastor James Correnti.



Rich and Steve (QLBC) installed new sinks. The Quail Lakes Church had brought working funds for construction projects and food. Other groups contributed close to \$8,000 for the construction projects.



They scraped the old paint off cement walls, ceilings, and baseboards, and repainted the kitchen, multipurpose room, remodeled two bathrooms, and the shower room as well as updated the water heating system. John lowered the ceilings in both the men's and women's bathrooms.



## Bible Studies



"Little did we imagine that our informal discussions last spring with some leaders of Quail Lakes Baptist would be a catalyst for what was probably the most remarkable influx of outside resources ever to come to Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church," says James Correnti, pastor, (left).

"Two seminary students, Bill Shoemaker (right) from our own congregation, helps carry on the youth programs through the rest of the church year. Stephen Reilly (center), North American Baptist Seminary, served from June 14 through August 3." Stephen (top right) taught an adult Sunday school class. Tom Long (left) participated in the discipling process.

Stephen and his wife, Lois Wolf-Reilly, using their special gifts in photography and music, developed a slide program to be used to create interest in urban ministry.

Lois (left) photographed Phylis Robinson and Ella Honore (Fleischmann members) as they prepared the spaghetti supper prior to the prayer service on Wednesday evening.

New structures were formed for the growth of the Church in discipleship and leadership training using small groups for intensive fellowship and Bible study. Pictured are (left to right) Andy Skinner, Ro Fletcher, and Al Fletcher.

## Discipleship



Stephen Reilly Photo



## Choir



James McDuffy (left) of Fleischmann and Nate (Kingdom Builder) helped form a Gospel Choir.

"We are thankful for the vision of our North American Baptist Conference to join hands and work together in a bold new venture in a great old city. We ask that you search your own hearts and consider a call to an urban field, such as Philadelphia," challenges Correnti. "The short-term opportunities are great. Among them are day-care, tutoring, construction needs of every sort, and apprenticeship training to local residents. What could you offer? What are your plans for summer 1990?"

"All of our basic goals for summer ministry were met," reports Pastor Correnti. "Clearly the greatest perceived need concerned the youth and children. This summer, a new youth group was formed, which helped develop a new foothold in the Hunting Park neighborhood. The ministry of the entire Children's Department of the Church was strengthened. (Katie Stewart (right) plays an autoharp for Sunday school class songtime, assisted by Karen Cross, (adult left), Fleischmann member.)

As Debbie, a Quail Lakes Baptist Church team member said before we had to return home, "We thought after we gave of ourselves, we'd be empty, but that's not how it worked out. We are even more filled from this experience because of the love the people of Fleischmann showed to us." Truly, God is good. He did a mighty work during our "vacation" week and opened the doors as people from different backgrounds joined together for His purposes. Pray for Pastor Jim Correnti, co-pastor Greg Huston, and their dedicated congregation as they follow-up on decisions made and work to reach their community for Christ. Our team extends a special thanks to Pastor Correnti and his wonderful Church. They daily modeled Christ's love before us — a bond of love has been created that none of us will soon forget.

(continued on page 20)



# JUBILEE YEAR CELEBRATION EVENTS

## Fiftieth Anniversary of North American Baptist College 1990



1940-1969

### Cameroon Sonrise

The year will begin with an exciting evangelistic trip to Cameroon, Africa, by North American Baptist College and Divinity School students and faculty, along with North American Baptist Conference pastors and lay people. Your prayers are requested for this historic endeavor!

### Annual Sacred Concerts

These concerts are scheduled for Calgary on March 4 and Edmonton, March 11. Caste in a historical motif, the Choristers and music teams will reflect some of our history, which will continue as part of the repertoire for the Jubilee Chorister Tour in the Spring.

### Commencement Services, April 28 and 29

Look for participation by former leaders, special recognition of persons having distinguished themselves in the history of the College, along with the regular alumni and friends as they honor the graduates on this exciting weekend.

### Jubilee Choristers Tour

The Choristers Tour will be extended to include many churches and events. Look for your area in their itinerary!

### Baptist Heritage Conference, May 24-27

To continue the occasional Baptist Heritage Conferences, which Canadian Baptists have held in Ontario and Nova Scotia over the past twelve years, North American Baptist College and Divinity School has invited historians, both professional and amateur, to gather on our campus for another such conference, May 24-27, 1990. Prof. David Priestley of the Divinity School is organizing these sessions, which are open to all who are interested in learning more of what Baptists have done in Canada since the 18th century.

### Ministers' Family Conference, August 7-10

This N.A.B. Ministers' Family Conference, on our campus, will feature inspirational meetings, good fellowship, relaxation, and many vacation attractions. Hosting this event will also be a highlight for this Jubilee Year.

### Alumni Homecoming, August 10-12

This will be a relaxing family event, following immediately after the Ministers' Family Conference, so that many of

For 50 years, the North American Baptist Conference has been training people on an Edmonton, Alberta, campus... first at 10810 - 78th Avenue and since 1968 at 11525 - 23rd Avenue. To mark this milestone, both with reflections of the past and anticipation of the future, a variety of special events have been planned by the North American Baptist College and Divinity School for 1990.



1968-1990

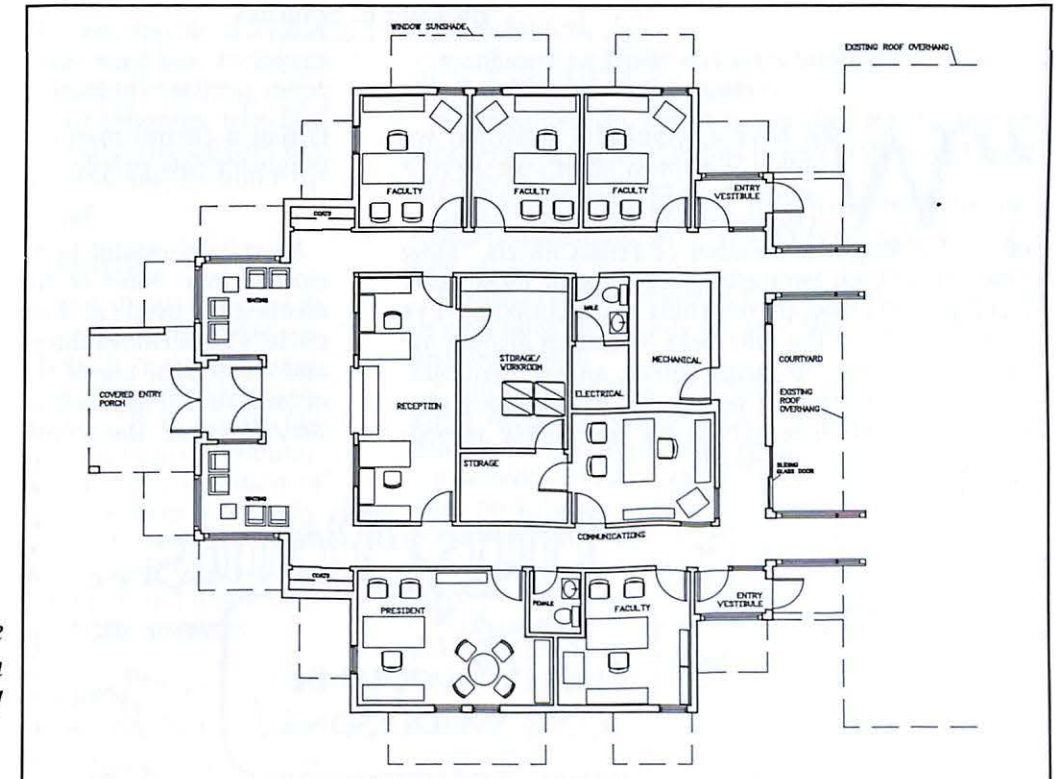
the pastoral families can stay on. Dr. Bob Hicks of Philadelphia, honored as Chaplain of the Year by former President Ronald Reagan several years ago and distinguished speaker, will be our guest. We are also anticipating a ground-breaking service for the Jubilee Building Addition.

Remembrances of the past 50 years will be compiled in a special booklet summarizing through words and pictures what CTI/NABC/DS have meant to and done in the lives of so many. A special calendar for 1990, highlighting the Jubilee year, will be available along with various other keepsakes.

Details of these Jubilee attractions will be given in future publications and mailings. We invite you to schedule your year so you can take advantage of many of the ways in which we plan to celebrate 50 years of God's favor to and through our Schools.

## NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE AND DIVINITY SCHOOL To Commemorate the 1990 Fiftieth Anniversary of the North American Baptist College

### JUBILEE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING ADDITION



*This is what the building addition will look like!*

Estimated Cost: \$175,000 (to be adjusted)

- A lovely reception entrance
- Much needed office space for faculty and staff
- A well-marked campus entrance
- A visible memorial to 50 years of God-honoring ministry

**Help us build for the future!**

The Alumni has pledged to supply the furnishings.

*Celebrating for a Greater Tomorrow!*



# Count the Entry Points

by Lyle E. Schaller

"We have a wonderful preacher; we enjoy a superb choir; we have a good Sunday school; and our people really love one another," reflected a longtime member of First Church. "How come our church isn't attracting a lot of those baby boomers who I read are returning to the churches? I've always been told the four keys to church growth are superb preaching, inspiring music, an excellent Sunday school, and friendly people. We have all four, plus an excellent building, which we completely remodeled six years ago, and nearly a hundred spaces of offstreet parking. Why don't we grow? Why aren't those young parents responsible for this new baby boom coming here to our church?"

That is a fair question. For example, the United States is in the midst of a new baby boom. The number of babies born in 1988 was the highest since 1964. Millions from those two generations born between 1942 and 1965, often referred to as the "baby boomers," are returning to church after years of infrequent or rare attendance. Preaching, music, the Sunday school, offstreet parking, and attractive facilities are important and influential factors in determining whether or not a particular congregation will attract a substantial number of new members.

Why does this congregation, which enjoys all five of those assets, not attract a new generation of new members? While a detailed prescription would require an on-the-site diagnosis, a reasonable guess

is that a central reason may be a shortage of entry points for new people.

## Two Choices

Most long-established churches resemble a large closed circle. Most of the resources are allocated to meeting the needs of the members already within that circle. This includes the priorities on the pastor's time and energy, the use of the building, the nature of the organizational life such as the Sunday school, the ministry of music, the women's organization, the priorities in the expenditures of money, the use of the time contributed by volunteers, and the dominant approach to ministry.

If that congregation is to grow in numbers, it probably will be necessary to change the nature of that closed circle. One means of accomplishing that may be to bring in a new pastor who will introduce a new and different approach to ministry, attract new people, change the style of congregational life, alienate at least a few of the longtime members, and transform the culture of that congregation. Pastors who can accomplish that are comparatively rare! Far more often, the culture of that congregation turns out to be more powerful and molds the newly-arrived minister to fit the tradition, style, ethos, approach to ministry, schedule, goals, priorities, and values of that congregation.

Rather than placing the burden on a new minister, a more productive alternative may be to open up that closed circle to potential new members by

creating a series of new and attractive entry points for newcomers. Rarely is this easy.

Frequently, powerful pressures exist to make the number-one priority finding new members who will help to perpetuate the status quo. This may be expressed as "Before we talk about a second service on Sunday morning, let's fill all the pews at one service," or "Rather than form a new circle in our women's organization, let's try to get the new members to join those long-established circles that need new members if they're going to survive," or "Instead of talking about a new staff person to expand our program, let's first find someone who will visit our shut-ins, or who can strengthen our youth program and maybe build up our Sunday school."

## Another Perspective

Perhaps the most subtle factor of all can be found in those smaller congregations in which the basic approach to congregational life is built in either 1) one-to-one relationships between the pastor and parishioners or 2) issue-centered ministries. Both approaches often limit the size of a congregation. In many communities, despite a sharp increase in the population of that community, those congregations remain on a plateau in size. In the vast majority of these situations, numerical growth will require a greater emphasis in the group life of that congregation — and that means creating new groups for potential new members.

## What Can Happen?

One 97-year-old congregation in Ohio that had been on a plateau with an average attendance of 145 at worship for the past 12 years doubled in size in five years following the arrival of a second staff member who was asked to expand the entry points. During her first year, she

- recognized that congregation was organized primarily around corporate worship and the one-to-one relationships of the pastor with individual parishioners,
- identified a dozen volunteer allies who would help her create new entry points,
- began to build a list of prospective new members with most of the names coming from those who attended the special events she scheduled, and
- scheduled a total of nearly 100 new events and activities to which non-members could be invited.

Among other things she

- scheduled and organized an after-church picnic for everyone in the community who had been reared in Pennsylvania with subsequent Sundays for Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia, Illinois, and New York,
- organized a four-session Divorce Recovery Workshop,

- organized a new adult Sunday school class every year for those first five years,

- organized a coed volleyball league that played three games a week in the church parking lot that first summer,

- took that congregation out of the cooperative inter-church vacation Bible school held in June in previous years and unilaterally organized one scheduled to be held in August,

- enlisted a 63-year-old grandmother to organize a Mothers' Club for new mothers,

- scheduled an appreciation day for all teachers employed in the local public school system for the first Sunday in September,

- persuaded the leaders to expand the Christmas Eve schedule from one to two to eventually four services,

- convinced the minister he should teach a new Tuesday evening Bible study group if she would recruit the members for it,

- supported and encouraged two mothers in creating a Mothers' Morning Out cooperative child care program every Tuesday morning,

- found a person who could lead a series of Marriage Enrichment events,

- identified a non-member couple who agreed to teach a Sunday morning class for developmentally disabled people,

- persuaded the governing board to add an early worship service to the Sunday morning schedule,

- found someone to organize and direct a young adult choir for that new worship service,

- talked the minister into working with a planning committee for six weeks before that first early service — and six of the nine members of that committee came from her list of prospective new members,

- worked with two couples in organizing a Youth Club for after-school every Wednesday,

- enlisted a member who agreed to teach a Thursday afternoon women's Bible class,

- organized three father-daughter roller skating Saturday afternoon events,

- when necessary, she presented her plans to the church board as announcements rather than requests, followed by "...unless, of course, the Board objects..." and

- during those first five years spent a total of \$9,000 on advertising and \$3,400 for outside leadership, all of which she raised outside the budget.

## What Is the Price Tag?

While that is far from a complete list of the entry points for potential new members created by this productive staff person, these do illustrate the methodology she followed. For most of these new entry points, she enlisted a committee to help her. With but a few



Long-established churches often resemble large, enclosed circles!

—FRYAR JUCK



exceptions, she always included at least two or three people from her list of prospective new members on that committee, and in several cases, a majority of the committee were non-members. She followed the basic generalization that most prospective members prefer to help pioneer the new rather than join the old.

She followed a highly redundant approach to issuing invitations. Most events were publicized via several channels such as direct mail, stories, or advertisements in the local newspaper, posters, flyers, radio spots, the local grapevine, and telephone calls.

She recognized that while many people born before 1935 made their initial contact with the church of which they are now members on Sunday morning, a large proportion of the churchgoers born in the 1940s and 1950s made that initial contact other than on Sunday morning. Therefore, she scheduled entry points for every day of the week including trips, retreats, overnight family camping experiences, etc.

Finally, she understood the difference between approval and the withholding of a veto. Instead of seeking approval from the appropriate committees and the governing board, all she sought was the withholding of a veto, sometimes expressed as, "Well, let's try it one time and see what happens."

Equally important, she did not wait for the boards and committees to take the initiative in telling her what to do. For the most part, she functioned outside the existing committee structure. She wanted help, not arguments. She wanted support, not opposition. She understood and affirmed the value of ad hoc groups and single function task forces. She recognized that every one of the program committees had a full agenda of largely member-centered concerns. Rather than compete with that agenda, she concentrated on creating new entry points for future members. Rather than compete with the nominating committee for volunteers, she enlisted her own allies. Rather than compete with other demands on the scarce resources available to the finance committee, she raised the additional money she needed through designated second mile giving.

This staff member's methodology illustrates one approach to expanding the number of entry points for potential future new members. It also illustrates a source of potential conflict. Her success also illustrates the value of having one staff member (who may be part-time) concentrate on a single responsibility.

As you reflect on the need to create additional entry points for newcomers in your congregation, do you 1) see a need to open up what, in fact, is a closed circle, 2) expect the pastor can and will do all this, 3) prefer it be done by and through standing committees or by ad hoc groups, 4) recognize it may cost money, 5) believe a single purpose staff member should carry this responsibility, and 6) think it will be easy and encounter no opposition?

(continued from page 15)



## Why I Served God in Philadelphia This Summer

by Andy Siamans

**W**as my faith in Jesus Christ worth anything? This was my big question as I sat down to think about the inner-city missions in Philadelphia. I had gone to church all of my life but had just recently become a believer and re-dedicated my life to Christ. I started to grow in Christ. Then I asked myself, "Was my faith in Jesus Christ worth anything?"

As I struggled with this question, I listened to an excellent Christian speaker and found an answer to my question.

Jesus says, "Follow Me — follow my lifestyle, live as I do." Following Christ's example and living as He did is what Christianity is all about!

I decided if my faith in Christ were worth anything, my lifestyle would have to reflect it. I decided to give up my summer to work in Philadelphia's inner-city. What a great way to get a good start toward the Christian lifestyle that I hope to live for the rest of my life. So I joined Kingdom Builders' Supply and lived with eight other team members at Fleischmann Memorial Baptist Church this summer. This Church, located in a pretty rough neighborhood of Philadelphia, has a lot of needs. For the entire summer, we served God by learning to organize and run the children's youth programs for the church.

## in memoriam

**PATRICIA ANN MOORE**, (58), Creston, BC; born Dec. 21, 1930, to Howard and Leota Monosmith in Portland, OR; died May 20, 1989; married Fred G. Moore, Nov. 22, 1950; member, Pioneer Clubworker, Creston Baptist, Creston, BC; Pat and Fred served as North American Baptist Conference missionaries to Japan, 1957-1976, where she taught English to Japanese children; as pastor and wife at First Baptist, Chancellor, SD, 1956-57; Family Baptist, Tigard, OR, 1976-80; Creston Baptist, Creston, BC, 1983 to present; survived by her husband, Fred; daughter, Joy Kennard, Snohomish, WA; two sons: Steve, Edmonds, WA, and Jim, Beaverton, OR; sister, Karen Roland; and five grandchildren.

**EDWIN CHARLES ASLIN**, (78), born to Ernest and Florence Aslin, Feb. 9, 1911, at Marquist, SK; moved to Robsart and later to Shaunavon, SK, in 1962, and to Swan River, MB, in 1968; married Mary Ginter, Aug. 21, 1968; member, Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, MB; predeceased by his parents, one brother, and one sister; survivors include his wife Mary; his stepchildren: Mildred (Tony) Stupak, Swan River, MB; Herbert (Denise) Ginter, Burlington, ON; Donald (Sharon) Ginter, Flin Flon, MB; Elaine (John) Ritsema, Edmonton, AB; Marlene Ginter, Lacombe, AB; 12 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; one brother, Lawrence (Eleanor) Aslin, and one sister, Mary Aslin; Neal Effa and George Adrian, pastors, funeral service.

**GARY WIRZBA** (47), Edmonton, AB; born March 16, 1942, in Marinshoehe, East Prussia; immigrated to Canada, 1951; died Aug. 6, 1989; married Brigitte Lemke, July 1, 1967; missionary teacher, Joseph Merrick College, Ndu, Cameroon, 1970-72; returned to the States in 1972 due to illness; member, Zion Baptist Community Church, Edmonton, AB; taught Sunday school, Boys Club, V.B.S., church office secretary, and church organist; survived by his wife, Brigitte, two sons: Brian and Bevin; his mother, Olga Wirzba, Lethbridge, AB; one sister, Wilhelmine (Richard) Spiwek, Edmonton; four brothers: Emil (Margaret), Alex (Ingrid), and Eric (Ingrid), all of Lethbridge; Gunther (Irene), Calgary; predeceased by his father in 1987; the Reverends Harv Kirsch and H. Goliath, pastors, funeral service. In lieu of floral tributes, memorial donations may be made to Cameroon Baptist Mission for the youth camp there, c/o North American Baptist Conference.

**AMALIA FICHTNER**, (85), Kelowna, BC; born Nov. 16, 1903, in Joanka, Poland, to Wilhelm and Christina Schoeps; died June 27, 1989; married August Fichtner, Feb. 3, 1926; immigrated to Canada (Prince George, BC) in 1928; member Trinity Bap-

tist Church, Kelowna, BC; predeceased by her husband in 1973; survived by five sons: Herbert (Irene), Eugene (Ruth), Reinhold (Eileen), Prince George, BC; Larry (Jan), Calgary, AB; Bert (Cynthia), Kelowna, BC; two daughters: Trudy (John) Wiens, Ashcroft, BC; Tobie (Henry) Wiebe, Kelowna, BC; sixteen grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; sister, Martha Streckenback; Rev. George Breitreuz, pastor funeral service.

**DR. THORWALD WARNER BENDER**, (81), Hales Corners, WI; born June 2, 1908, Steglitz, Germany, to Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Bender, pioneer missionaries to Cameroon, West Africa, beginning in 1899; immigrated to the U.S.A. (Watertown, WI); married Gertrude Jaeger in 1930, who predeceased him in 1985; graduated from Sioux Falls (SD) College, Western Reserve University, Northern Baptist Theological Seminary; further studies: Marquette, Yale, and Princeton Universities; ordained in Lebanon, WI; served Baptist churches in Lebanon and Milwaukee, Wisconsin; George, Iowa; Cleveland, Ohio; Flint, Michigan; Emery, South Dakota, and Rochester, New York; professor, philosophy of religion and theology, Northern Baptist Seminary (1950-59), professor and dean of faculty, professor emeritus, research librarian, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, 1959-74; alumnus of the year, 1983, Northern Baptist Seminary; secretary (ten years), Roger Williams Press Board, North American Baptist Conference; and various committees, councils, and advisory boards of the Wisconsin Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Convention; commission member, Baptist World Alliance; well-known speaker; articles published in professional and denomination journals, including *Der Sendbote* and *Baptist Herald*; survived by three sons: Robert, Lisle, IL; James, Clarendon Hills, IL; Charles, Endwell, NY; and daughter, Jeannette Lining, Spokane, WA; brother, Armin; sister, Helga (Carl F. H.) Henry; eight grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; predeceased by two brothers, Herbert and Carl, and one sister, Erica; Rev. Jack Jones, pastor funeral service.

**MARGUERITE HULSEBUS** (64), Creston, NE, born May 8, 1925, to Henry and Tina Gehring; died July 18, 1989; married Orton Hulsebus, June 22, 1951; member, Creston Baptist Church, Creston, NE; survived by her husband, Orton; son, Paul, Creston, NE; two daughters: Lisa, Columbus, NE, and Ellen (Thomas) Neal, Omaha, NE; six brothers: Raymond, Platte Center, NE; Robert, Walter, and Julius, Columbus, NE; Harvey, Clifton, CO; Henry, Mulvane, KS; two grandchildren; predeceased by her parents and infant brother; the Rev. Marlin Mohrman, pastor, funeral service.

(Robert) Minnice, Windsor, ON; Ruth (Raymond) Bareham, Lambeth, ON; Lois (Terry) Summach, Saskatoon, SK; two sons: Kenneth, Idaho Falls, ID; Edward, Campbell River, BC; 16 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one sister, Lydia Stebner; Rev. F. C. Hicks, pastor, funeral service.

**REV. PETER PFEIFFER**, (79), born July 31, 1909; died July 21, 1989; survived by his wife Natalie; his daughter Natalie A. Das; three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren; two brothers: Carl and Robert; three sisters: Martha Oster, Elisabeth McCoach, and Lydia Richards. Memorial service, North American Baptist Home Chapel, Philadelphia, PA.

**GEORGE VOLLMER**, (81), Bismarck, ND; born June 29, 1908, to Fred and Emma (Kiemele) Vollmer, Odessa, Russia; married Annie Stroh, March 4, 1933; member, Bismarck Baptist Church, North Dakota; since 1952; survived by wife, Annie; two daughters and one son-in-law: Darlene Turitto, Bismarck, and Vernell and Rick Quinn, Rapid City, SD; two sons and one daughter-in-law: Eugene, Bismarck, and Gary and Linda, Champlin, MN; 12 grandchildren; and 8 great-children.

**KARL SCHMULAND**, (90), Winsor, ON; born March 8, 1899, to August and Rosalia (Kubsch) Schmuland, Ludsk, Volhynia, Russia; died July 1, 1989; immigrated to Canada (Saskatchewan) in 1912; married Martha Fritzsche, 1921; member, trustee, Sunday school superintendent, church clerk, deacon, Baptist Church, Fenwood, SK; member and deacon of Riverside Baptist Church, Windsor, ON; survived by his wife, Martha; five daughters: Gladys (David) Rowan, Windsor, ON; Margaret (Richard) Tessier, Ft. Meyers, FL; Elsie

**WILLIAM J. SCHOENHALS** (85), Shattuck, OK; born June 30, 1903, in Shattuck, OK; died April 16, 1989; married Marie L. Herber Aug. 18, 1928; member, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck, OK; served as Sunday school treasurer, trustee, and deacon; predeceased by his parents, three brothers, and one sister; survived by his wife, Marie; two sons: Dan Rav, Shattuck, OK, Glen W., Oklahoma City, OK; one daughter, Anne Carman, Chickasha, OK; three brothers: John (deceased May 27, 1989), Reuben and Alvin; three sisters: Victoria Schaefer (deceased May 3, 1989), Hulda Kelln and Minnie Schoenhals; one niece; seven grandchildren; and two nephews; Rev. Fred Fuchs, pastor, funeral service.

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## President's Focus

by Manetta Hohn, W.M.F. president, Kelowna, BC



I have been thinking about loyalty for a long time. Perhaps because I have become aware of situations where disloyalty was evident. There is a lack of loyalty in our society today and, sad to say, often in our churches, too. A common thinking pattern is, "If it

doesn't suit my thinking or wishes, I'll go elsewhere, or I'll find another partner." This disturbs me.

The dictionary defines loyalty as being true, faithful, unswerving in allegiance, determined to help the cause. How do we measure up to these definitions when it comes to our church, the one to which God has directed us? According to Scripture, I believe God has ordained the local church as the avenue through which His work should be carried out. This being so, He expects us to be loyal to our church — to pray for it, to support it, to serve where we can. We will not find a perfect church, because we are not perfect. You would probably agree that you and I, and the church collectively, are in need of renewal. It needs to be our

responsibility and dedication to God to seek His will for ourselves and our church in this matter. This is where loyalty comes in. No matter what the situation, we need to seek God's will and allow Him to work.

As women, we have the wonderful privilege of serving Christ through our church, especially through the W.M.F. Perhaps your women's group is not all you wish it to be, but then, ask yourself: "Am I doing all I can to provide for a meaningful ministry?" The effectiveness of our local women's ministries and our Conference W.M.F. will, to a large extent, become possible through a united, loyal commitment to the work God has given us to do. This is God's call on our lives.

How is your loyalty?

painful situations were worked out, they eventually led to the birth of daughter and sister churches. The situation was similar to a family in which the children begin to exert pressure to gain their independence and cut the apron strings. But when these teenagers become adults, the growing pains are forgotten, and a deep love and respect exists between parent and adult child. That is the point at which the women of the various Winnipeg churches find themselves today and why it was such a privilege for them to celebrate a century of grace and commit themselves to serve the Lord in the future as their mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers had in the past.

The King's Daughters Society had its beginning in 1930. Today both women's groups, with a combined membership of about 90 women, form an integral part of the women's ministries of the church. They serve one God and pursue the same goals.

With the psalmist they say, "The lines have fallen to me (us) in pleasant places; indeed my (our) heritage is beautiful to me (us)" (Psalm 16:6).

## Commanded to Care

"Women of Hope" is the name of a group of women who hope that one day their husbands will come to know the Lord. They meet together to study and pray, to interact and express their burdens and concerns at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church in Surrey, BC.

"Our focus is not on our husbands so much as it is on us as wives," says Giselle Wood. "All too often we can drive our husbands away from Christ by preaching and pleading their need of salvation; ignorant of the fact that they cannot understand us (1 Corinthians 2:14). As a result, walls go up, communication stops, and nothing is done for the cause of Christ. We are learning through Scripture to be the godly wives that God has called us to be, as well as realizing the wonderful opportunity we have to show our husbands Christ's unconditional love."

"Women of Hope" have been studying the book, *Beloved Un-*

*believer* by Jo Berry. Giselle adds, "When we depart, hopefully we are refreshed and encouraged to go home and love our husbands beyond their earthly comprehension."

## Tools for Ministry

*Daughters of the Church* by Ruth A. Tucker and Walter Liefeld. (Zondervan Publishing House, ©1987) A fascinating account of women in the church spanning nearly 2000 years, telling events, aspirations, disappointments, patience, and achievement that mark the history of daughters of the church from the time of Jesus to the present.

*Women of the Bible Tell Their Stories* by Mary E. Jensen. (Augsburg Publishing House, ©1978) Through the powerful medium of dramatic monolog, 19 women of the Bible tell us their own stories, heightening our awareness of them in Scripture and their important message for today.

## Thankful for Our Heritage

### McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB

On May 2, 1989, 130 women assembled at the McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, to pay tribute to the faithful witness of their sisters of yesteryear, to praise God for His goodness, and to celebrate 100 years of service.

Minni Mueller organized the original McDermot Women's Missionary Fellowship on March 5, 1905, with 20 members. She was president of this group for a total of 27 years. Only three years after their organization, the group had grown to 50 members. At a time when women's exclusive concerns were thought to be "Kinder and Kuchen," this courageous woman taught a 22-member young men's class.

These women touched various corners of the earth by sending financial support to a mission evangelizing Jews in Mexico and underwriting the support of a Bible worker in India.



Minni Mueller

In the early 1920s, Mrs. J. Leypoldt, the pastor's wife, also taught a young men's class. They called themselves "The Reliables." Reports state that Mrs. Leypoldt had "a great influence on her class, as she made it her special effort to build up and prepare these young men to be leaders for the future."

After both World War I and World War II, the women worked sacrifi-

cially, packing and sending Relief Parcels to Europe. With the help of the men, heavy bales of clothing ready for shipment were shoved through the basement windows of the church right onto the sidewalk to be loaded onto trucks and taken to the railroad and bus stations. Recipients of this practical help of sharing God's love were present at this homecoming evening and remembered with gratitude.

The women also sewed baptismal gowns and paid for tables that the men built for the church, fed and billeted visiting evangelists and missionaries, cooked for youth banquets and conferences, and served refreshments for all social functions of the church.

During the height of the postwar immigration in the late 40s and early 50s, McDermot's membership grew phenomenally, and the language issue (German versus English) created problems. As these

## British Columbia W.M.F. Observes 40 Years

The Women's Missionary Fellowship of the British Columbia Association celebrated their 40th Anniversary during the British Columbia Association meetings held in Osoyoos, May 25-28, 1989. Mrs. Helen Siewert, Edmonton, AB, was guest speaker at the luncheon attended by 140 women.

In observance of the anniversary, Mrs. Ruth Hiller, a charter member, shared her memories of events over the past 40 years, and Mrs. Maria Waltereit challenged the women to continue to "Reach New Heights" in the years to come.

The three original women's groups have grown to 26 with three new groups added in 1989.



L. to R. Vi Stork, White Cross chair; Dorothea Fuhrman, vice president; Helen Pudlas, president; Mary Leoppky, treasurer; Merle Eisner, secretary.



# 2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

## Called to Worship

### Southwestern Association Hears Thielenhaus on Worship

■ STAFFORD, KS. Calvary Baptist Church hosted the 17th annual Southwestern Association meetings July 14-16. Dr. John Thielenhaus, pastor, Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, addressed the theme for the sessions, "Worship... to Delight in God." His topics included The Primacy, the Purpose, the Power, the People, and the Practice of Worship.

The Saturday evening service included the choirs of Calvary Baptist, Stafford; First Baptist, Ellinwood, KS; and Meadow Hills, Aurora, CO. It was truly a *practice* of worship!

The Rev. Elmer and Mrs. Ruth Strauss, speakers for the men's and women's groups respectively, compared worship in our churches and those on the mission field. "Mission Fever" soon spread from such enthusiastic representatives.

Business was conducted throughout the sessions. The Rev. James Derman was the host pastor with the Rev. Roger Cauthon serving as moderator. — *Kathryn Hett*

### Worship Takes on New Meaning at Elk Grove Church

■ ELK GROVE, IL. "Worship has taken on a new meaning at Tri-Community Baptist Church since we have examined the im-

perative of worship in relation to our overall ministry," reports Pastor Jim Vyleta.

The morning worship service has been designed so that every part of the service is viewed as an expression of worship.

"Our leaders, along with other gifted individuals, have administered a music ministry that is contemporary and dynamic in moving our hearts to worship God," adds Vyleta. "In our adult Sunday school class, we are studying the **Vision 2000** Biblical Imperatives in relation to our personal lives and church."

### "Worship 2000" Addressed by Litchfield at Nebraska Fellowship

■ COLUMBUS, NE. "Worship 2000" was the theme of the Nebraska Fellowship held at Shell Creek Baptist Church. Dr. Hugh Litchfield from the North American Baptist Seminary, as guest speaker, focused on worship.

Area Minister, the Rev. Milton Zeeb, gave the South Central Area Minister's report. Special music and yearly reports were given by Creston Baptist, Redeemer Baptist, and West Side Baptist. The new pastor of Shell Creek Baptist, the Rev. Richard Lute and his wife Pat, were welcomed into the Nebraska Fellowship. The offering was designated for the support of Clyde (former pastor of Shell Creek) and Barbara

Zimelman, missionaries now serving as house parents at Woyke House, Jos, Nigeria. — *Ruth Ann Behlen*

### Tabor College Group Presents Concert at Nebraska Church

■ COLUMBUS, NE. Harvest Crew, a music ministry group of eight from

Tabor College, presented a concert at Shell Creek Baptist Church. "Pray for us, as a Church, as we learn to know God more deeply, learn to worship Him more fully, and to enjoy the privilege of fellowship with Him," says Ruth Ann Behlen.

## Commissioned to Witness

### Praise God for People Receiving Christ as Savior and for His Growing Church

■ MELVILLE, SK. Pastor Bill Gould baptized one young man at Melville Baptist Church. — *Shirley Herman*

■ HUNTER, KS. Pastor Anthony Dickerson baptized three girls and welcomed them into the membership of Bethany Baptist. Two adults were welcomed by membership transfer. — *Katherine Loofbourrow*

■ HUTCHINSON, MN. Pastor Harold Kelm baptized two adults in a nearby lake. Eleven people were welcomed into the membership at Bethany Baptist Church. — *Kathryn Froemming*

■ MARION, KS. Recently four people were baptized by Pastor Steve Vetter, Strassburg Baptist Church. These four along with seven other people were received into the Church membership.

■ ELK GROVE, IL. Tri-Community Baptist Church is thankful to the Lord for the five new families who have taken an active part in the life of the Church. "We hope to reach many other families in our community with the

gospel of Christ," says Pastor Jim Vyleta.

### Alpena Church Dedicates New Land Site

■ ALPENA, MI. Approximately 100 members and friends gathered August 16 for the dedication service, "Stake Our Claim" of the 18-acre building site for Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church. It will be renamed Word of Life Baptist Church.

Pastor Fred Sweet conducted the service centered on Moses viewing the Promised Land (Deut. 34). "The key to our success and growth lies not in numbers or size but in the Word of God and being people of the Word, preaching it and living it," said Pastor Sweet. "Our priority is reaching the people in the community with the Gospel."

Some children unveiled the sign with the future name of the Church, Word of Life Baptist, facing Bagley Street. The Rev. Jacob Ehman, former pastor, gave the prayer of dedication. — *Doris Turnbull*

### Drama Presentation and Kids' Crusade Held at Carrington Church

■ CARRINGTON, ND. The Covenant Players — a three member Christian

drama group — presented a unique program at Calvary Baptist Church.

A kid's crusade was held at the Church with Dan and Merilee Otteson. The Bethel Chapel and the Federated Church also participated in the evening meeting for ages three through grade six.

"Our pastor, the Rev. Loren D. Franchuck, recently taught a baptism and church membership class," reports Violette Pepple.

### Chicago Churches Merge

■ CHICAGO, IL. Northwest Fellowship Baptist Church is the new name for the former Foster Avenue Baptist and Mayfair Park Baptist

Churches, consolidated August 28, 1988. Northwest Fellowship Baptist Church's founding church hails from the First German Baptist Church, Chicago, that was formed in 1858 and survived the great Chicago Fire, the American Civil War, and two World Wars to mother nine new churches. A merger in 1949 and a new facility erected in 1950 at a new location created Foster Avenue Baptist. Mayfair Park Baptist, formerly German Baptist Mission, was established in 1958 as an offspring of Foster Avenue Baptist by 56 members when German immigration required ministry to German-speaking people. — *Margaret Hasenberg*

## Compelled to Serve

### Youth at Crystal Springs Learn about Conference

■ CRYSTAL SPRINGS, ND. Youth at a senior camp at Crystal Springs Baptist Camp in North Dakota received interesting and informative instructions as Area Minister Ralph Cooke helped them understand how the North American Baptist Conference operates.

Along with his daily studies on **Vision 2000**, which included emphasis on the six Biblical Imperatives, Cooke used the human body to explain the organizational structure of the Conference. He pointed to the head to represent Jesus Christ and His Lordship, the neck as the International Office Staff, the right arm — the Missions Department, the left arm — the Church Growth Ministries Department, the right shoulder — the North American Baptist Semi-

nary, the left shoulder — the North American Baptist College and Divinity School, the heart — the Area Ministries Department, the abdomen — the General Council, the five fingers on the right hand — the five overseas mission fields, and the five fingers on the left hand — the divisions of the Church Growth Ministries Department: Church Planting, Evangelism, New Day, Women's Work, and Youth Work. He also had the youth memorize the number of churches and associations in the Conference.

Each morning as Cooke pointed to a different part of the body, he made learning fun as the youth responded with the appropriate Conference name.

### Special Services at Melville Recognize Service

■ MELVILLE, SK. Melville Baptist Church has had many special services in

recent months: An AWANA Awards Sunday with guest speaker, Hans Serger, presenting his puppet ministry; an AWANA leaders recognition service; a recognition of graduates service; a Baby Dedication for three; a commissioning service for Linette Reinheimer, summer missionary to the Philippines; a music and testimony service with Doug and Beth Snyder, North American Baptist Seminary; and a presentation by Estate Planning Representative for Canada, Mel Bergstresser. — *Shirley Herman*

### "Vision for the Future" Banquet Held at Melville

■ MELVILLE, SK. A "Vision for the Future" banquet was held after a morning worship service. This time of fellowship was an opportunity to praise the Lord for what He has done in and through our Church in the past and to challenge everyone to have a vision for the future ministry of our Church. The Rev. Jake Leverette was guest speaker. — *Shirley Herman*

### Minnesota Youth Serve in Texas

■ APPLE VALLEY, MN. Thirteen Minnesota/La Crosse Association youth and sponsors went to minister through vacation Bible school at La Iglesia Bautista Central Baptist Church in Edinburg, Texas, in August.

### 112 Enjoy Reunion in Kelowna

■ KELOWNA, BC. A unique reunion took place as members of the 1940s young peoples group of Grace Baptist Church met to renew acquaintances and praise God for His guidance over the past 40 plus years. The reunion was hosted by the 1940s group now members of Trinity Baptist.

One hundred twelve people enjoyed many events and programs throughout the weekend: music, skits, testimonies, pancake breakfast, boat cruise, and barbecue. Several pastors and missionaries who originated from this group spoke.

"Best of all we all felt as we did then — a real love for each other — because we were bound in the love of God begun when we were members of a caring young peoples group," reports Lena Spletzer.

### Kyle Women's Group Hears Lengefeld and Stork

■ KYLE, TX. The W.M.S. of Immanuel Baptist recently held its annual Church picnic at the home of Emma Hill, W.M.S. president.

The William Lengefeld family, missionaries to Japan, presented a program of their work. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Lengefeld of Kyle.

Another guest was Pastor Gordon Stork, South Austin Fellowship, sharing news of the seminaries. The offering for educational institutions was \$174. — *Martha Schmeltekopf*

# 2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives



# 2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

## Commanded to Care

### Bellwood Church Offers An After School Alternative

■ BELLWOOD, IL. There is a growing concern throughout our nation over the lack of adequate, affordable after school care. Most parents would prefer their children not spend those few after-school hours alone, but they are faced with the dilemma of too few programs designed to answer the need. Proviso Township area parents now have an alternative to the latch-key child approach in the Bell-Cares After School Drop-In Center.

Under the direction of Annielois Evans, the program is housed in the Wise Building of the First Baptist Church of Bellwood. Bell-Cares offers a diverse schedule of activities in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere for children in kindergarten through the

sixth grade from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The program follows the School District's schedule for holidays and closings.

The volunteer staff at Bell-Cares has experience in elementary school instruction, guidance and counseling, Bible doctrine, recreation, and leisure-time activities.

Activities include supervised study time, snacks, Christian growth and development studies, arts and crafts, games and sports, physical exercise, piano instruction, story reading, and more. Special guests are included on a regular basis. A member of the Bellwood Fire Department, for instance, spent an afternoon at Bell-Cares talking with the children about fire safety.

Director Evans has said the mission of Bell-Cares is to "help working parents provide an environment

conducive to outstanding character development for their school-age children."

The priorities established by Evans and her staff include providing a safe meeting place for children with responsible adult supervision, providing moral and social development, and promoting academic success by means of concrete experience.

### Minot Church Holds Family Enrichment Seminar

■ MINOT, ND. A family enrichment seminar by J. Roger Anderson, Bemidji, MN, was held as a part of the annual All-Church Labor Day retreat sponsored by First Baptist Church at Lake Metigoshe State Park, Bottineau, ND.

"Various activities of recreation for the entire family along with the beauty of the area made it a time of learning, fellowship, and bonding within the Church family," says Inez Rhone.

"Loving Hearts Make a Happy Home" was the theme of First Baptist Church's Women's Ministries. Through fun and unusual ways, the four areas of service and fellowship provided in the Church for women of all ages and interests was revealed following a Fall kickoff salad supper.

### Olds Church Recognizes College-Age Youth

■ OLDS, AB. "Caring" is a special word, and the congregation of East Olds Baptist Church is practicing caring by recognizing and honoring the youth. "A special service was held challenging the young people headed for college and careers to go on for Christ," reports Trudie Schroeder. Four of the youth are attending the North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB. The Rev. John Wollenberg is pastor.

### Kelowna Women Use Video to Review Work

■ KELOWNA, BC. The Women's Ministries Annual Program was held recently at Lakeview Heights Baptist Church. A video by Ed and Sue Lawrence was shown featuring the ladies of the church doing White Cross work, corresponding with missionaries, typing minutes, visiting the sick and shut-ins, taking prayer requests, ladies time out, and Mothers/Daughters/Friends Evening.

The guest speaker was Ken Priebe, missionary to Cameroon. The offering was designated for church planting in Mission, Texas. — Dorothy G. Fritzsche

## Committed to Give

### Hutchinson Church Purchases Land to Relocate

■ HUTCHINSON, MN. Bethany Baptist has purchased six acres of land in the growing west end of

Hutchinson with the purpose of relocating and expanding their ministry with a new facility in the future. — Kathryn Froemming



# Immanuel Baptist Celebrates 125 Years

KANKAKEE, IL. Kankakee was four years old when a small group of Christians started meeting in 1857. Seven years later in 1864, the first pastor, the Rev. E. Tschirch, began his ministry.

On March 12, 1864, the Church organized with 10 charter members. These members quickly raised \$320 toward the \$800 needed to purchase a small chapel. During the first 25 years, seven different pastors served the congregation.

By the end of that first quarter-century, the congregation grew and a total of 309 members had been received. Unfortunately, the church experienced a loss of members and eventually slipped to 86.

"Spiritual discipline was an important factor in the life of the church," noted the historian. "If they were intense in the exercising of discipline, they were equally as intense in the expression of love toward a repentant brother or sister."

Their love for the Church was demonstrated in the erection of a new and larger building at a cost of \$6,000. The Rev. A. Vogel was pastor when the new edifice was dedicated debt-free on its 25th anniversary.

The original parsonage, built in 1865 for \$165, was sold in 1901, and a new one built for \$3,000.

In 1906, the Church cooperated with the city-wide evangelistic meetings conducted by Billy Sunday. As a result, 24 persons were baptized by the Rev. Julius Kaaz, pastor.

In 1914, the Church observed its 50th anniversary, the Rev. W. S. Argow as pastor. The congregation numbered 163. In the second 25

years, 236 additions were recorded, however, there were 159 losses. But America was on the move, and people sought greater opportunities in the industrialized cities as well as the expanding West.

In 1916, the Church changed from the traditional single communion chalice to the individual cups.

By 1917, the nation was involved in World War I, and a climate of suspicion surrounded German-speaking people and groups. As a result, the congregation changed its name to Immanuel Baptist Church, effective Jan. 1, 1918. Later that year, business meetings and official minutes were changed to the English language. A German service was held, however, once a month. The Rev. A. A. Schade was pastor.

In 1922, the congregation remodeled the old edifice, installed a Moeller organ, and a stained-glass window, which is now part of the present building. The Rev. C. Zummach was pastor.

In 1928, the first vacation Bible school was held. In 1929, the Church's first Constitution was adopted and printed ballots, listing two names for office, were used for the first time.

Difficult days came upon the church during the Depression of the 1930s. The salary of the pastor, the Rev. George Hensel, was cut; a deficit occurred in the general fund; and mission contributions were used to pay the bills. They then borrowed \$600 from the bank to meet their missionary obligations.

During Dr. Louis Johnson's pastorate, a new church building was completed at a cost of \$300,000. A growing missionary outreach was recognized and a Training Union program started.



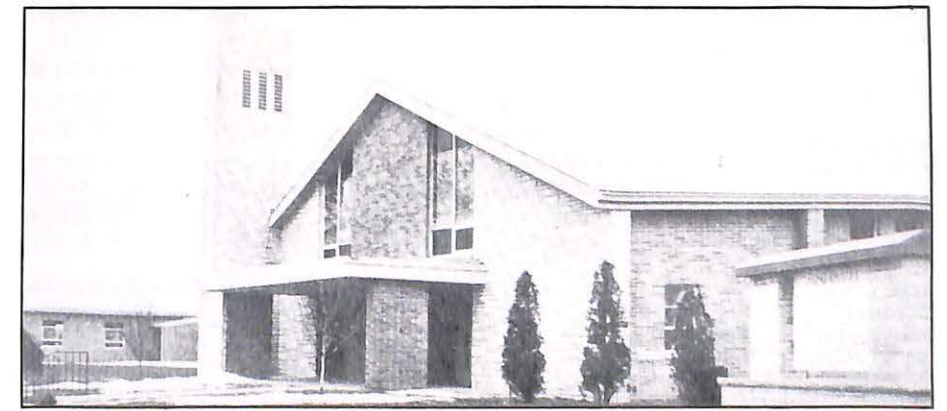
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Penner

Under Rev. Robert Schreiber's ministry from 1962-1967, the Church assumed partial support of five North American Baptist Conference missionaries.

During Dr. Robert Penner's ministry (1980-89), the Church started a prayer chain, an AWANA program, and a ministry for the deaf.

The Church with a membership of about 350, located at Curtis Street and Hawkins Avenue, observed its 125th anniversary on June 25, 1989. Attending the celebration were former pastors, the Rev. Robert Schreiber, the Rev. Walter Dingfield, and the Rev. Douglas Gallagher, as well as Dr. Robert Penner. □

*Through the years, the Church sent some of its sons and daughters to the mission field or to the ministry: Max Leuschner, Otto Schroeder, Fred Kruse, Charles and Ralph Blatt, Albert Gernenz, Esther Salzman (to China), Ruby Salzman (to Cameroon), Tom Chandler, Ed Cremer, Rick Foster, Dennis Hustedt, Scott Lemenager, and Ron Salzman (mission director, North American Baptist Conference International Office).*



First Church — 1864-1889



## Many Benefits Are Available to You When You Make a Special Gift Before December 31

**M**any individuals are unaware of the substantial benefits available for gifts made at year end. Let's look at some advantages.

### Increased Tax Savings from a Charitable Deduction

You may need additional deductions this year, since many of the standard deductions you have previously taken on your income tax returns are no longer available to you.

**Giving from Cash Flow.** You can receive an income tax deduction by giving cash. This is most beneficial to the North American Baptist Conference. And many times, it is the easiest way for you to give.

**Gifts of Net Worth.** But your cash flow may not be sufficient to make the gifts you desire and to receive the tax deductions you need.

Charitable deduction tax savings are available when you make gifts of property... insurance policies which you no longer need... stocks, bonds, mutual funds... real estate... tangible personal property related to our exempt function... all provide tax deductions this year, if your gift is completed before December 31.

And many times you can make a larger gift of property, and thus receive a substantially higher tax deduction, because it does not affect current cash flow.

You can also create an income tax charitable deduction which will provide substantial tax savings by simply guaranteeing today that a charitable organization will receive certain properties at the time of your

death. This can be accomplished with property, such as your home or investment properties from which you wish to maintain income.

### Avoidance of Capital Gains Tax

The property you have available for giving may have substantially appreciated in value.

If you sold the property, you would pay a tax on the difference between what you paid for the property and what it is worth today. This is called a capital gain, and it is taxed at the same rate as ordinary income.

If you contributed the property rather than selling it, you would receive a charitable deduction for the full value of the property and would avoid the tax on the capital gain.

### Increased Income from Low or Non-productive Property

Many individuals have property that is paying little or no return. But because it is highly appreciated in value, they cannot afford to sell the property and invest the proceeds to achieve a higher return.

Property can be placed in a specially designed charitable trust, providing a substantial income tax charitable deduction. The property can then be sold by the trust, totally avoiding tax on the capital gain.

The trustee can invest in high income producing assets, resulting in a considerably higher income.

The assets are invested to provide income for you and are not actually transferred to the charitable organization until the end of the trust period (which is usually at your death).

### An Income Tax Deduction Now for Gifts Made in Future Years

If your income tax bracket is higher this year than it will be in future years, or if you need an additional deduction this year, you can establish a specially designed trust. Property is transferred to the trust, with income payable to a charitable organization for a period of years.

At the end of the trust period, the property will be returned to you.

With a properly designed trust, you will receive an income tax deduction this year for the current value of the future income gifts to charity.

### Personal Satisfaction

This is an advantage available with all of the above giving plans... knowing that you are receiving substantial personal benefit, as you are helping North American Baptist Conference accomplish our mission. This is a winning combination — doing good for others while helping ourselves.

### May We Help?

It is our desire to assist you with your year-end planning. We have only been able to share concepts with you in this article. However, our staff has prepared a more detailed report titled, "How to Maximize Your Year-End Giving." This is available to you at no cost or obligation.

If we can provide personal assistance to you in any of these areas, please let us know by completing the response form. Or you may telephone our office at (708) 495-2000, if that is more convenient. We trust that our services can be of benefit to you. □

*Neither the Development Department nor the N.A.B. Conference is engaged in rendering legal or tax advice. For advice or assistance in specific cases, the services of an attorney should be obtained. The purpose of this article is to provide information of a general character only.*

Yes, I would like to receive additional information to help me in my year-end giving. Please send information on  
 Gifts of appreciated property  How to take a deduction for future gifts  
 Gifts with retained benefits  How to "Maximize Your Year-end Giving"

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name of spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Daytime ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Dr. Connie Salios, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181, Telephone: (708) 495-2000

■ **Mr. Donald Burnett** became pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA, effective September 1.

■ **Dan Nieman** is the new pastor of Anchor Baptist Church, South Sioux City, NE.

■ **Dale Patterson** became Youth Minister at Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brookfield, WI, on August 1.

■ **Cindy Schwerdtfeger** has accepted the position of Christian Education Director at Redeemer Baptist Church, St. Paul, MN, effective September 1.

■ **The Rev. Elmo Tahrn** resigned as pastor of Colonial Village Baptist Church, Lansing, MI, effective September 17. He began planting an N.A.B. Conference church in West Des Moines, IA, on October 15.

■ **Erik Bjorn** is the new pastor at Creston Baptist Church, Creston, BC, and was installed as pastor at a service on October 22.

■ **Todd Hamlet** is the Youth Director at Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI.

■ **The Rev. Frank Hooper** is the Pastor of Visitation and Senior Ministries at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, Benton Harbor, MI.

■ **Mrs. Robert (Melba) Penner** (62) died August 27, 1989, in Portland, OR. She and her husband had retired from the full-time ministry in June from Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL.

■ **Rainer Kunz**, minister of Christian education at Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA will begin a new church planting project in Silverdale, WA, in November.

■ **Carolyn Scheel** is the Director of Christian Education and Youth at Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB.

### Pelzer Appointed to Seminary Development Position

■ **Linda Pelzer** has been selected as Associate Director of Development at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD, effective July 26, 1989. Her specific responsibilities are public relations and marketing.

Pelzer, a native of Minnesota, comes to the Seminary with her B.A. degree from Northwestern College in Roseville, MN. Her majors were Bible and Communications with emphases in broadcasting and speech. During the past year, she traveled with "New Day."

Linda replaces Fran Hoogestraat who is continuing her education in Institutional Advancement at Vanderbilt University.

■ **The Rev. David Ewing** became pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Getzville, NY, effective August 16.

■ **Douglas Schultz** was ordained into the Christian ministry on April 2, 1989, at Rowandale Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB. He serves there as Director of Church Ministries.

■ **Evan Boltz**, a Bethel Seminary student, is serving as a youth worker intern at Bethany Baptist Church. He joins the **Rev. Harold McGowan**, minister of visitation. Both are serving in part-time positions at this Hutchinson, MN, church.

■ **Interim pastor, the Rev. Elwin W. Colson and his wife, Joanne**, were introduced to the congregation at a get-acquainted fellowship time at First Baptist Church, Lorraine, KS, where they are serving.

■ **Dr. John F. Thielenhaus**, senior pastor, Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL, received the Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.) Degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in June. His major project was entitled: "The Development and Implementation of Creative Worship."

■ **Paul Hoffman** has resigned his position as Youth Pastor at Hillview Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB, effective September 10 to complete his Master of Divinity studies on a full-time basis.

■ **Steve Graham** accepted the call as Youth Pastor at Cascade Park Baptist Church, Vancouver, WA, effective October 15.

■ **Berneice Westerman**, who is retiring as a missionary to Cameroon, is at home at 1201 S. West Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

■ **Chaplain (LTC) Helmut A. Michelson** was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in May. He received the Meritorious Service Medal upon departure from Ft. Carson for services rendered from October 1985 - June 1989. Chaplain Michelson has been reassigned to Germany. In December, he will become the 3rd Armored Division Chaplain.

■ **Tom Anderst** is Associate Pastor at Greenfield Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB.

■ **Marlin Mohrman** was ordained into the Christian ministry by Creston Baptist Church, Creston, NE, on April 16, 1989. His cousin, Rev. Roger Poppen of First Baptist Church in Davis, CA, gave the ordination message. The Rev. Clyde Zimbelman and the Rev. Arlie Rauch gave the charge to the church and charge to the candidate respectively.

■ **Kathy Marie Kyle** has accepted the position of Minister of Youth at Brentview Baptist Church, Calgary, AB.

■ **The Rev. Richard Lute** became pastor of Shell Creek Baptist Church, Columbus, NE, effective the end of August. He previously served First Baptist Church, Valley City, ND.

■ **Dr. Douglas Gallagher** is interim pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church, Kankakee, IL.

■ **Doug Peebles** is the new pastor at Hawkwood Baptist Fellowship, Calgary, AB. He is a 1989 graduate of North American Baptist Seminary.

## Lebanese Baptists Need Help



**T**he recent shelling and bombardment on the Christian area in Lebanon has resulted in tremendous destruction of buildings and the infrastructure of the country as a whole. The toll of human lives — dead and wounded — runs into the thousands. The picture in Lebanon is very dark and sometimes beyond description.

Baptist Press reports that thousands of Beirut citizens continue to evacuate the city during fighting. Others have hidden for weeks in basement bomb shelters. Lebanese Baptists, still in the city, report "unbelievable devastation" as shells exploded at one point "every two seconds."

"We are herded like cattle into basements and shelters," said a Baptist worker by telephone. "We have no gasoline or electricity. Our food is almost completely gone. We are too afraid to go out now to try to get food. Each time there is a lull in the bombing and we think it might be safe to search for food, suddenly new shelling starts with some people out on the streets. Many are killed... the fear is great."

"As Baptists we are trying to be brave and minister to our neighbors and families. It seems the world has forgotten us."

Michel G. Atweh, president, Lebanese Baptist Convention writes, "It is needless to say that the need for food, clothing, shelter, and medicines is far greater than at any previous time. Many medicines simply no longer exist and the lack of gasoline due to the blockade brought all activities to a standstill. As a result, many, many people are out of work with no source of income."

The Lebanese Baptist Convention has requested assistance from Baptist World Aid to help with distribution to needed Baptists as well as visitors of their churches.

*Baptist World Aid is responding with an initial grant of \$10,000. Additional gifts and grants are needed. Please send contributions designated for relief in Lebanon to North American Baptists, Inc., 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181.*



# Groups Address Religious Holidays in Public Schools

by Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP). Although a new national climate has emerged in the U.S.A. concerning religion in public schools, at least one perennial problem remains. What should public schools do about religious holidays?

A broad coalition of 16 educational and religious organizations, including the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, released a publication on the issue during a news conference on October 6.

In introducing "Religious Holidays in Public Schools," Oliver S. Thomas, BJC general counsel, told reporters: "The brochure is a consensus document that we hope will promote a climate of cooperation between school boards, administrators, parents, and teachers in school districts throughout the country.

"We offer general guidelines for treating the question of religious holidays in schools in ways that are constitutionally permissible and educationally sound. We discuss how and where religious holidays may be taught about in the classroom. And we address the 'December dilemma' that is often a flash point for conflict."

The publication offers brief answers to a variety of questions, including:

- How should religious holidays be treated in public school classrooms? "Teachers must be alert to the distinction between teaching about religious holidays, which is permissible, and celebrating religious holidays, which is not."

Recognition of and information about holidays may focus on how and when they are celebrated, their origins, histories, and generally agreed-upon meanings, according to the publication. Teachers may not use the study of religious holidays as an opportunity to proselytize or inject personal religious beliefs, it adds.

- What about Christmas? "Decisions about what to do in December should begin with the understanding that public schools may not sponsor religious devotions or celebrations."

Schools should devise holiday

programs that serve an educational purpose for all students and that make no students feel excluded or identified with a religion not their own, the publication explains. Holiday concerts in December may include music related to Christmas and Hanukkah, but religious music should not dominate, it states, adding that any dramatic productions should emphasize the cultural aspects of the holidays.

- May religious symbols or music be used in public schools? "The use of religious symbols, provided they are used only as examples of cultural and religious heritage, is permissible as a teaching aid or resource... Sacred music may be sung or played as part of the academic study of music."

School concerts that present a variety of selections may include religious music, the brochure states, adding that concerts should avoid programs dominated by religious music, especially when they coincide with a particular religious holiday.

- What about religious objections to some holidays? "Administrators and teachers should understand that a policy or practice of excusing students from a specific activity or discussion cannot be used as a rationale for school sponsorship of religious celebrations or worship for the remaining students."

- May students be absent for religious holidays? "Students should be allowed a reasonable number of excused absences, without penalties, to observe religious holidays within their traditions."

"To the secularists who would sweep every vestige of religion out of our schools and to the zealots who would convert the schools into an evangelistic arm of the church, this brochure says 'No,'" Thomas said. "The proper approach is to view religious holidays as opportunities to educate the next generation of Americans about our cultural and religious diversity and heritage."

"Obviously, this calls for sensitivity on the part of teachers and administrators as no child should be made to feel alienated in his own school."

In addition to the BJC, organiza-

tions sponsoring the publication include the American Academy of Religion, American Association of School Administrators, American Federation of Teachers, American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, American United Research Foundation, and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Other sponsors are the Christian Legal Society, National Association of Evangelicals, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., National Council on Religion and Public Education, National Council for the Social Studies, National Education Association, and National School Boards Association.

Copies of the publication are available from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 200 Maryland Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002. □

## A timely lift for Christian growth The Living Stream

by Herbert Hiller

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## news

# Opportunities and needs noted in Soviet Union

These are strategic times for Baptists in the Soviet Union, especially in the area of evangelism. There are also great needs to be met for Bibles and other resources.

This is the finding of Baptist World Alliance leaders who traveled to the Soviet Union from September 8 to 18, visiting Moscow, Kiev, Minsk, Riga, and Leningrad.

Led by General Secretary Denton Lotz, the BWA team met with leaders of the All Union Council of Evangelical Christians — Baptists (AUCECB).

**Evangelism.** Hundreds of people are turning to Jesus Christ through special services, concerts, and evangelistic meetings. Alexei Bichkov,

AUCECB general secretary, says that since the millennium celebrations in 1988, there have been more than 300 evangelistic events. But how do they organize for church growth and nurture?

"There is an open door for the Evangelism and Education Department," says Bichkov, so this BWA division becomes important for all of Eastern Europe.

**Radio.** Baptists are now on Radio Moscow every Sunday. The program is rebroadcast on Monday on short-wave radio. The AUCECB has reached an agreement with Trans World Radio for weekly half-hour programs.

**Newspaper.** A bimonthly newspaper with a circulation of 20,000 has begun. It features testimonies and the church ministries in mental institutions, children's homes, and homes for the aged.

**Prison ministry.** God has opened the doors for prison ministry in Moscow, the Ukraine, and Latvia.

"What Baptists have done has never been done by our cultural workers," said one prison official.

Women also visit women prisoners. Bibles have been given to prisoners. Pray for this ministry, which still depends on the permission of local authorities.

**Seminary.** There has been no further movement or permission to begin building. The property provided for the seminary has been secured due to bureaucratic holdup.

**Churches.** More and more churches are being returned to congregations. In Minsk, the religious affairs official reported that more than 100 new congregations of "believing people" had been opened since 1988. The state has returned confiscated buildings and has given permission to build new ones.

Bishop Janis Tervits, head of Latvian Baptists, said that retirement homes and homes for pastors are also being built.

BWA leaders were present at the dedication of a new church building in Kiev and saw the Baptist church which has been purchased by Sergei Nikolaev and it is being renovated in Leningrad.

**Bibles.** What a joy it was to see newly-arrived Bibles in Minsk! But the need for more Bibles and Christian literature is great. Talks are underway for the printing and publishing of the Bible in the USSR. Baptist World Aid has had a significant role in providing Bibles for the people through AUCECB.

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Many individuals are unaware of the substantial benefits available for gifts made at year end. Among them are

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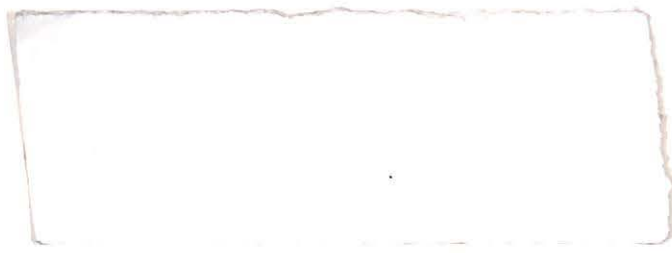


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