

JUNE 1991

BAPTISTHERALD



**Wisconsin
Churches
Welcome
You To
Milwaukee**

Gallup Gives Advice to Pastors

by Mark Wingfield

NEWARK, NJ. (BP)—"Every pastor needs to know at least seven things about the average American," says Gallup, the nation's best-known pollster.

Drawing upon data gathered from various national polls, George Gallup Jr., listed seven needs the church should strive to meet for Americans.

1) The need for shelter and food.

Gallup said this is the most basic need of all people and, therefore, must rise to the top of the list.

2) The need to believe life is meaningful and has a purpose.

Gallup said 70 percent of Americans believe it is important that life is meaningful and has purpose, yet as many as two-thirds of people interviewed believe most churches and synagogues are not effective in meeting this need.

"The fact is, significant numbers of people find churches irrelevant, unfulfilling, or boring," he said.

3) The need for a sense of community and deeper relationships. Gallup said "radical individualism" is taking hold on Americans, causing them to be among the loneliest people in the world.

Three of every ten Americans say they have been lonely for a long period of time in their lives.

4) The need to be appreciated and respected.

"As many as one-third of American people have a low sense of self-worth or self-esteem," Gallup reported.

"Significantly, we discovered the closer people feel to God, the better they feel about themselves. They're more satisfied with their lives than others; they're more optimistic and lead healthier lives. Experiencing a closeness with God is a key factor in people who forgive themselves and forgive others."

5) The need to be listened to and be heard.

In one survey, the unchurched were asked what would be most likely to draw them back. The answer, Gallup reported: "If I could find a pastor, priest, or rabbi with whom I could share my religious needs and doubts."

Additionally, Gallup said, laity desire more significant leadership roles in the church. "If churches want to keep the laity in the church, . . . they need to be given leadership roles. The clergy need to listen more carefully to what the laity is saying.

"Religion of the future is more likely to be shaped from the bottom up than from the top down," he declared. "Americans overwhelmingly think the future of the church will be shaped by the laity more than by the clergy. Not only do they believe it will happen, they believe it should happen."

6) The need to feel one is growing in faith.

"People do not like to suffer periods of spiritual stagnation," he explained. "Seven out of ten Americans say they have experienced a change in faith during their lifetimes.

"Churches need to pay close attention to the passages people experience in their faith lives. They need help understanding the significance of these changes."

7) The need for practical help in developing a mature faith.

"The clergy often make assumptions about the depth of religious commitment of members of their churches," Gallup said. Clergy assume their parishioners have more fully developed prayer lives and higher levels of knowledge about the faith and traditions of their denomination," he added.

"Clergy therefore often find themselves trying to win support for programs and causes from a laity that is spiritually listless and uninformed."

George Gallup Jr. is co-chair of the board of the Gallup Organization of Princeton, NJ. □



Relief Funds Needed for People of Bangladesh

Baptist World Aid responded to help the people left without food and shelter as the result of a cyclone in Bangladesh which hit in early May. BWAid sent an initial donation of \$15,000 to three Baptist groups. The Bangladesh Baptist Sangha, Bangladesh Baptist Fellowship, and the Garo Baptist Convention have all been actively involved in relief efforts following previous cyclones.

"We know that the Baptists of Bangladesh will already be working to provide relief," said BWAid Director, Paul Montacute. "This initial response will again show to them that the worldwide Baptist community cares for the people of Bangladesh."

BWAid has also launched a special **Bangladesh Cyclone** appeal to provide continuing support.

The last serious cyclone to hit Bangladesh was in 1988. Relief and Development work to overcome that disaster has now been overtaken by this latest tragedy. BWAid already has a funding goal of \$75,000 to support the Bangladesh Baptist Fellowship in funding a \$150,000 rehabilitation project from that 1988 cyclone. "We regret that no funding has yet been received, and I fear that donor fatigue is setting in," said Montacute. "We now need to respond to both the immediate relief needs, and then work with the Baptist community in empowering them to meet the longer term needs of the people of Bangladesh."

Baptists are urged to support the Bangladesh Cyclone appeal and send their donations to North American Baptist Conference, designated for Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal (332), 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994. □



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Jeremiah—a "western gunslinger"?

by David Wick

Think of the Prophet Jeremiah as a western gunslinger—coming on foot into some extremely violent, corrupt town—armed only with the message that God has given him to bring. That is his weapon—and he walks confidently into the midst of violence.

Jeremiah walked into the town of Topheth, known as a town of idol worshippers—a town of violent people—a town that worshipped Baal. The people of Topheth were so tough that when a woman had her first-born son, she and her husband took it out and burned it in the fire—and they never shed a tear. That was a tough town—a hard-hearted people.

In order to tell the wicked people of Topheth about God's judgment on them, God has Jeremiah appear as conspicuous as possible. He even has him break a jar to attract everyone's attention.

If you or I were going into such a town, we would probably try to maintain a low profile. How do you think Jeremiah felt? The important thing is that Jeremiah obeyed. He went—and he delivered the message.

After returning unharmed from Topheth to his home town of Jerusalem, Jeremiah receives another message from God—a message to give the people of Jerusalem: "Thus says the Lord of hosts the God of Israel, behold I am about to bring on this city and all its towns, that is all of its suburbs, the entire calamity that I have declared against it because they have stiffened their necks so as not to heed my words" (19:14-15).

You would think that Jeremiah's home town would treat him with respect, but it is in Jerusalem—not in Topheth—that Jeremiah faces violence. The priest Pashhur hears the message and has Jeremiah seized, beaten, and placed in stocks as an object of ridicule at the public gate of Benjamin. Clearly, Jeremiah's calling was a tough calling.

How did Jeremiah respond? In Jeremiah 20:3-6, we read that he is released and again prophecies against Pashhur, the man who had him arrested. Jeremiah again predicts the destruction of Jerusalem, the captivity of Pashhur and his family and all of his false prophet friends, and of course, Pashhur's eventual death in Babylon. Think of the courage displayed by Jeremiah.

Now the test of a prophet, according to the Old Testament, is whether his predictions come true (Jeremiah 20:3-6). It isn't long before Pashhur is in chains and on his way to Babylon.

But Jeremiah decides to have a little talk with God. He prays, "O Lord, Thou hast deceived me and I was deceived; Thou hast overcome me and prevailed. I have become a laughing stock all day long; everyone mocks me. For each time I speak I cry aloud; I proclaim violence and destruction, because for me the Word of the Lord has resulted in reproach and derision all day long" (Jeremiah 20:7).

Now Jeremiah is honest with God, but he is wrong when he says God deceived him. God did not deceive Jeremiah, nor does He deceive you or me about what being faithful to Him is like. God has given us His Word with many examples of what happens to people who walk in obedience to His way and to the Lord Jesus Christ. Often it is not easy to be true to God. But what else can we do?

Look at Jeremiah 20:9: "But if I say, I will not remember Him or speak anymore in His name, then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire shut up in my bones; and I am weary holding it in, for I cannot endure it. For I have heard the whispering of many, terror on every side!"

The opposition continues, but Jeremiah cannot be silent. He is compelled to speak God's message. It burns within him like a fire, and he cannot contain it.

Jeremiah had a difficult calling, but so do we. Jeremiah was obedient and experienced rejection, and so will we if we are obedient. Jeremiah had the fire in his bones and his belly, and he had to speak. Do we have that same fire within?

- Today in the United States with a population of almost 250 million, it is estimated that there are 172 million unsaved people.
- In Canada, only seven percent of the population of 25 million are evangelical Christians.

Last fall, I attended a meeting in Chicago of 32 different denominations—all involved in church planting. All those attending represented evangelical denominations or the evangelical wing of their denomination. We learned that every denomination has a program to plant churches between now and the year 2000. Our N.A.B. Conference has *Vision 2000*, which includes accelerating the planting of new churches.

What's interesting is that almost every denomination had the same story. Back in 1984-85, the denominational leadership felt the burden to plant many, many more churches than were being planted. They felt they had to at least double their efforts.

Five years ago, God's Spirit moved among leaders of the church in North America to get them to redouble their efforts in planting churches. One of their chief targets for church planting is cultural groups other than Anglo-White Americans. The world has come to our doorstep.

Today among these 32 evangelical denominations, there are 167,000 churches. If all of the plans are realized and the Lord tarries by the year 2000, there will be more than 220,000 churches. Within the next ten years, these denominations plan to plant almost 56,000 new churches. If those congregations average 100 or so in membership, there will be about 5.6 million people in brand new churches. That's the good news. The bad news is that doesn't even keep up with population growth. It's frightening.

It is estimated that there are 29,734,000 people who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ in the Great Lakes area: Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio.

Today in the United States with a population of almost 250 million, it is estimated that there are 172 million unsaved people. To reach those 172 million by the year 2000, these 32 denominations are planning to plant enough churches to introduce five and a half million to Christ.

In Canada, it is said, that the population is about 25 million. Seven percent of these are evangelical Christians. Presently, on the average there is one evangelical church for every 3,000 people. In some areas, it is one for every 4,000. In Canada, the evangelical churches have a goal to plant enough churches so there is one for every 2,000 by the year 2000.

The task that God has set before us is great. We have a tough calling, my brothers and sisters. I ask, "Do you have a fire for those 172 million



Jeremiah had a difficult calling, but so do we. Jeremiah was obedient and experienced rejection, and so will we if we are obedient. Jeremiah had the fire in his bones and his belly, and he had to speak.

unsaved people in your gut"?

Pastor David Steinhart said that when he went to a Tigers game, he looked around the Tigers Stadium. He saw people doing the "wave," and he thought: "All of these people are having a good time, and so many of them are going to hell."

Now Jeremiah was told to give a message of damnation and destruction to the people. Jeremiah walked into the toughest town in Palestine with that message, and he walked into the jaws of death back in his home town with that message. They beat him up, but he got up and gave the message again.

In contrast, you and I have been given a message—not of damnation—but of salvation. There are at least 170 million people who need to hear the message. And we need to hear that call from God.

I suggest that "each one win one," as the Nazarene Church suggests. Each Christian, each year, win one unsaved person to faith in Jesus Christ. But it shouldn't stop there. Each church—each year—plant one church. In the third world, where there is a lack of theological training, each pastor—each year—train one other person to be a pastor.

Each one win one. Is that too big a calling for you and me? Where do we get the idea that it is an option for us—to be unfruitful and to not reproduce spiritually?

I recognize that in the process of evangelism, there are many steps. You do not necessarily have to be the one nor will you be the one who harvests the person to whom you have witnessed. But if we will make it our goal to win at least one person to Christ a year, then we will become involved in the kinds of activity that will enable us to be a witness to people.

We'll begin to see some results.



Maybe somebody else will do all the leading, but at least we'll have been part of the process. The process of being fruitful needs to be in our minds, and the fire needs to be in our belly. So that we say to ourselves, "I can't help it even though they reject me, even though there is terror on every side, whatever happens, I'm going to walk up like Jeremiah did, and I'm going to do it! Because the world is going to hell without Jesus Christ."

I challenge you as individual churches to reproduce your church. If we are a living organism, we will reproduce ourselves.

Some of our churches, as part of an Association, are supporting a couple of church planting projects. I praise the Lord for this. But what has come out of our or your congregation in recent years—out of the heart of your congregation or mine? Has your church or my church reproduced a church?

Fifty-six thousand churches aren't going to be enough for all the people who are unsaved. I realize that we can't begin to reproduce 56,000 churches, but we, as individual congregations, can think about what we are going to do next—and

I don't mean that we look to our Association or the N.A.B. Conference International Office in Oakbrook Terrace for money to do this.

You say, "Well, that's hard; we have limited resources." Of course, it's hard, but look at the Prophet Jeremiah's ministry. It is difficult to be obedient to God. Think of Sarah in her old age—barren. I think churches come to a point where they think they are past their child-bearing years. Maybe your church and mine will reproduce within the next year or year and a half, and you or I will call our son Isaac, he laughs.

Is there enough evangelical witness in my church—in yours? Evangelism is presenting the Gospel to **unsaved people. We are way ahead of most Christians in our area in terms of knowing how to win people to Jesus Christ.** Who else will it fall to—to reproduce a church in our or your town or city?

We have a tough calling, but I challenge you with this goal for yourself: 1) each one win one—in the next year, be part of a process, at least, that sees someone come to Jesus Christ, and 2) each church plant one—within the next year or so, your church be part of the process that sees a new church, an evangelical church, planted in your area. □

The Rev. David Wick is senior pastor of Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, and part-time urban ethnic associate, Church Growth

Ministries Department, North American Baptist Conference, Oakbrook Terrace, IL.



Why We Don't Witness

by Jill Briscoe

Years ago I was praying with one of my children at bedtime, and I asked him if he had any problems we should pray about. He couldn't think of any, though I could think of a number! Rather unwisely, I pressed the point and asked, "Don't you have any problems at school?"

"No," he replied firmly.

"Don't the kids give you a hard time because you're a Christian?"

Again the answer was no.

Thinking back to my own traumatic school days, I said, "But kids always give you a hard time if you let them know you're a Christian."

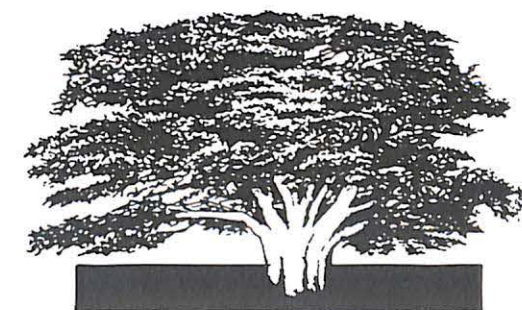
His reply was frank beyond belief: "All the more reason you don't let them know!" With that, quite happily, he turned over to sleep. With the refreshing candor of the very young, he had put into words the practical reasons why many Christians don't witness. They don't want to take the consequences. In all fairness to my son, I must explain that he came to see things differently and went on to be used by God in numerous lives at school.

If you lack concern for those who don't know Christ, try the following:

- Find out whether selfishness is controlling your actions so much that the Holy Spirit can't work in you. Recognize this as wrong, confess it, and ask the Holy Spirit to give you His concern for those who need the Lord.
- Check your theology, especially the parts relating to each person's condition before God. Is your behavior consistent with your belief? If not, ask God to help you have the courage to be consistent.

- List all the hang-ups you have about witnessing. Pray about each one and begin to see them in the light of what God has told you to do.
- Continue to do these things—because if you don't you will find other concerns taking the place of this one.

Excerpt from "What It Means to Be a Christian" by Stuart and Jill Briscoe. Published by David C. Cook Publishing Company, 850 N. Grove, Elgin, IL 60120.



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Stony Creek Church: Reaching Out on Our Knees

by Randy Rheume

"**M**ake it relevant! Make it relevant!" emphasized the lady we interviewed on a doorstep in Shelby Township. Our question to her was, "What advice would you give to us as we start a new church in this area?" At one time, she was a Baptist, but she left her church to join a Unity church because, she explained, it dealt with the real problems of the real world.

Could she be right—at least in part? The Unity church she spoke of is experiencing explosive growth, offering programs on everything

from dealing with co-dependency to overcoming addictions. Are we failing to scratch where people itch today? We have the answer: Jesus Christ, but are we presenting Him so that unchurched people see His relevance to their needs and hurts?

The Vision

Imagine that you haven't been to church in years. How do I convince you to get out of your warm bed on a cold Sunday morning (your only day off) to go to church? How do I convince you that Christianity is

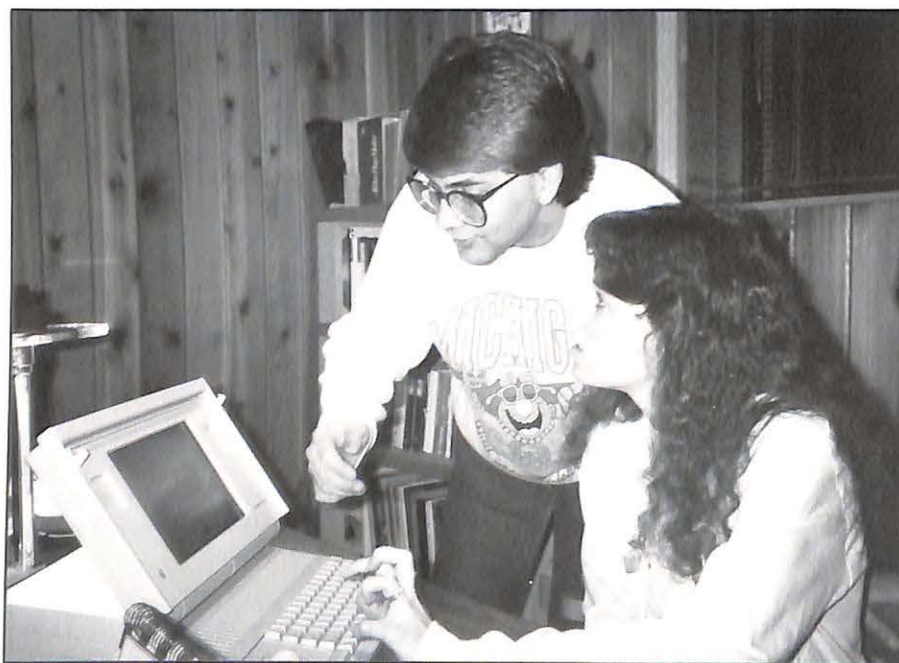
worth a second look?

That's the challenge that I, my family, and an enthusiastic core group accepted a few months ago when we launched out from Fellowship Bible Church in Troy, Michigan, to plant Stony Creek Church in the Shelby Township of Michigan.

Stony Creek will be a church specially designed to get unchurched folks out of bed and into



"What advice would you give us as we start a new church in this area"?



Our hands are full training leaders, getting to know the people in our target area, communicating the vision with passion to others, and, of course, raising badly-needed financial support.

church. Our Sunday morning service, beginning in September 1991 with a Grand Opening, will communicate the gospel with contemporary music, drama, and practical sermons. Small support groups will tackle hot issues like divorce recovery, learning disabilities, eating disorders, infertility, midlife crisis, addictions, and single parenting—all from a biblical perspective.

The Past

The dream for Stony Creek was formed during the years I co-pastored with Roland Preisler at Fellowship Bible Church (FBC)—a church we started together in 1984 and which became part of the Great Lakes Association in 1987.

FBC is a lively and growing church with a contemporary flair. But through much observation and study, I concluded that we would not grow past 200 members with our co-pastor arrangement in place. The church needed a more single-focused sense of leadership.

After much prayer and careful consideration, I proposed that we daughter a new church. The response was more than positive. Not



An enthusiastic core group accepted the challenge to launch out from Fellowship Bible Church in Troy to plant Stony Creek Church in Shelby Township.

only did FBC enthusiastically adopt the proposal, but the church decided to support me by sending me off with some of its most dedicated members and substantial financial help. For a young church the size of FBC, this constituted a herculean commitment as well as a church planting landmark in our Great Lakes Association.

The Present

For the core group of Stony Creek, the work ahead is more than we can humanly manage. Our hands are full training leaders, getting to know the people in our target area, communicating the vision with passion to others, and, of course, raising badly-needed financial support.

But we're not a bit intimidated. Our God is in the mountain-moving business. Stony Creek is just another opportunity for Him to show off!

That's why the core group of Stony Creek is an army that advances on its knees. From the start, every core group member signed a commitment form pledging to pray every day for Stony Creek Church.

Several have committed to weekly fasting as well. Every quarter this commitment is renewed and reaffirmed. A group of our early risers gathers to pray for Stony Creek every Wednesday morning at 6 a.m., and our night owls meet to pray on Thursday evenings.

We have also enlisted the prayer support of dozens of people from FBC and other Conference churches. These, too, have committed to pray for us every day. The fact that these dedicated people are praying for Stony Creek is the only reason I'm not scared out of my wits! Is all the hard work worth it? That question is best answered by one of our core group members who told me, "God is answering my prayer of 11 years in Stony Creek Church—a church designed specifically to reach the unchurched. I've never been more excited about my walk with God as I am right now."



The Rev. Randall Rheume is church planter/pastor of Stony Creek Church, Madison Heights, Michigan.



"The fact that dedicated people are praying for Stony Creek is the only reason I'm not scared out of my wits," says Pastor Rheume.

All Things Work Together for Good (Really)!

by Jim Calamunce

We find this teaching in Romans 8:28: "All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose." In Church Planting, this verse should be stamped on all church planter's palms so that when they are in an unbelievable situation and they throw up their palms in surprise, bewilderment, or frustration, and need instantaneous comfort, they shall receive it.

This verse has renewed my faith in God because of what happened on Jan. 6, 1991, at Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Langley, British Columbia.

Our Church had to vacate the Hall where we hold our Sunday services, so we rented a school in our community. We handed out fliers telling of our temporary move. During this time, I received positive feedback from three families saying that they would come to the service the following Sunday.

Now my contact with the school board and school was not very encouraging. I could not secure any adult-size chairs, so I asked the congregation to bring lawn chairs or some type of chair to sit on during

the service. This would not have been necessary if 50 of our 65 chairs had not been stolen from where they were stored. I was not able to secure any tables from the school, so several people in our group brought folding tables. The whole logistics of arranging things was quite time-consuming.

The day came for us to meet at the school. I was told to be there 15 minutes early to meet the Security Guard who would unlock the door. He did not show up at 9:30, at 9:45, or 10:00, or 10:15, or 10:30! By this time, 65 people were in the parking lot waiting for Sunday school.

I was a wreck emotionally. My feet were numb because I was wearing dress shoes in the snow and slush. People were talking about maybe going home.

I wondered to myself, "Had I picked the right date"? But I immediately told myself, "That's silly, I know I booked the right date because I just talked to the booking lady two days ago!" (See how Satan tries to confuse us?)

At 10:45 a.m., the moderator approached me and suggested that there was a "remote" chance that maybe the Security Guard was not

coming after all. I conceded and "threw up my palms" in bewilderment—not remembering Romans 8:28 and looking for God's hand to move in this apparent mess.

It did not take long before God began to move. One of the folks in the crowd offered her house, which was equipped with a large family room and upstairs so that we could split the adults and children at the appropriate time. The group went to the house. I stayed behind to direct latecomers and wonder what had gone wrong.

When I arrived at the house, God showed me that all things can work out for good if we look for His hand working in the situation. Many of the people approached me and said they really enjoyed the warm, cozy atmosphere of the home setting. This reminded them of the early Church in Acts and how they met in homes.

Two of the three families who said they'd come out for the service not only came to the school but also picked up their lawn chairs and walked to the home as well. These two families have since followed us to the Hall and have brought

(continued on page 27)



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"God showed me that all things work out for good if we look for His hand working in the situation. Many of the people approached me and said they really enjoyed the warm, cozy atmosphere of the home setting," says Pastor Calamunce.

A Rotten Tree Displays the Power of God

by Oryn Meinerts

On March 3, Camp Saker, Bimbia, was dedicated. More than 500 people, including the Canadian Ambassador, the Governor of the South West Province, the General Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, the Mayor of Limbe Urban Council, various CBC executives, members of local CBC churches, and the local community attended the dedication service.

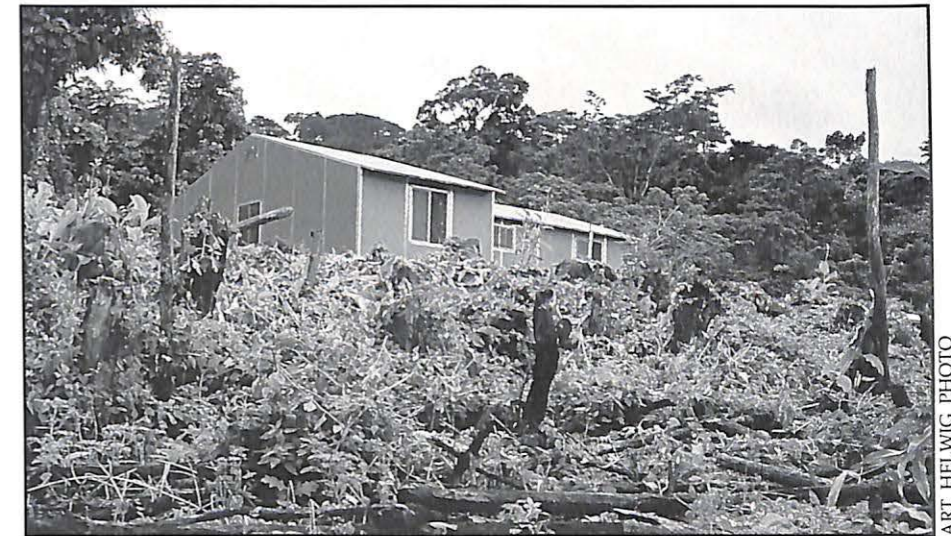
During the service, the local village chief testified to the power of God when two weeks before, a large, old tree on the beach crashed toward the chapel, less than a 100 meters away.

This is a tree where he, as chief, has for many years poured libations. Now that the tree bowed to the chapel, the chief has interpreted this to mean that God's power is greater than that of the gods to whom the libations are offered.

The chief, who is a church-going member of another denomination, is now doing some serious thinking and is contemplating stopping the libations altogether. He is planning to take the matter to a traditional society which is responsible for the traditional spiritual affairs of the village. Most, if not all, of the members of the society are church-going.

This brings to mind what I read recently in the BWA Women's Department paper, "Together," in which Aduke Akinola, executive secretary of the Woman's Union in Nigeria was cited: "Some old denominations harbour Christians who are 'Christo-pagans' . . . as persons who accept Christ as Saviour, but to them Christ is not enough."

One interesting footnote is that Pat, my wife, and I went for an



ART HELWIG PHOTO

Camp Saker, Bimbia, is a beautiful camp/conference facility on the Atlantic coast in Bona Ngombe Bimbia, near Limbe. Much work and effort has gone into this project, which has taken three years to develop. The modern, prefabricated buildings, manufactured in Canada, were donated through efforts of North American Baptist Conference Churches, particularly the Northern California Association. The total cost so far of 40 million francs has been shared in a joint effort between the Cameroon Baptist Convention and the N.A.B. Conference churches, and individuals have also contributed with specific donations. Three teams of young people/volunteers from Canada and the U.S.A. came to assist in construction, to experience Cameroon, and to have Christian fellowship and exchange ideas with the Cameroonian young people who also participated in the project. Direction for the project came through the National Youth Department, Cameroon Baptist Convention.

early morning dip in the ocean less than an hour before the tree fell. We placed our towels on one of the canoes that was destroyed by the fall.

A few hours later, we attended the worship service in the 110-year-old Presbyterian church just 300 meters from the camp. During the service, which the chief and about 15 others attended, I was given a chance to greet the congregation and testify to the hope I had in Christ as my Saviour and Sustainer. I told them I had no fear of the future.

I did not realize then that the chief had already begun interpreting the event as a crossroads happening: "Choose this day whom you will serve."

The chief has been asked by Jakob Koch on several occasions for permission to cut the old rotted tree down. Each time, the chief refused because of the spiritual significance of the tree to the village.

Now that the tree is down, Jakob, a short-term missionary in charge of developing the new camp, will have an opportunity to help the chief overcome the powers of darkness which the chief has feared for so long. □



Dr. Oryn Meinerts is an N.A.B. Conference missionary serving in Cameroon, West Africa.

Garcia's Ranch Baptist Says "Thank You"

by Juan Luna

I thank the North American Baptist Conference for the faithful support that we, as workers at Garcia's Ranch Baptist Church have enjoyed during the last nine years of service.

Our God has granted His grace on us very richly. Virtually hundreds of persons have come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

This year of 1991 is one of many opportunities. We request that you pray that we might keep our eyes open and take advantage of those opportunities.

Two years ago during the first week of August 1988, by faith we started what we now have as a reality. A larger sanctuary was needed to accommodate the people whom we are winning for the Lord.

Our Church expresses its deepest appreciation to the N.A.B. Conference WMF for the \$25,000 gift that helped us to advance more in our project as well as to the many volunteer groups who have helped and continue to do so to complete our building.



Twenty-four senior citizens from South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Colorado, and Texas helped this year by installing a hot water heater, vanities in restrooms, ceilings, electric lighting, kitchen cabinets, carpet, tile, clothing rack, and a platform extension in addition to painting and varnishing.



Please pray that we will be able to finish our new building this year. We want to reach more people for the Lord. We appreciate your encouragement. God bless all of you. □



The Rev. Juan Luna is pastor of Garcia's Ranch Baptist Church, Rio Grande City, TX.



Thanks for Helping Rebuild a Church in Brazil



Recently, the Baptist church in Esteio, RS, Brazil, was damaged due to a fire. Pastor Osvaldo Moreira Filho of the Primeira Igreja Batista de Esteio expresses appreciation for the contribution which helped make possible the construction of a new church. \$1,200 was provided from North American Baptist Conference relief funds.

Ethnic Churches in California Have Vibrant Witness

by Kenneth L. Fischer

"One of the added pluses to my life, as a Christian and an area minister, is the privilege of serving with our six ethnic churches in California," says Dr. Ken Fischer, California area minister.

He points out that in the Southern California Association, there is one Romanian Baptist Church, one Chinese Baptist Church, one German-speaking Baptist Church, and one new church plant made up of English-speaking East Indians.

In the Northern California Association, there are two Romanian Baptist Churches.

"I have been privileged to bring messages in each church with the exception of the East Indian church, which is just beginning. Each time,

my heart is filled to overflowing as I witness the gratitude of these people for what the Lord has done in bringing them to America and to our North American Baptist Conference."

Recently, Pastor John Gug of the Romanian Baptist Church in Sacramento invited Dr. Fischer to bring a message at a baptismal service. Since their newly purchased church does not have a baptistry, they rented a Baptist Church nearby.

"Expecting a small group on a Tuesday evening," says Fischer, "I was surprised when more than 200 were present."

On the platform, dressed in white, sat seven baptismal candidates—five young men and two teenage girls.

One of the young men, who had just gotten out of the Army after

serving four years of active duty and was still in the Reserves, had been given orders to leave for the Persian Gulf that Friday.

"Though I cannot understand the Romanian language, I knew by the prayers and special music that the congregation was greatly moved by the fact that these youth being baptized were willing to commit their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. "What an evening of rejoicing! We rejoice in what our Lord is doing in our ethnic churches," says Dr. Fischer. □



Dr. Kenneth L. Fischer is the California Area Minister.

Wisconsin and Illinois Associations welcome you to Milwaukee

For the past three and a half years, the Wisconsin Association churches, with the help of the Illinois Association churches, have been preparing for the 43rd Triennial Conference. The Conference is to be held at MECCA in Milwaukee, July 30 to August 4, 1991.



Dr. David Dryer, local arrangements chair, and a number of other people serving on various committees are ready to make this a great time of inspiration and fellowship for all. Hotels, restaurants, and the Conven-

tion Center are close together for your convenience.

Milwaukee is an "Old" Town, located on the western shores of Lake Michigan, about 100 miles north of Chicago. All summer long, the city features various ethnic festivals. The German Festival is planned for July 26-28.

"The city of Milwaukee arose from a collection of scattered settlements on a site familiar to the Indian tribes in the region." The first immigrants were French traders and trappers. By 1837 the population had grown to several hundred people. In 1846, a city charter was adopted.

The strongest reason for coming

to the Conference in Milwaukee is to be inspired by the speakers the Lord has provided, to do the Lord's business in projecting the ministry and mission of the Conference for the future, and to fellowship with friends whom we haven't seen for some time as well as to make new friends. The churches of Wisconsin and Illinois welcome you. God bless you as you come. —Jacob Ehman



The Rev. Jacob Ehman, upper midwest area minister

Bethel Baptist Church, Sheboygan

"Celebrating God's Faithfulness" is the theme of the 100th anniversary—celebrated in 1991—of Bethel Baptist Church.

Bethel is developing and implementing a Biblically balanced program of small group ministries designed to help believers grow up into all aspects of Christ.

The Church, located at 2411 County Trunk EE, Sheboygan, is located 50 miles north of Milwaukee, off Interstate 43.

Camping facilities are available at Terry Andrea State Park, located two miles south of the Church on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Bethel Baptist Church, Sheboygan, (at right)

The Rev. Steve Petry, pastor (below)



Sunday services July 28
 Sunday school: 9:00 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:15 a.m.
 Evening service: 6:00 p.m.
 Church phone: (414) 452-4860

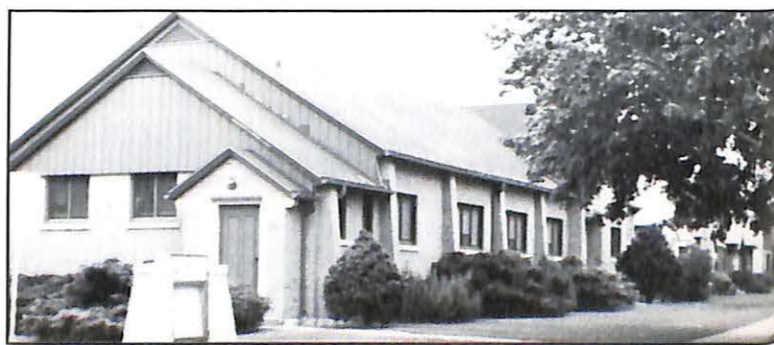
Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee

Temple Baptist Church has an illustrious history of more than 103 years, dating back to August 15, 1887. A month later, the Church was duly recognized.

Since then, it has ministered in three locations. Fourteen pastors have served here, including Rudolph Machholz, S. A. Kose, G. K. Zimmerman, R. I. Thompson, and since 1986 to the present, Henry Ramus.

The Church has also had three names: The Second

Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee



German Baptist Church, North Avenue Baptist Church, and now Temple Baptist Church.

From its fellowship, four missionaries were sent to India, and three sons of the Church entered the ministry.

In 1910, Temple Baptist co-hosted with Immanuel Baptist Church, Brookfield, the N.A.B. Tri-

ennial Conference in Milwaukee.

Again, Temple is helping host the 43rd Triennial Conference. "We hope many of you will come," says the Rev. Henry Ramus, pastor.



Sunday services for July 28

Sunday school: 9 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:15 a.m.
 Church address: 3920 N. 51st Blvd., Milwaukee; phone: (414) 445-0340

The services on August 4 will be cancelled to join in the closing rally of the Triennial at the MECCA.

The Rev. Henry G. Ramus, pastor (left)

Franklin Community Church, Franklin

RANDY WIELAND PHOTO

Franklin Community Church, a one-year-old church planting project, began with a vision of presenting Jesus Christ in a contemporary, relevant manner.

Worship services include drama and a mixture of traditional and contemporary music.

"My passion is to have the type of church that the person off the street who thinks church is 'boring' would enjoy. I really want to win the lost to Christ," says Pastor John Schindler. In the first year, several people have accepted Christ as their Savior and Lord.

In addition to the services on Sunday, another emphasis of the Church's ministry is weekly home Bible studies.



Sunday services July 28
 Sunday school: 9 a.m.
 Worship service: 10 a.m.
 Mr. John Schindler, pastor (left)

Church address: Franklin High School, 8222 South 51st St. (south of Drexel Ave.), Franklin; phone: (414) 425-9006

Grace Baptist Church, Racine

Grace Baptist Church, Racine, founded in 1854, moved to its present five-acre location on the northwest side of town in 1968, constructed an addition in 1985, and purchased an additional four acres of land in 1991.

The mission of Grace Baptist is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, enthusiastically develop the body through the knowledge of Christ, and aggressively present the gospel to the community and to the world.

The objectives of the Church are to

- **Worship**—Provide a quality of worship that motivates people to respond to God at their highest level.
- **Care**—Provide a network that ministers to the various needs within the body as well as those of the community.
- **Learn**—Develop and evaluate creative and effective methods that enhance the learning of God's truth.

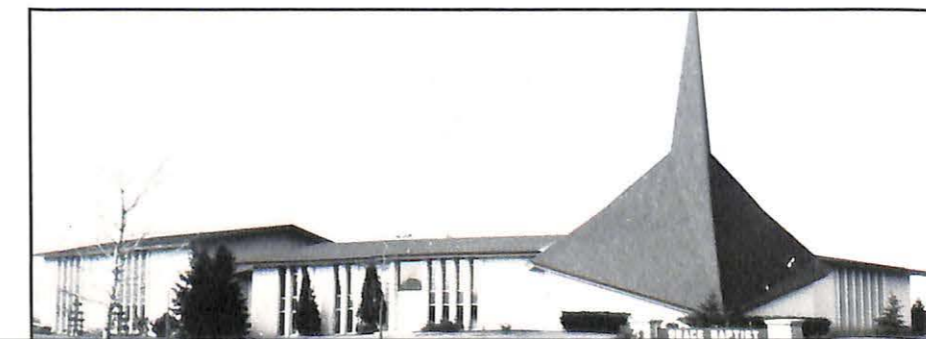


(l. to r. above) Rev. Jerry Worsham, pastor; Rev. Warren Wetherbee, minister of evangelism/discipleship; Mr. Paul Thomas, minister of youth; Rev. Walter Cecil, part-time minister of visitation.

- **Reach Out**—Respond to Christ's commission by presenting the gospel and equipping believers to share their faith.

Sunday services for July 28

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
 Morning worship: 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.
 Church address: 5731 Northwestern Ave., Racine; phone: (414) 897-3389
 Grace Baptist Church, Racine (left)



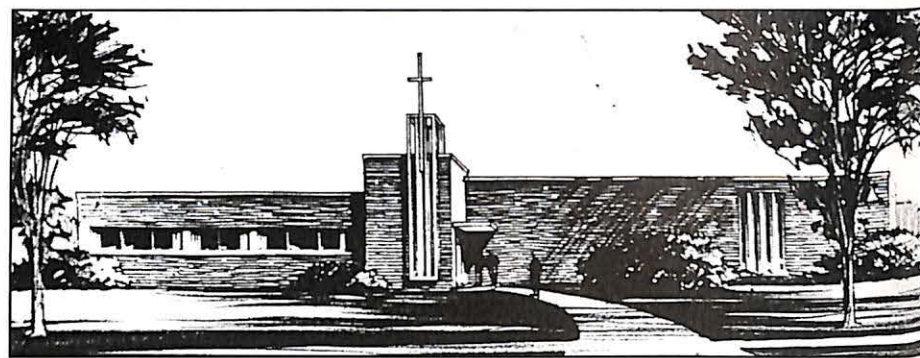
First Baptist Church, Manitowoc

Founded through the efforts of the Rev. William Edward Grimm on June 2, 1850, as the German Baptist Church of Kossuth, the First Baptist Church, Manitowoc, is the oldest congregation in Wisconsin affiliated with the N.A.B. Conference. This year, it celebrates 141 years of ministry.

Grimm, a native of Memel, East Prussia, Germany, came to the United States in 1847, along with several other parishioners and settled in Milwaukee. They carried the gospel to four different communities containing German immigrants who had chosen to settle free farmland in what was called the "bush."

The Church ministered to a German-speaking rural community until the early years of World War II, when the congregation moved into Manitowoc, and changed its name to First Baptist Church. It also became affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of the U.S.A.

In the early 1980s, First Baptist ministered to another group of war refugees—the Hmongs from Laos.



Sunday services for July 28
 Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:45 a.m.
 Church address: 1017 Waldo Blvd.,
 Manitowoc; phone: (414) 682-5194 or
 682-1522

First Baptist Church, Manitowoc (above)
 Pastor Bruce P. Huffer (left)

Pioneer Baptist Church, Pound

Pioneer Baptist Church began in 1885 in home-church meetings with a small group of German and Polish believers. This group organized as the German Polish Baptist Church in 1889. Ten years later, as the Church grew, it was decided to have separate ethnic churches. So in 1889, the German Baptist Church was organized with 17 charter members and in 1902 erected its own building.

From its very beginning, this Church emphasizes its purpose of proclaiming the entire Word of God, developing Christian character in its members, and winning the lost to the Lord Jesus Christ in its community, surrounding areas, and in various parts of the world. The Church started a sister mission church served by the pastor until the mid 1940s.

In 1929, a new building, still in use today, was dedicated to the Lord's service.

In 1938, English became the predominate language and the Church changed its name to Pioneer Baptist.

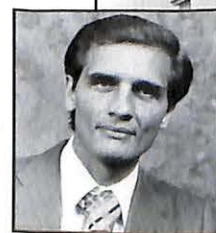
The Church has been used by God to send out from its own church family missionaries, ministers, and Christian lay workers. The



Church emphasizes ministry to its children and youth, and it founded Faith Christian School in 1975.

Pioneer Baptist Church celebrated its 90th anniversary in 1989. The Lord has blessed the Church. Strong believers willingly take an active part in the ministries of the Church. Several families have recently joined the Church.

Sunday services on July 28
 Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:45 a.m.
 Evening service: 7 p.m.
 Church address: Highway 141,
 Pound; phone: (414) 897-3389.



Pioneer Baptist Church,
 Pound (upper)
 German Baptist Church,
 Pound, in 1902 (middle)
 The Rev. Dennis Reinhold,
 pastor (at left)

Immanuel Baptist Church, Brookfield

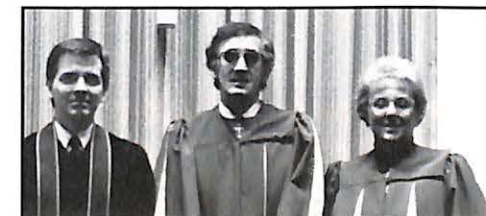
Immanuel traces its beginnings to a small group of German Baptists who began worshipping together on Milwaukee's east side in 1838. In 1855, a group of newer immigrants from the Village Church, Wismar, Germany, joined them. Together, they founded the First German Baptist Church of Milwaukee. In the 1920s, the congregation changed its name to Immanuel Baptist Church as part of their effort to reach other than only German-speaking people.

From the start, Immanuel has looked to fulfill the "Great Commission." Today, anywhere from 35 to 40 percent of the church's annual unified budget—plus the combined gifts of four special offerings each year—goes to support the ministries of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. and the N.A.B. Conference, with which Immanuel has from its inception been actively aligned. The Church also supports the Milwaukee Christian Center

Immanuel Baptist Church, Brookfield (right)

The Rev. Scott Weisser, pastor, (l. to r.), Bruce Heise, choir director, and Mrs. Judy Heise, organist (lower far right)

Mrs. Marilyn Stathus, Christian education director (at right)



food pantry and helps feed the inner-city hungry at St. Benedict's Catholic Church.

Immanuel is evangelical in theological stance. We believe we have the joyous obligation to proclaim to others and live out in our own lives God's Good News in Jesus Christ. The Church works locally in a con-

certed effort with other communions in the Christian faith.

Sunday services on July 28
 Sunday school for older youth/adults: 9 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Church address: 4250 N. 137th St.,
 Brookfield; phone: (414) 781-9650

First Baptist Church, Watertown

First Baptist Church, Watertown, began as a mission extension of Lebanon Baptist Church in the 1870s. The Church, formally incorporated in 1882, has continued its ministry to Watertown to the present day. In its 109 years of ministry, the Church has outgrown two buildings. "We thank God that we were able to move into our third and new building in May 1986," says Rev. Allan Kranz, pastor.

The Church's commitment to missions and spirituality has resulted in a number of her young people going into mission work, the pastorate, and God's Volunteers.

The Church is committed to the pursuit of spiritual values for individuals and family. We have sought to promote the Church as family and initiate activities that enhance that concept. To promote the idea of Church family, we have a potluck fellowship dinner the last Sunday of

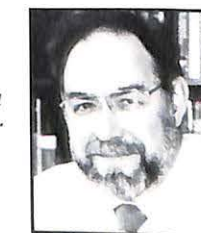


the month following the morning worship.

First Baptist Church of Watertown

Services for Sunday, July 28
 Sunday school: 9:15 a.m.
 Morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Fellowship dinner: 12 noon
 Church address: 160 Oakridge Ct.,
 Watertown; phone: (414) 261-3970.

The Rev. Allan Kranz, pastor



Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brookfield

Ridgewood Baptist Church was founded 11 years ago in September 1979, as a merger of three N.A.B. Conference churches in Milwaukee: Bethany, Center, and German Zion. Land was purchased in the suburb of Brookfield, and the congregation built a beautiful building to the glory of God. The building includes two sanctuaries, since there are morning services held simultaneously in English and German.

Ridgewood is experiencing good growth at the present time, due in large part to the exciting worship services. We would love to have you worship with us as you visit Milwaukee.

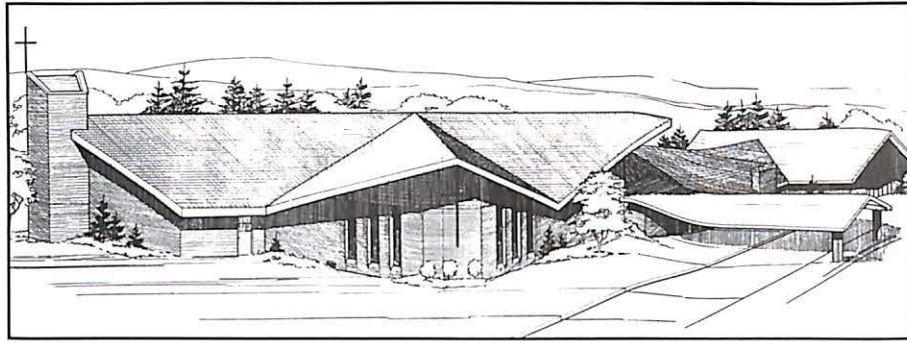
Sunday services on July 28

Morning worship: 10:45 a.m.

Evening combined service: 6:30

p.m., with special musical guests, The Bohlens in concert

Church address: 2720 N. Lilly Rd., Brookfield; phone (414) 784-8050.



Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brookfield



(l. to r.) Dr. Ronn Read, senior pastor, and his family; Ruth, Dan, and Elizabeth Babel, the Rev. Erwin Babel, German language pastor; and Shelly and Randy Schmor, youth minister

North Freedom Baptist Church, North Freedom

The Church is located near the Wisconsin Dells and Baraboo. Founded in 1858, it presently has 100 members.

During the past year, the Church has given strong emphasis to evangelism, and has also begun some small group Bible studies. The Church sponsors numerous fellowship activities and sports programs as an outreach to its community.

Another focus of our Church is to examine our relationship to Christ and to seek to deepen this relationship.

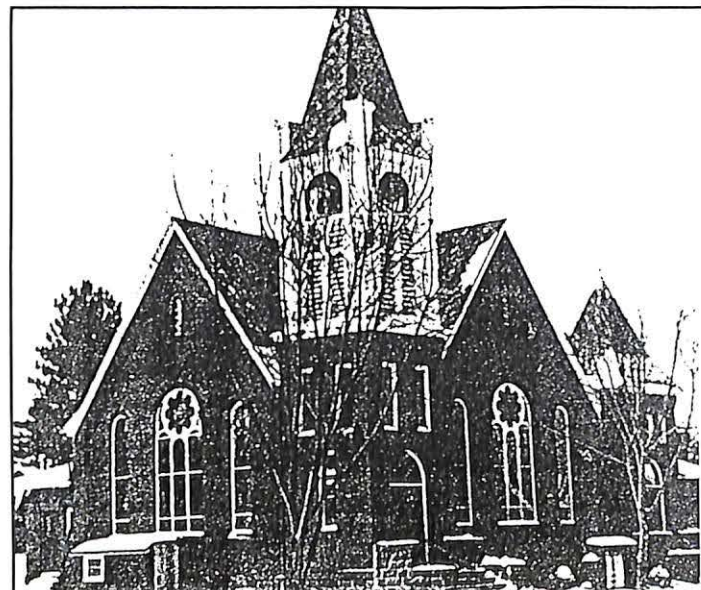
Sunday services for July 28

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Morning worship: 10:30 a.m.

Church address: 201 West Walnut, North Freedom; phone: (608) 522-4348

The Rev. Scott Pickard, pastor



North Freedom Baptist Church

Immanuel Baptist Church, Kenosha

Immanuel Baptist Church began as a mission church with nine families. They met in various homes under the supervision of the Rev. O. R. Schroeder, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Racine. The first recorded service, in German, took place on January 12, 1906.

Regular services began under the direction of the first full-time pastor, the Rev. Adam Waldvogel, in 1917. Legal incorporation took place on March 16, 1922, with 47 charter members. Construction of the building, which now houses the congregation, began in 1953, and it was dedicated in November 1954.

The word "German" was dropped from the church name on July 17, 1965. Now, with more than 250 members, and still growing, a new building is again under consideration. The congregation is prayerfully seeking the Lord's direction for facilities to house the growing membership and the expanding educational programs.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Kenosha

Kevin Barke, youth pastor (l. to r.); Dr. David Dryer, senior pastor; and Rev. Joe Benke, part-time visitation pastor



Immanuel has an Awana program, and a teen program called ACTs. Immanuel also supports the Crisis Pregnancy Center and many local, national, and international evangelical missionary endeavors.



Immanuel's pastor, Dr. David Dryer, is Local Arrangements Chair for the Triennial Conference.

— Jim Stephens

Sunday service for July 28

Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Sunday Evening: 6 p.m.

Church address: 9th Ave. and Wilson Rd., Kenosha; phone: (414) 654-7957

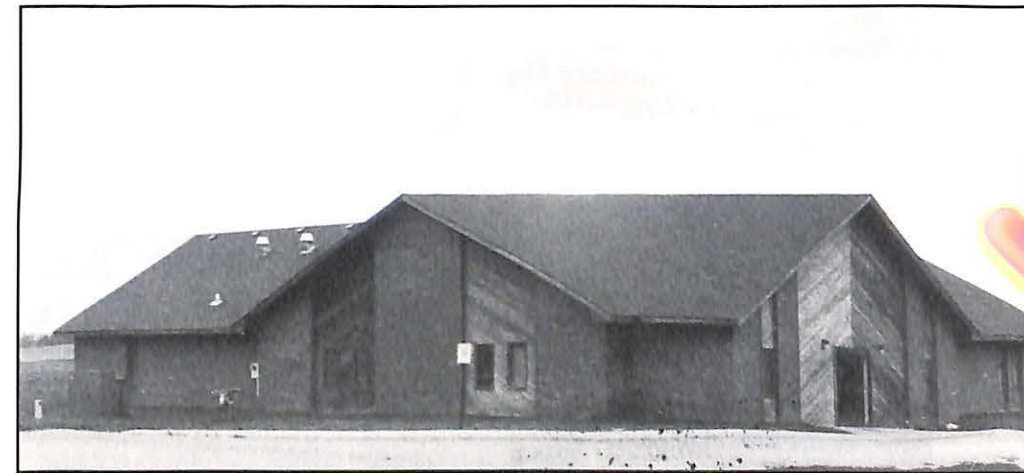
Community Baptist Church, Sun Prairie

On July 27, 1978, Dave and Carol Rushton began a Bible study in Sun Prairie. The group became Community Baptist Church, a church planting project of the N.A.B. Conference.

The Church began meeting in its own facility June 7, 1987. The work of "equipping the saints for the work of ministry," Ephesians 4:11-17 continues. Being the people of God to one another and in the community remains a common goal.

"Discipleship" and "Encouragers" are key words for Community. Church goals and ministry focus on the discipleship process of evangelism, edification, and equipping (II Timothy 2:2). Being encouragers to one another and the community is a goal of Community's people. Worship, fellowship, outreach, and stewardship to the glory of God are central parts of the weekly ministries.

Long-range goals include expanding the facilities and developing ongoing discipleship. Starting a "daughter" ministry in an outlying



area is part of the ten-year vision. In October 1990, the Rev. Garry Hogan became pastor.

Community Baptist Church, Sun Prairie

Sunday services for July 28

Sunday school: 9:15 a.m.

Morning worship: 10:30 a.m.

Mini-churches meet in homes: 6:00 p.m.

Church address: 5711 Reiner Rd., Sun Prairie, WI; phone: (608) 837-3336.

The Rev. Garry Hogan, pastor



Revitalizing Your Annual Meeting

by Lyle E. Schaller

"We schedule our annual meeting for the Sunday before the Superbowl in January and hold it right after church," explained one pastor. "I pronounce the benediction at 11:28, and our moderator calls the annual meeting to order at 11:30. That's the only way we can be sure we'll have a quorum. If we don't have any divisive items on the agenda, we can adjourn by noon.

"Our constitution requires that we elect officers at the annual meeting, adopt a budget, and receive the reports from the pastor and all the boards and committees. These are submitted in a booklet and handed out at the beginning of the meeting.

"Once in awhile, we have another big item, such as the purchase of a property, a building program, or negotiating a loan that requires congregational approval. In the eleven years I've been here, we have gone as late as 12:30 only once."

"That's not our tradition," observed another pastor. "Our constitution sets the date as the third Tuesday in January. We begin with a meal at six and convene the annual meeting about seven. It



usually takes about two hours. In addition to electing officers and adopting the budget, we honor all our retiring officers . . . present our 25-year membership pins to members and special pins to those completing 40 or 50 years as members . . . honor the outstanding volunteer of the past year—that name is kept secret until that meeting . . . have a skit with a couple of specially written songs that recaptures the

highlights of the past 12 months.

"Last year a member made a videotape of the life and ministry of our congregation during the previous 12 months. He and other men had hooked up six television sets that were scattered around the fellowship hall so everyone could see it. That tape ran for almost an hour in nearly complete silence except for his narration. Everyone was completely engrossed as they watched pictures of themselves, their friends, and their relatives on those television sets. The only time the silence was broken was with laughter or a brief comment.

"For next year, he is making a videotape that will lift up five important policy questions we have to deal with during

the next few years: our shortage of parking . . . our ancient and overcrowded building . . . pastor's retirement two years hence . . . need for new staff . . . and a plea for a greater emphasis on reaching young families.

"We also use the annual meeting to celebrate the big emphasis we place on missions, to express our gratitude to our choir, and to adopt our program priorities for the com-

ing program year. "We begin with a hymn followed by prayer, and a ten-minute devotional period followed by about 15 to 20 minutes of reports presented via our overhead projector, but also submitted in printed form in a booklet," continued the pastor. "The next 60 to 90 minutes are devoted to recognitions, celebrations, skits, a review of the past year, and a positive look at the future. "We close by singing 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds.' That is followed by dessert and fellowship. If we pronounce the benediction at 9 p.m., everyone will be gone by ten o'clock or soon after. We are convinced that fellowship period is an essential time to reinforce the sense of accomplishment, to congratulate those who have been recognized or honored, and to just feel good about being part of this congregation.

"In other words, we make our annual meeting a big deal. We expect a big crowd, and we always have a big crowd."

Two Alternatives

This conversation illustrates two choices in designing your annual meeting. One alternative is to pick a convenient time for as many people as possible and to make it as brief and painless as possible. The obvious goal is to fulfill that organizational requirement, to meet the legal obligations, and to get it over with as quickly as possible with minimum inconvenience. A second alternative is to design it as a big, attractive, and enjoyable experience which people attend because they want to—not simply to fulfill an obligation.

What Are the Guidelines?

Space limitations plus the huge

differences in terms of polity and tradition make it impossible to offer a detailed prescription for annual meetings, but I suggest a dozen guidelines that can be applied to most such occasions.

- Schedule and announce the date at least six months in advance so people can adjust their plans accordingly.
- Design it as an inspirational event that will motivate people to leave feeling good about their faith as Christians, about this congregation, and about both the past and the future.
- Use this occasion to proclaim the gospel and to rejoice in the good news that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior. The business agenda always should be at a secondary facet of this occasion. Proclamation and prayer should be at the top of the agenda.
- Build in a strong and positive future orientation. Rarely is it possible to do yesterday over again, so don't try.
- Celebrate all victories, affirm the ministry of the volunteers, recognize the long-tenured members, lift up and rejoice in the accomplishments and contributions of various groups, classes, choirs, organizations, and committees.
- Remember that laughter is the best lubricant for meeting, so build in humor.
- The larger the crowd, the more important is the place of music, so design the schedule to include instrumental music as well as singing.
- As much as possible, rely on visual communication. The eye is a better channel than the ear for conveying information you want people to remember. Pictures and

graphs are more effective than long strings of words.

- The larger the crowd, the faster the pace that is required to attract and hold people's attention. Do not let the meeting drag, avoid long-winded oral reports and monologues.
- Do not expect the annual meeting to be a legislative session that will make difficult decisions on controversial and/or divisive questions. Those issues should be studied and resolved within the committee system that produces recommendations to be adopted at the annual meeting. If you are in doubt about the probable response by the annual meeting to a particular recommendation or proposal, it probably needs more work in committee or more time for people to reflect on it.
- The annual meeting can be a good place to affirm the past, to celebrate the present, and to project the vision for tomorrow, but do not ask people to vote on any controversial, divisive, half-baked, or spur-of-the-moment motions. Minimize unpleasant or divisive surprises!
- Finally, a well-attended annual meeting can be an excellent occasion to challenge people with new goals or a new vision or a new dream. Challenge, do not reprimand!

Finally, only minor revisions in these guidelines are necessary for them to be useful in planning the annual meeting of your association. □

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President's Focus

The Challenge of Change

by Manetta Hohn
WMF president, Kelowna, BC

The dictionary defines change as "a new or different course or direction; variety, not sameness." If we take seriously each of our Biblical Imperatives, change will occur in both our personal lives and our ministries.

Life changes are common to all of us from childhood right on through the golden years. Change is a constant part of our life. Many changes are minor, everyday occurrences; others are major. Some changes are planned; some unexpected.

How do we react to or accept change? I believe changes in our lives happen for a purpose. I have found they keep life interesting.

Moving to another part of the country and changing pastorates was always a major change for me and our family, but I always anticipated meeting new people, learning to love them and work with them. It was a challenge and an opportunity for growth in relationships, in ministry, and in my own life.

Changes come for our benefit and can be a growing experience for us if we allow them to be that. Often, however, it is hard for us to accept change. It is our attitude to changing situations that makes them a positive or negative experience. When a baby is born, we expect constant growth and change to take place. So it should be in our Christian life. Growth and change

after we are born into God's family should be the norm. It is up to us how quickly this happens in our life. How open are we to God's working in us, teaching us. "It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose" (Philippians 2:13). This produces change.

Reflect, for a moment, on your life. How have you changed? As you responded to changes in your life, was it a means of growth?

Our challenge is to be open to change. May we not suppress changes as they come, but accept them as a challenge to grow and Reach New Heights. □

Laura Congo Is WMF Scholarship Recipient

Miss Laura Congo was the second of the 1990-91 WMF Scholarship recipients. She has completed her first year at the N.A.B. College, Edmonton, Alberta. Laura is studying music as a flute major in the music track of the Associate of Arts in Religion degree program. She expresses her life goal and desire in a poem she has written entitled "To Be Daily More Like You."



"As I reflect on my life
You are the One who stood out,
Bold and bright, my goal
To be daily more like You.

Never jealous
Of those with seemingly more
than I,
Never worried
About the very next day.

As I look at my life
You will be One who stands out
Bold and bright, my goal
To be daily more like You.

Never wondering
How my life is planning out,
Always peaceful
In the knowledge of your saving
grace.

As I look forward to my life
You will be the One who stands
out
Bold and bright, my goal
To be daily more like You.

I nearly walk away, but
As I look at Your life, I see
All that You gave up for me,
All that You do for me,
All that You have planned,
I see I can never walk away
Because if I do—I'll never see
how the story ends . . .
Or begins again.

As I go through my life
You are the One who stands out
Bold and bright, my goal
To be daily more like You."

Tools for Ministry

CHANGE

Dying for Change by Leith Anderson (Bethany House / 1990). An estimated 85 percent of America's Protestant churches have plateaued or are declining. The rapid and complex changes transforming American society have left many established churches and ministry organizations teetering between ineffectiveness and extinction. In these churches are many Christians who desperately want their churches to rapidly catch up to meet the challenges of the present and upcoming generation, but don't know how. Others, for the sake of long-held traditions, simply will not consider change.

Change is extraordinarily difficult—but absolutely necessary. It requires an understanding of the changes in society that shape our world, the spiritual and sociological changes that the church needs to make, and specific plans that facilitate these changes along with the type of leadership it will require.

The Frog in the Kettle by George Barna (Regal Books / 1990). "What Christians Need to Know About Life in the Year 2000." As Barna sees it, for the church to be a vibrant alternative to the world system, we must anticipate the radical, yet subtle changes of the next decade. Carefully researched, this book gives you a definitive picture of the future.

OUTREACH

Evangelism: A Way of Life by Rebecca Pippert and Ruth Siemens (InterVarsity Press / 1985). Offers motivation for reluctant witnesses. In twelve inductive Bible studies, the authors explore such topics as sharing the gospel with strangers, friendship evangelism, and communication styles.

Evangelism for Our Generation

by Jim Peterson (NavPress / 1985). Peterson refers to Jesus' practice of evangelism as "affirmation—a process of modeling and explaining the Christian message." He begins with a description of contemporary secular culture. The second half deals with principles of life-style evangelism. A suggested plan for an evangelistic Bible study in the Book of John concludes the book.

Gentle Persuasion by Joseph C. Aldrich (Multnomah / 1989). Will encourage you, whatever your age or ability, to become part of God's strategy for bringing men and women to Christ. Aldrich explains how cherry pies, hammers and saws, lawn mowers, broken-down chairs, baby-sitters, duck hunters, and llama farmers can draw their friends to the Savior.

Stepping Out: Sharing Christ in Everyday Circumstances by Margaret Bockwell (Here's Life Publishers / 1984). A lively, personal look at how one woman shares the gospel in everyday settings from taxis to beauty salons.

BALANCED LIVING

The Curious Waltz of the Working Woman by Karen Scalf Linamen and Linda Holland (Regal Books / 1990). "Finding Your Personal Rhythm in the Dance Between Family, Work and Friends." All across the country, women are finding that the rigors of building careers, cultivating intimate relationships and caring for children are more difficult than anyone could have imagined. They're realizing that if having it all means doing it all, they might want just a little less. Full of practical suggestions, this guide can help every woman in her pursuit of balance.

Reevaluating Your Commitments: How to Strengthen the Permanent and Reassess the Tempo-

rary by Maxine Hancock (Bethany House / 1990). In the swirl of a hurried world that makes constant demands upon one's time and resources, what criteria can a person use to evaluate whether life is meaningful and worthwhile? Pushed into day-to-day commitments, how can a person assess what commitments should be central, what should shape daily life, what are long-range and of permanent value? Author shows readers how to discover those life-ordering commitments that are meant to put everything else in proper perspective. Commitment to God, to family, to Christian community, to a God-given vocation, and to "forever principles" brings order and meaning to daily life. When faced with a wide range of opportunities, these commitments will be the criteria for judging what is worthwhile and what possibly should be relinquished. □

Triennial Conference Workshops

Among the workshops scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, July 31, at the Triennial Conference to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, three are being sponsored by the W.M.F. They are

- **Creating a Dynamic Growing Women's Ministry Program** led by women of Parma Heights Baptist Church, Parma Heights, OH.
- **Good Things Happen in Small Churches, Too** led by women of Round Lake Baptist Church, Gladwin, MI.
- **Creative Program Ideas** led by Elenor Kern of Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA.

Plan to attend for encouragement and inspiration for your church's women's ministries program. □

2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

COMMISSIONED TO WITNESS

Praise God for people receiving Christ as Savior and for His growing church

■ **MCCLUSKY, ND.** Pastor Les Buenning baptized and welcomed a teenage girl into the fellowship of McClusky Baptist Church. —*Marion Kirschman*

■ **SIoux FALLS, SD.** Two pre-teen girls gave witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter and were baptized by Pastor Leigh Harrison at Hillcrest Baptist Church. —*Bee Westerman*

■ **BISMARCK, ND.** Bismarck Baptist Church had two baptismal services during the month of March in which Pastor Ed Bartel baptized nine people. Among those baptized was an 83-year-old lady and a father with two of his children. —*Darleen Hoover*

■ **LETHBRIDGE, AB.** Pastor Barry Seifert and the congregation of Park Meadows Baptist Church welcomed nine new members into the fellowship of the Church. Six were received by baptism and three by transfer of letter. —*Leslie Janzen*

■ **GEORGE, IA.** In the Easter worship service, Pastor Mike DeLong baptized a young married couple and six young people and welcomed them into the membership of First Baptist Church. Pastor DeLong, and his wife, Sue, participated in the George Ministerial Association Good Friday services. —*Vera Arends*

Youth group sponsors dinner theatre

■ **MORRIS, MB.** More than 300 people from Emmanuel Baptist Church and the community attended a dinner theatre sponsored by the junior high teens. The musical, "Always There for You," directed by Laura Bergstresser, was presented.

"The musical/drama showed the importance of knowing Christ and sharing Him with others," reports Cynthia Bergstresser.

Emmanuel's youth leaders are Dave and Doreen Kirsch, Gary and Rowena Friesen, John and Heather Weiss, and Lorn and Laura Bergstresser. Profits from the dinner were shared by both the senior and junior high youth groups. The Rev. Delvin Bertsch is pastor.

Chaplain Kiemele baptizes 12 in Panama

■ **PANAMA.** Chaplain LeRoy Kiemele (LTC) conducted three baptismal services at Clayton Chapel. He baptized 12 since arriving in Panama in July 1990. The Sunday school has grown from 64 to 130 in six months, and the youth group has 19 attending.

The Chapel has a full religious program, and attendance has doubled with visitors coming every Sunday morning. The choir has 15 members. There is a monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast, a Protestant women's Bible study on Thursdays, and a Wednesday evening Bible study.

East Olds reaches out to community

■ **OLDS, AB.** East Olds Baptist Church piloted Project Every Home and personally contacted 250 homes.

In 1990, the Church distributed 62 percent of the income to various missions, and used 38 percent for local expenses.

The women's Bible study uses the Kay Arthur tape series, and the Church studies discipleship by using the Chuck Swindoll series.

Russian prisoner of war, Ludwig Luellau, spoke at the Church on how the Lord spared his life and gave him opportunities to witness with the only Bible in the camp. —*Hilary Lutz*

Chaplains minister

■ "The entire 175th Medical Bde. participated in a prayer service on February 3 in accordance with President Bush's request," says Chaplain (COL) Gary H. Coad, stationed in California. "On March 3, the en-

tire unit participated in a 'Thanksgiving to God' service in appreciation for the great victory."

■ "The spiritual fruit of war has been wondrous to see," says Chaplain (Capt.) J. Robert Cosand, stationed in Kentucky. "In February alone, we baptized 12 men, and at least 20 trusted Christ as their Savior. Many others have a new vision of the Lord and a renewed commitment to Him."

■ Chaplain (LTC) Helmut Michelson, an N.A.B. Conference endorsed military chaplain, also served in Desert Storm as well as Chaplain (LTC) John W. Hoffmann.

■ J. Gordon Harris, academic dean at N.A.B. Seminary, as a Major in the U. S. Army, serves as a chaplain in the South Dakota National Guard. He helped troops being activated for Desert Storm and their dependents. During Desert Storm, he gave devotionals to dependent support groups.

COMPELLED TO SERVE

Bauslaugh participates in school dedication

■ **PUYALLUP, WA.** Pastor Gordon Bauslaugh (r.) of Christ Community Baptist Church, invited by the teachers of Brouillet Elementary School, gave the invocation and benediction at the dedication of this new School. Christ Community meets there for Sunday morning services.



Attending the dedication were Frank Brouillet, (l.) for whom the School was named; Washington's Governor, Booth Gardner; and 500 of the community to whom Christ Community ministers.

Alberta Association holds annual meeting

■ **CAMROSE, AB.** Century Meadows Baptist Church hosted the annual Alberta Association meeting, March 21-24, with 265 registrants present.

Dr. Ralph and Ardice Powell challenged the group with the Biblical Imperative: Commissioned to Witness.

Some of the highlights of the meetings included adopting a budget of \$326,369 for 1991; considering a church planting project for Lloydminister and for Calgary in 1991; hearing reports that 224 were baptized and two churches: Community Baptist, Taber, and Faith Baptist, Medicine Hat, were closed in 1990; electing Dr. Reinhold Kerstan, senior pastor, McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton, as moderator 1991-93.

Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, will host the 1992 annual meeting. —*Irene M. Fiege*

Churches cooperate in community services

■ **GEORGE, IA.** The Baptist churches of George, IA, hosted several services featuring special speakers visiting the area. The Rev. James Correnti, Fleischmann Memorial, Philadelphia, PA, presented a piano concert at Tabernacle Baptist Church.

The Rev. William Grier, Jr., International City Community Church, PA, spoke at First Baptist Church and at a men's breakfast hosted by Central Baptist Church. Mrs. Grier spoke to a women's breakfast held at First Baptist Church.

Central Baptist Church also hosted the Good Friday service sponsored by the George Ministerial Association for the community. —*Mary Smith*



Organist honored for 50 years of service

■ **PARMA HEIGHTS, OH.** The congregation and friends of Parma Heights Baptist Church recognized Esther R. Guenther's 50th

anniversary as church organist. Esther, who studied piano and organ at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, OH, has served the Lord as organist at Erin Avenue Baptist Church and Parma Heights Baptist Church.

"Esther continues to use her God-given talents to praise the Lord and edify our Church," says Georgian Vorwerk.

Hillcrest church forms men's organization called GIFT

■ **SIoux FALLS, SD.** Guys In Fellowship Together (GIFT) is a group formed at Hillcrest Baptist Church for the men and their high school age sons. GIFT meets once a quarter to work on a project but hopes to increase it to once a month. Fellowship is their reason for meeting.

"The men are concerned about the unity of the family and Christian bonding, and they set no limits as to who can come, hoping the group can be an outreach to those hurting," reports Bee Westerman.

There is also a Men's Prayer Breakfast for those who can attend on Saturday mornings. Fathers are encouraged to bring their sons.

GIFT projects have included storage cabinets for the Sunday school and AWANA, planning, cooking, and serving special meal events, such as the Annual Homecoming Meal and the Annual Church Picnic.

A freewill offering is taken at each meeting for the projects. The Rev. Leigh Harrison is pastor.

Ladies chorus takes part in worship service

■ **EUREKA, SD.** A newly organized Ladies Chorus takes part in the ministry of

music at the Sunday morning and evening worship services at First Baptist Church.

More than 200 heard the

mixed choir of Ashley (ND) Baptist Church present a cantata at First Baptist. The Rev. Perry Schnabel is pastor. —*Irene Kusler*

2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

CHALLENGED TO GROW

Linton church completes "Fifty Day Spiritual Adventure"

■ **LINTON, ND.** First Baptist Church participated in the "Fifty Day Spiritual Adventure," which they completed Easter Sunday.

The Adventure, sponsored by Chapel of the Air, presented five disciplines designed to promote personal growth and to challenge the participants to reverse destructive patterns in their lives. The adult Sunday school class members were given journals to help them record their spiritual growth.

"It was a refreshing way to welcome Christ back into our lives in a meaningful way," says Loretta Rau.

The Rev. Alan Steier led the Adventure and carried the message through to the Sunday service.

Petrie speaks at Iowa church

■ **GEORGE, IA.** Four evenings of special meetings were held at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Lewis Petrie, Conference development director, bringing powerful messages.

"Many rededicated themselves to grow in Christ, to continue to build for God, and to work together until His appearing," reports Vera Arends.

Mr. Mike DeLong is pastor.

Bismarck Baptist adds early worship service

■ **BISMARCK, ND.** Bismarck Baptist Church added an early service to their Sunday schedule to help alleviate crowded conditions at the 10:45 a.m. service. This praise and worship service is geared to reach the unchurched in the community and to add a new dimension in the worship style. The Rev. Ed Bartel is pastor. —*Darleen Hoover*

Bismarck church completes 50-Day Adventure

■ **BISMARCK, ND.** Having completed the study of the Bible in one year, Bismarck Baptist Church launched into the "50-Day Spiritual Adventure," the eight weeks before Easter.

"The Adventure—'50 Days to Welcome Christ to Church'—is an accelerated time of spiritual growth," says the Rev. Ed Bartel. About 210 adults and 25 youths signed up for the series from Century Baptist and Washington Heights Community as well as from Bismarck Baptist. —*Darleen Hoover*

2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

COMMITTED TO GIVE

Eureka women provide opportunity to give

■ EUREKA, SD. The proceeds from the WMF's annual bake sale and supper were used to purchase a new vacuum cleaner for the First Baptist Church. The Church also had two evenings of fun, games, and refreshments. The Rev. Perry Schnabel is pastor.—*Irene Kusler*

Oceanview gives assets to Conference and Association

■ WHITE ROCK, BC. Oceanview Baptist church, having voted to disband effective Feb. 13, 1991, disposed of its financial assets in the following way:

- To the N.A.B. Conference: \$17,100 designated for New Churches . . . New Life.
- To the British Columbia Association: \$11,200 designated for church planting. The amounts for the

N.A.B. Conference and the BC Association represent the net cost incurred by the Conference and the Association in supporting this project (total support received minus the giving by the Church back to both organizations).

"By doing this, we feel that our efforts as a church planting project were not all in vain," says Richard Braeder, church trustee.

In addition, the Church gave \$10,000 to each of the following churches: Calvary Baptist Church, Penticton; Stewart (BC) Fellowship; Walnut Grove, Langley; and South Austin Fellowship, Austin, TX, and to Green Bay Bible Camp: \$3,500.

"It is the wish of the membership that where possible these funds be applied to building programs of new church plants or to new church plants," says Braeder.

CALLED TO WORSHIP

Schnabels begin puppet ministry at Eureka church

■ EUREKA, SD. Using puppets, Pastor Perry and Cynthia Schnabel present lessons to the children during Children's Corner during the Sunday morning worship service.

"The children at First Baptist Church enjoy the puppets teaching them from God's Word to do His will," reports Irene Kusler.

A puppet stage has been erected at the Church.

Pastor Schnabel presented a musical message, "Jesus' Glory Lane via Calvary," with accompanist Esther Grosz.

Ripley Blvd. church hosts Good Friday service

■ ALPENA, MI. At a community Good Friday service, hosted by Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church, the junior

high youth group presented "Silhouettes at the Cross." The service also included music and scripture

reading, and a selection by the youth orchestra. The Rev. Frederick Sweet is pastor.—*Mary Coy*

COMMANDED TO CARE

Dorcas Ladies host spring tea

■ VANCOUVER, BC. One hundred sixty women attended the 1991 annual outreach spring tea, "No-Body's Perfect." Of those present, approximately half were visitors. The Dorcas Ladies of Bethany Baptist Church hosted the event.

The guest speaker was

Charlotte Dyck, Pacific Family Life Counseling Center. "As well as sharing her expertise in appearing your best with the bodies given to each by God, she shared from her own experiences in life on developing the inward beauty that God desires of each one," reports Vivian Zimmermann. Dr. Lyle Schrag is pastor.

ANNIVERSARIES

Immanuel church celebrates 35th anniversary

■ VANCOUVER, BC. Immanuel Baptist Church celebrated its 35th anniversary February 3, with 260 members, former members, and friends in attendance. Pastor Richard Hohensee delivered the morning message based on Exodus 3:1-12 and led the communion service. "The musical afternoon service concluded with a meal and reflection upon the goodness of God at our Church," says Ute Klaue.

The Rev. James Leverette, Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, challenged the Church to evaluate its present ministry in the light of biblical priorities and its responsiveness to the needs of people. "In the closing praise service, Rev. Leverette admonished the congregation to focus on the future and complete the ministry God has entrusted to the Church with commitment, sacrifice, and dedication," reports Lena Schroeder. The Reverends H. Goliath and L. Stark are the pastors.

Zion church celebrates 35th anniversary

■ EDMONTON, AB. Zion Baptist Community Church celebrated its 35th anniversary in March. Celebration activities included a banquet, featuring the music team, "Undivided," from N.A.B. College. Dr. Charles Littman,

IN MEMORIAM

■ ELIZABETH E. AHRENS (92), Tacoma, WA; born March 17, 1898, in Germany; died March 1, 1991; attended Moody Bible Institute; long-time active member, part-time church secretary, part-time home missionary, Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA; predeceased by Eric, Luci, Gertrude; survived by brother, Earl (Lois) Ahrens, retired N.A.B. Conference missionaries; the Rev. Don Burnett, pastor, funeral service.

■ PHYLLIS MAE HOFFMAN (67), Medicine Hat, AB; born to R.J. and Myrtle Dalzell, Sept. 10, 1923, in Grandview, MB; died March 19, 1991; married the Rev. Walter Hoffman, Aug. 29, 1952, in Thief River Falls, MN; she and Pastor Hoffman served the following churches: Ebenezer (SK) Baptist; Temple Baptist, Medicine Hat, AB; Plum Creek Baptist, Emery, SD; Calvary Baptist, Aberdeen, SD; Ripley Blvd., Alpena, MI; South Canyon Baptist, Rapid City, SD; and Haven of Rest Home, Medicine Hat, AB; served as tour leaders, God's Volunteers, N.A.B. Conference; predeceased by her parents, R.J. and Myrtle Dalzell and sister, Thelma; survived by her husband, Walter; two sons: Dr. Wendell (Holly), Sioux Falls; Pastor Warren Hoffman, Vancouver, BC; two brothers: Ron (Marj); Floyd (Pearl); one sister, Ruth (Jake) Penner; one uncle, Les (Susan) Walker; two grandchildren; the Reverends Irwin Kujat and Bob Hoffman, pastors, funeral service.

■ ROBERT LEONARD JUSTUS (60), Anaheim, CA; born July 27, 1929, in Fessenden, ND, to Solomon and Katharina Justus; died May 19, 1990; married Carol Domries, June 22, 1951; served as president, Southern California Association; charter member, moderator, deacon, financial secretary, usher, Sunkist Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA; Local Arrangements Finance Committee chair, Triennial Conference 1985; predeceased by his parents and brother, Roland; survived by his wife, Carol; daughter, Robyn Justus, Anaheim, CA; three brothers: Alex, Wesley, Edward; three sisters: Emma Stone, Elsie Trapp, Irene Bowser; one sister-in-law, Dorothy Justus; one brother-in-law, Bob (Pat) Domries; Dr. Adolph Braun and Rev. Ron Hartman, pastors, funeral service.

■ LEWIS GEORGE KAISER (55), Clackamas, OR; born July 6, 1935, to the Rev. and Mrs. R.G. Kaiser in Bismarck, ND; died Jan. 26, 1991; married Gloria Werner, Aug. 29, 1959; influenced people positively for Christ; survived by his wife, Gloria; two sons: Karl, Portland;

Paul, Clackamas; daughter, Lori, Clackamas; brother, Dennis, Sydney, Australia; five sisters: Esther Weisser, Buckley, WA; Ruth Caughey, Auburn, WA; Lydia Kranz, Minnetonka, MN; Wanda Scheuerle, Leonburg, Germany; and Mitzie Neumann, Tacoma, WA.

■ GERTRUDE H. KLAPSTEIN (72), Tacoma, WA; born Feb. 13, 1919, in Yorkton, SK; died March 6, 1991; active member, Calvary Baptist Church, Tacoma, WA; survived by her husband of 50 years, Alfred; two daughters: Judith Hutchens, Tacoma; Karen Henry, Shelton, WA; two sons: Robert Keith, Redmond, WA; Richard, Fairbanks, AK; two sisters: Olive Luchs and Sophie Brehon; brother, Garfield Rahn; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; the Rev. Don Burnett, pastor, funeral service.

■ GOTTLIEB KREMER (86), Bismarck, ND; born Jan. 1, 1905, to Jacob and Philipina (Bender) Kremer, Venturia, ND; died March 19, 1991; married Alma Bechtle in 1930; member, Sunday school superintendent and teacher, treasurer, church clerk, First Baptist Church, Linton, ND; member (1972-91), Bismarck (ND) Baptist Church; predeceased by his wife; survived by one brother, Fred; one sister, Martha Waldron; the Reverends Ed Bartel and Wes Gerber, pastors, funeral service.

■ LYDIA MILLER ROTH (95), Odessa, WA; born Sept. 15, 1896, in Ashley, ND, to Henry and Louisa Miller; died March 4, 1991; married Adam Roth in 1916; predeceased by her husband in 1987 and son, Robert, in 1982; active member, prayer warrior, Women's Missionary Society, Odessa Baptist Church; survived by one son, Delbert (Marge), Portland, OR; four daughters: Elsa Tanke, Mohler, WA; Martha (Percy) Henkelman, Fort Saskatchewan, AB; Ruby (Wesley) Henkelman, Portland, OR; Loretta (Henry) Strauss, Medicine Hat, AB; daughter-in-law, Evelyn Roth; two brothers; one sister; 17 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; the Rev. Charles Smith and sons-in-law, the Reverends Wesley and Percy Henkelman, pastors, funeral service.

Fischer Writes Dakota History

The book, *The History of the Dakota Conference*, is now available through the author, the Rev. Arthur J. Fischer, Box 235, Linton, ND 58552; phone: (701) 452-4317, for \$3.00 plus postage.

All Things Work . . .

(continued from page 10)

another new family with them.

God has even worked in our thoughts about the Hall. Before we went to the school, most of us were "less than positive" about the Hall, but the people appreciate what God has provided. It is newly renovated, and we have our own key to the place.

As I look back, I see that God brought us closer as a group. He allowed us to reach three new families and gave us a new appreciation for our meeting place.

Being God's people, we have the promise that God will work everything out for good no matter how terrible the situation seems. God can teach you just like He taught Walnut Grove Baptist Church and its pastor to always look for God's hand moving in the situation for good! □



The Rev. Jim Calamunce is pastor at Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Langley, BC.

OKANAGAN BIBLE COLLEGE, a four-year-degree-granting regional Bible College, located in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, is in need of a new President. We are looking for an individual who has appropriate academic skills and degrees, who possesses a vision and a commitment to the Bible College movement, has demonstrated administrative abilities, is able to speak well in public, and above all, walks a mature Christian life.

Kelowna is located in the beautiful Okanagan Valley in the interior of British Columbia. Okanagan Bible College will now have permanent facilities use at Green Bay Bible Camp.

Contact Okanagan Bible College, Attn: Mr. Ron Born, chair, President's Search Committee, Box 407, Station "A," Kelowna, BC V1Y 7N8 - Phone: (604) 860-8080.

A Charitable Solution to a Financial Problem

"I'm a high earner, but it's getting harder than ever to build up a retirement nest egg."

This is a concern to many people. Tax shelters aren't the answer, nor are bank accounts which are eroded by inflation and income tax. North American Baptist Conference can become your partner in retirement income planning.

If you're trying to build a healthy retirement income source, consider this.

Tax reform has substantially reduced the value to most wage earners of IRA's and other traditional salary reduction plans. You may be paying sizeable income taxes before "putting away" part of your remaining net income. You may not have time to properly manage the investment of your nest egg. And in any event, it is attachable by creditors.

Then add the fact that upon your death, your estate may be subject to death taxes up to as much as 55%.

Our goal is to help you gain income tax advantages, increase your cash flow in retirement years, offset other income taxes you might pay, reduce your death taxes, and increase your gifts to your beneficiaries at your death.

And our techniques involve the use of concepts that have been permitted by law for nearly twenty years.

Let's take a look at just one case.

Frank is 37 years old and wants to set aside more for retirement income than traditional planning tools allow. He also wants greater flexibility, without penalty, should he wish to start receiving income from his retirement plan earlier or later than the law requires with traditional retirement plans.

He establishes a "Charitable Retirement Income Trust" with the understanding that he will contribute \$5,000 per year until his age 65. The annual contribution he plans to make is entirely flexible, he can pay more or less, or can skip payments altogether. And he can begin receiving income in the year of his choice.

Assuming Frank continues the same commitment each year, he will contribute a total of \$145,000 over the next 29 years, while generating a total of \$52,795 in income tax deductions.

If Frank lives to normal life expectancy, and assuming a reasonable projected asset growth, the income trust will pay him a total of \$1,242,228 during his retirement years.

Utilizing the tax savings created by contributions to the trust, Frank can fully replace the assets in the trust for the benefit of his children, while avoiding estate taxes of potentially 55%. And in the meantime, his retirement assets are fully unattachable by creditors.



When Frank dies, North American Baptist Conference will receive more than \$1,000,000, and his children will receive their assets in cash, free of income and estate taxes.

If this idea intrigues you, please allow us to show you how it might apply in your own situation. We have prepared a Special Planning Report, **The Charitable Retirement Income Trust**, which reviews this planning idea in detail, and we would like to make a copy available 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.)

Please send me the special planning report, **The Charitable Retirement Income Trust**. I understand there is no cost or obligation.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Prov. _____ Code _____
 Birthdate _____ Spouse's Birthdate _____
 Phone () _____

Mail to: Dr. Constantino Salios
 North American Baptist Conference
 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994
 (708) 495-2000

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Ministerial Changes

■ **Dr. Larry Wilkes** from Bethel Baptist Church, Anaheim, CA, effective June 30, 1991.

■ **Tom Swans** to part-time pastor of evangelism, Lakeshore Baptist Church, St. Catharines, ON.

■ **Bob Zarcovich** to part-time youth pastor, Folsomdale Baptist, Cowlesville, NY.

■ **Glenn Hilton** to youth pastor, Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, BC.

■ **The Rev. Helmut Strauss** to pastor, Rose of Sharon Baptist Church, Richmond, BC. He had been serving as interim pastor.

■ **Ken Peterson** to assistant pastor for Christian education/outreach, Riverside Baptist Church, W. St. Paul, MN, effective June 1991.

■ **The Rev. Vic Lehman** from pastor, High Prairie, AB, in June to continue education at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL.

■ **The Rev. Mark Iblings** from program director, Camp Caroline, AB, effective April 1991.

■ **The Rev. Bernd Rist** to pastor, Eastwood Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, effective February 1991.

■ **The Rev. Rick Weber** from minister of adults, Parma Heights Baptist Church, Parma Heights, OH, to pastor, First Baptist Church, Auburn, MI.

■ **The Rev. Gordon Denison** from pastor, Sturgeon Valley Baptist Church, St. Albert, AB.

■ **Gary Bergman** to pastor, First Baptist Church, Buffalo Center, IA.

■ **The Rev. Reay Zoellner** from minister of evangelism and discipleship, Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, to pastor, North Pointe Baptist Church, Warren, MI.

■ **Paul Hoffmann**, 1991 Edmonton Baptist Seminary graduate, to associate pastor, Fort George Baptist Church, Prince George, BC, effective June 1, 1991.

■ **Greg McGraw** to youth pastor, Rowandale Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB.

■ **The Rev. Lee Hamby** from executive pastor, Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, CA, to pastor, Temple Baptist Church, Lodi, CA, effective June 1991.

Retirements

■ **The Rev. Herman Pohl** retired as pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, effective February 1991.

He was ordained by First Baptist Church, Camrose, AB, Oct. 27, 1955. He served the following pastorates: Baptist Church, Burstall, SK; Faith Baptist, Camrose, AB; East Olds Baptist Church, Olds, AB; First Baptist, Minitonas, MB; First Baptist, Benton Harbor, MI; Center Baptist, Milwaukee, WI; Fellowship Chapel, Ridgewood, Queens, NY; Eastwood Baptist (Salem Baptist), Kitchener, ON.

■ **The Rev. Henry Goliath** retired as pastor of Zion Baptist Community Church, Edmonton, AB, effective June 15. He was ordained at German Baptist Mission, Winnipeg, MB, Sept. 13, 1970, and has served at the following churches: student pastor, German Baptist Mission, Winnipeg, MB; youth director, Salem Baptist, Edmonton, AB; pastor, German Baptist Mission, Winnipeg, MB; Zion Baptist Community, Edmonton, AB. The Rev. Goliath will retire in Kelowna, BC.

Appointments

■ **Randy Coffland** appointed assistant director of loans, Church Extension Investors Fund, effective March 1991. He previously served in the Management Services Department and the Missions Department at the N.A.B. International Office.



■ **Karen Dickau** assumed her new position as assistant director of building and insurance services in the Management Services Department of N.A.B. International Office on March 1. She previously served as assistant director of loans for Church Extension Investors Fund.



■ **Edmonton Baptist Seminary** announces the appointment of **Dr. Ulrich (Rick) Laser** as Associate Professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology effective Aug. 1, 1991.



Dr. Laser is a graduate of the University of Calgary (B.A.), N.A.B. Seminary (M.Div.); and Princeton Theological Seminary (Th.M., D.Min.). Since his ordination to the Christian ministry in 1973, he has served as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Woodside, NY; Bethany Baptist

Church, Vancouver, BC, and Brentview Baptist Church in Calgary, AB.

Dr. Laser was born in Lorbach, West Germany. His family immigrated to Canada in 1954. He is the son of the Rev. Waldemar Laser. He and his wife, Lily Linda, have four children: Kristin Renee, Carmen Tiana, Cherise Nicole, and Jason Steven.

Edmonton Baptist Seminary is the Canadian seminary of the N.A.B. Conference and is located at 11525 - 23 Ave., Edmonton, AB, Canada T6J 4T3.

Resignation

■ **The Rev. David Sems** resigned as Director of Church Growth Ministries, N.A.B. Conference, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, to become U.S. Director of the Christian Blind Mission, International, Greenville, SC, effective May



15, 1991.

Sems has served as Church Growth Ministries Director for the N.A.B. Conference since 1987.

During his term, he focused on raising funds through New Churches... New Life, a strategy to increase the number of new churches planted yearly.



Parking Available for Triennial Conference Attendees

For those who drive to MECCA daily and those who stay at the Hyatt or Wyndham, parking is available in the city garage across from Bradley Center. It is bounded by Juneau, Highland, and Fourth Street, facing Fourth.

Fees are as follows: \$2 for those leaving by 6 p.m.; \$4 for those leaving by 10 p.m.; \$6 for those staying 24 hours; and \$35 for those parking for six or seven days.

If you are staying at the Hyatt or Wyndham Hotels, you may drop your passengers and luggage at the hotel and then drive to the parking garage. If you need assistance for a handicapped person, ask the doorman for Guest Services.



Illinois Churches Invite You to Worship

The churches of the Illinois Association invite you to worship with them on your way to the Triennial Conference in Milwaukee, July 30-August 4.

BELLWOOD, First, 217 S. 25th Ave.; phone: (708) 544-0225
Mr. William Kresal, pastor
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
Worship service: 11:00 a.m.

BLOOMINGDALE, 245 S. Bloomington Rd.; phone: (708) 980-6161
Mr. John Babel, interim pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:30 a.m.

CAROL STREAM, Cornerstone, 397 Blackhawk Dr.; phone: (708) 653-0744 / Office: (708) 231-5051
Rev. M. Timothy Walker, pastor
Sunday school: 11:15 a.m.
Worship service: 10:00 a.m.
Afternoon picnic, July 28

CARPENTERSVILLE, Grace, 2750 Helm Rd.; phone: (708) 426-7411
Rev. Eldon Schroeder, pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:45 a.m.

CHICAGO, East Side, 3501 E. 107th St.; phone: (312) 221-4464
Rev. Fredrick Spreewers, pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 11:00 a.m.

CHICAGO, Northwest Fellowship, 6125 W. Foster Ave.; phone: (312) 763-5300

Rev. Hero Ulrichs, pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:45 a.m.

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, Tri-Community, 1900 Nerge Rd.; phone: (708) 893-7676
Mr. Jim Vyleta, pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:30 a.m.

FOREST PARK, Harlem Ave. and Dixon St.; phone: (708) 366-5091
Rev. David A. Steinhart, pastor
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
Worship service: 11:00 a.m.

GLEN ELLYN, Village Green, 1 So. 440 Lambert Rd.; phone: (708) 469-4400
Dr. John F. Thielenhaus, pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:45 a.m.

KANKAKEE, Immanuel, 1300 W. Hawkins St.; phone: (815) 933-6619
Dr. Douglas Gallagher, interim pastor
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:45 a.m.

LONG GROVE, Vineyard Congregation, 770 N. Arlington Heights Rd., RFD 1598; phone: (708) 520-0616

Rev. Eliezer Maass, pastor
Friday Evening Service: 7:45 p.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:30 a.m.

TRENTON, First, 9 West Fourth St. (Fourth and Main Sts.); phone: (618) 224-7555
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Worship service: 10:30 a.m.

McKernan Baptist Church Edmonton, AB

will celebrate
its 40th anniversary
Oct. 18-20, 1991

Special events include

- a Friday evening banquet
speaker: Dr. Donald Richter
"Now Thank We All Our God"
- a Saturday brunch
for charter members
"Let Our Hearts Be Ever Happy"
- an informal historical
Saturday evening get-together
speaker: Dr. Reinhold Kerstan
"Count Your Blessings"
- combined Sunday school
and worship service on Sunday
"I Know God Loves Me"
and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
- Sunday afternoon service
concluding the celebration
speaker: Dr. Charles Littman
"Standing On The Promises"

For more information, contact Mrs. Lillian R. Sass, secretary, Anniversary committee, 11103 - 76 Ave., Edmonton, AB, T6G 0J9, (403) 436-0611.

Bethel Baptist Church Sheboygan, Wisconsin

invites former pastors,
members,
and friends to its
Centennial Celebration
August 4, 1991
"Celebrating
God's Faithfulness"

For more information, contact
Pastor Steve Petry, (414) 452-4860

OKANAGAN BIBLE COLLEGE, a four-year-degree-granting regional Bible College located in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, is in need of a Librarian/Professor. The position requires approximately one-half time teaching responsibility. Wages to be determined by academic credentials and experience.

Contact: Okanagan Bible College, Attn: Mr. Bob Clary, academic dean, Box 407, Station "A," Kelowna, BC V1Y 7N8 - Phone: (604) 860-8080.

BAPTIST WORLD AID



Relief Funds Needed for Middle East

The suffering continues in the aftermath of the Gulf War, the plight of Kurdish refugees being the latest tragic example, and Baptists have committed themselves to "enlist funds for the alleviation of social problems caused by the war and for the care of refugees."

In a letter of encouragement to Baptists in the Middle East, the Baptist World Alliance leaders assured that "Baptists around the world are continuing with you in prayer for peace, justice, and reconciliation in the Middle East." Baptist World Aid

is playing its part in trying to alleviate the suffering caused by the Gulf War and dislocation of peoples. Assistance has already been given in the feeding of refugees in Jordan.

Baptist World Aid has a Middle East Appeal to enable the Baptist conventions in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Israel to play their part in meeting needs. The fund can also help other Baptist congregations and believers in countries such as Kuwait, Iraq, Bahrain, and Egypt to respond to local needs. BWAid will continue to work with refugees through CARE and other organizations. CARE is now working in Turkey among Kurdish refugees. To continue to respond, our worldwide Baptist family needs to make their response to our special Middle East Appeal," said Baptist World Aid Director, Paul Montacute.

Your contributions may be designated for Middle East Appeal, N.A.B. Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994.

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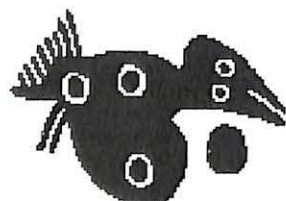
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. . . use me
send me forth prepared for ministry

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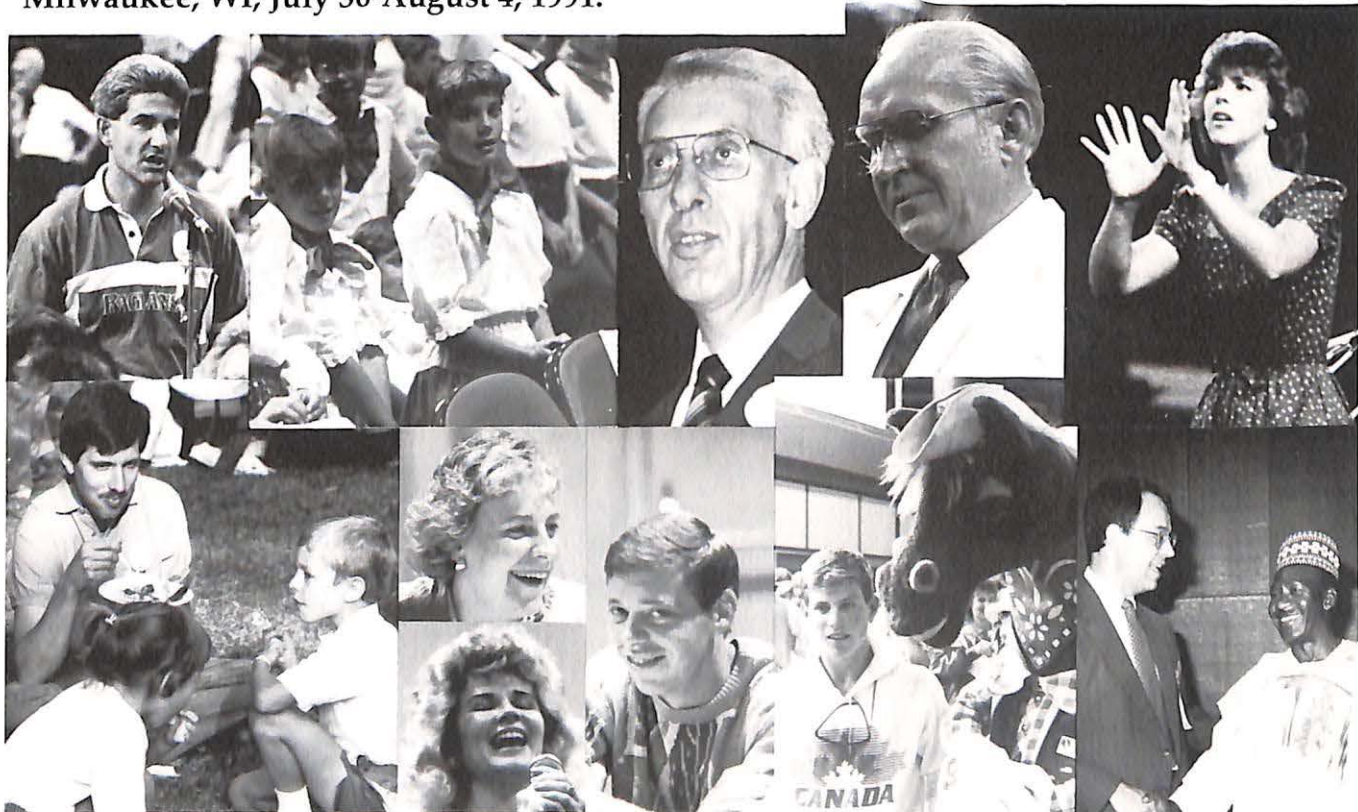
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TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The Triennial Conference Provides Opportunities

- to worship our greatest Friend
- to meet new friends and renew old friendships
- to be challenged to introduce our friends to Jesus Christ
- to conduct the Lord's business
- to learn through workshops
- for youth to be challenged to make a difference as Christians

**Come to Celebrate Friendfest in
Milwaukee, WI, July 30-August 4, 1991.**



Please register by June 30. Registration forms are available from your church office or the North American Baptist Conference International Office, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994 or phone 1-708-495-2000.

Photos by Les Cook, Stockton, CA.