AN EDITORIAL

DIFFERENCES AND DIVISIONS

"THE SANCTIFYING SPIRIT UNIFIES WHERE SATAN WOULD DIVIDE."

Jesus said it first. He was praying for His disciples—first century and twentieth century—them and us. His petition—"Sanctify them" (John 17:17). Why? First, that they might be kept clean in a dirty world—protected from "the evil one" (John 17:15, NIV). But just as clear and important is the second provision of their sanctification—"that all of them may be one" (John 17:21, NIV). Holy hearts would produce holy unity.

Disciples then and now would have their differences. They would not see eye-to-eye on everything. The apostle Paul is a case in point. He was sanctified. He loved his Christian brethren. Barnabas was his dear friend. Most of the time they got along beautifully. But on one occasion their humanity showed. Young John Mark was the "bone of contention." Barnabas wanted to take him along on their preaching mission. Paul didn’t. Acts 15:39 reports that "they had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company" (NIV). But this difference of opinion did not break fellowship between these disciples. Later on Mark proved himself and became a close associate of Paul’s when he was imprisoned.

There is a world of difference between this kind of disagreement and division. Paul spelled it out to the Christians in Corinth. The third chapter of 1 Corinthians is headed, “On Divisions in the Church.” He describes them as ‘worldly or carnal, not spiritual. There was jealousy and quarreling among them. Among other things they were divided in their preference of preachers. Some wanted Paul and others Apollos. This unspiritual division had fractured their fellowship.

The sad consequence of this dividedness is its tragic effect on a watching world. Jesus continued His prayer in John 17, "May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (v. 23, NIV). He intended that His disciples would model divine love through their oneness with Him and each other. When sinners see dissension and division in the church, they are bound to become disillusioned and ask, "Where is the love you talk so much about?"

And holiness people are not immune from this malady. "Church splits" take place in congregations that profess to believe in perfect love. Organized campaigns to get rid of the preacher in the renewal vote happen in churches whose theology holds up a high standard of Christian perfection. Ephesians 4:1-3 exhorts all such persons “to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (NIV). The sanctifying Spirit unifies where Satan would divide.

A district superintendent recently reported just such a miracle of restoration. He was meeting with a church board to begin the process of calling a pastor. The former shepherd had left under duress. Sharp division was evident between board members. As the discussion progressed, unkind words were spoken. The superintendent was shocked. "I thought this was a holiness church," he said. "Is this a demonstration of Christian love? Can God bless a church whose leaders show such unchristlike attitudes?" Suddenly there was another Presence in the room. Board members fell on their knees. Tears flowed. Prayers of confession were made. Strong men threw their arms around those from whom they had been estranged and asked their forgiveness.

In a matter of minutes a holy unity prevailed where discord and division had wrought such havoc. In a matter of hours the whole church heard the good news. Before long the surrounding community will become aware of the drastic change.

Differences? Yes.
Divisions? No.
"That the world may believe ..." (John 17:21).

by General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe
A MOTHER'S LEGACY OF FAITH

by MARGARET LEE

MY MOTHER, Maggie Corley, attended the Church of the Nazarene for over 30 years. The preaching and singing reminded her of the evangelistic Methodist church she grew up in. She rejected all excuses for missing church services. Until the last eight months of a 12-year battle with cancer, she was faithfully present. Many times during her terminal illness she had to sit alone, fearful of disturbing the services by her coughing, but she was there. Many Sunday mornings we had to help her dress for church, but she was determined to go.

Mother enjoyed a day-by-day walk with God. She learned to live one day at a time, which enabled her to cope with the problems and stresses of her life. Each morning she would write a verse of Scripture and keep it on a table, drawing strength from this “thought for the day.” She had only the bare necessities of life, but she faithfully tithed and gave offerings without complaint.

She reared five children. What she lacked in money she made up in a special kind of love. A talented seamstress, she often finished a garment for someone just in time for the occasion that necessitated it. She made good-looking clothes for her family from other people’s hand-me-downs. She prepared excellent meals from scant provisions.

She loved the hymns of the church. We have precious memories of hearing her sing “Amazing Grace” when she was hardly able to speak above a whisper. One day she clapped with one hand (the other was paralyzed) after the young people from the church had sung for her. About three months before her death we took her into the living room and gathered about the piano. While a granddaughter held her up in a wheelchair, and a daughter played, she moved her lips to the words of many old hymns. What a blessed experience!

She treasured her children. During a stay in the hospital she sensed that a daughter sitting beside the bed was troubled by her sufferings. She said, getting out a word or two at a time, “Turn your eyes upon Jesus.” For many years her children made it a habit to visit her on Sunday afternoons. She was always disappointed if one was missing. On one of these Sundays she overflowed with happiness when we assured her that our family circle would be unbroken in heaven.

At the last she was unable to communicate and we were not sure how much she could understand. However, when her pastor read to her from the Psalms and said, “You know He is able to help you and comfort you to the end, don’t you?” her face brightened and she nodded her head, and when he prayed, she proceeded to pray along with him.

My words cannot describe her sweet spirit and godly example. She walked by faith, fully intending to reside in heaven when her earthly life was over. She reached the City of God in 1978 and awaits her friends and loved ones there. I thank God for her legacy of faith.
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NOTE: UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE.

Letters

EXCITING THOUGHT
You're doing a good job! Just thought you needed to know.
The greatest days of our denomination are ahead! Isn't that exciting?
Kay S. Hein
Englewood, Colorado

INADEQUATE AMENS
I am concerned about the articles I read in the Herald that would limit our method of praise to God.
If I read my scripture rightly—God would be highly displeased with those who would stifle spontaneous praise to Him, no matter what mode, no matter what custom, no matter what tradition, no matter the location, no matter the position.
Observe 2 Samuel 6:7-23. King David danced (Nazarenes are against dancing) and leaped with joy in the street at the return of the ark. His wife, Michal, chided him for doing such an undignified thing in the street. Verse 23 shows her reward. David said I will be more undignified than this.
Psalm 47:1: "O clap your hands, all peoples" (NASB). "Amen" may not be enough when God moves one to praise Him.
Jack L. Williams
Mobile, Alabama

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH
Why do we never see an article in a religious periodical recommending national defense or peace through strength? It seems to me the people of God need to be alerted by some well-known preacher of this, our Christian duty. Can we expect God, who is our defense, to exert His power in our behalf if we are negligent in this matter? I notice that during the "golden age" of Israel, under David and Solomon and under Rehoboam, when peace was achieved and God gave them "rest from all their enemies," they had the largest standing army they ever had. Obviously He forbade them to trust in the "arm of flesh," but even when God did all the actual slaying of their enemies, they were still required to use strategy. It should be pointed out that godless Russian communists are dangerously ahead of us militarily, and we are extremely vulnerable. It's time we pray for and back...

(Continued on page 20)
JUST AS WE were beginning our Sunday night service, a nice looking couple entered and took a seat midway in the sanctuary. With their little daughter, Eve, Johnny and Gina Brady looked like a typical American family. Little did we know the serious trouble their marriage was facing. Although I did not know them personally, I did know Gina’s family. Her mother had attended our church several times. I had visited in the home a number of times. Gina’s grandmother, Mrs. Josephine Hathaway, had been a devout Nazarene until her death in 1971.

Gina gave her testimony recently in a service. Let me share a part of what she said.

“Back in 1976 I was saved. Unfortunately this experience did not last long. As the Bible says, I became seven times worse than before. It didn’t take long for my life to become a mess. I got involved with drugs and made those who used them my friends. When I married Johnny we began using drugs together, not realizing that would do to our marriage. We argued and fought most of the time. Bills were never paid—our drugs came first.

“When our daughter was born, things became even more difficult. Her life also was tragically affected by what we were doing. I got to the place I could not handle anything. I stayed high most of the time so that things would not bother me. Between drugs and our disintegrating marriage, Eve was a nervous wreck. I became so depressed that I could not remember what day it was. I really tried to change but seemed powerless to do so. I could not believe my life had turned out the way it had. I remember praying for God to help me and spare my daughter the anguish we were putting her through. She was now getting old enough to know what was happening.

“Finally, it looked as if we had come to the end. I could not take any more. I filed for divorce and moved in with my parents. I still loved Johnny, but under the circumstances marriage was impossible. The separation did not change the circumstances—I was still miserable. Although my parents offered loving support, they could not help me with my real problem. Like the prodigal son, the friends I had made while using drugs turned out to be no friends at all. When I really needed them, they were not there.

“I was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Now in deep despair, just waiting on my life to completely fall apart, I tried again to read the Bible and pray. I remember asking the Lord to forgive me, but I thought it was impossible for Him to change my life.

“One Sunday when it seemed like I had hit rock bottom, God spoke to me as I sat in the kitchen. He said, ‘Gina, if you will give your life back to Me I will make you whole again. I will make you a completely new person. And if you don’t, I will leave you alone.’

“I could hardly believe God would give me another chance. I could not get dressed for church fast enough. Johnny had been calling me, suggesting that we go to church together. Although we had both grown up attending other churches, God led us to the Church of the Nazarene that day. I have never been in any church where I felt the Spirit of the Lord as I did in this church. We sat through the service together not saying a word about going to the altar or giving our lives to God.

“Pastor Maner preached and gave the altar call. Johnny and I both went to the altar at the same time. I don’t remember asking for deliverance—just forgiveness. But God did both that day. He delivered us both from the power of drugs, forgave our sins, and restored our home.”

Johnny and Gina Brady were wonderfully saved that day. They have since joined the church and have been baptized. Both are active members. Their little daughter, Eve, has gotten over the trauma of her earlier days. Her health has shown steady improvement.

In retrospect, Gina feels it was her godly grandmother, Mrs. Hathaway, that influenced her greatly in her salvation. Just before God spoke that memorable Sunday, her mother had given her some letters that Grandmother Hathaway had written years earlier from her home in Gardiner, Maine. Perhaps prayers prayed 11 years earlier were answered that Sunday night 1,300 miles away. The letters seemed to indicate that.

ROBERT E. MANER is a registered evangelist and resides in Fitzgerald, Georgia.
OTHER never made the list of the best-dressed women of the world, yet she always dressed neatly, cleanly, and modestly as becomes holiness.

She didn’t descend from a line of royalty, and therefore didn’t bear a title of Queen, Princess, or Lady, but to me she was all of these.

She was never the recipient of some great award, nor was her name placed in a “Hall of Fame,” but she was chosen as “Mother of the Year” in our church, known as a “Mother in Israel,” and as a “real prayer warrior.”

Mother moved into our small community, along with her husband and three small children, while still relatively young. A short time later a fourth child was born.

Mother had never known what it meant to have her sins forgiven, nor had she heard of holiness. However, she met some Christian people, and her heart became hungry when she heard the gospel preached. Just a short time later Mother found Christ in saving and sanctifying power.

After an old-fashioned tent revival, this small group of Christians, mostly women, with the leadership of District Superintendent E. O. Chalfant, organized the First Church of the Nazarene in our community. Mother was a charter member.

This little group of Nazarenes met in different homes and various buildings for their services. They soon felt the need of a church building, and decided to build a small church just across the street from our home. Mother, along with some of the other ladies, helped nail boards to construct this little white tabernacle.

It was in the services of this church, and at our mother’s knee, that we children learned about Jesus and His saving grace. Our home was opened to cottage prayer meetings. We experienced old-fashioned conviction, Spirit-filled revivals, shout of victory around the altar, and learned what it meant to pray and fast.

MURIEL E. SCAMMAHORN is a librarian in the public library and a member of the Church of the Nazarene in Roxana, Illinois.

Down through the years, Mother has served on the church board and has had various other responsibilities in our church, but the position that stands out most clearly in my mind was that of prayer and fasting secretary of the Missionary Society. In my mind’s eye I can still see that prayer and fasting chart hanging on our dining room wall. Mother was a firm believer in prayer and fasting.

Although Mother was a quiet woman, in warm weather with the windows opened, I’m sure our neighbors must have heard her praying as she earnestly and fervently bombarded heaven with her petitions.

Mother prayed with her children before they left for school each morning. Sometimes, we children grew impatient knowing that our friends were waiting to walk to school with us, but Mother had a strong desire that her children would be deeply rooted spiritually.

Since our father didn’t become a Christian until some years later, Mother naturally took the lead in family prayer. It wasn’t unusual to have revival scenes around our family altar with conviction, tears, and children confessing their wrongdoings. Years later, when one of the children went astray for a short time, then came back to the Lord, he testified that it was the memory of the family altar that brought him back into the fold.

The years have swiftly flown by, and only memories of that little white board tabernacle remain, since it was torn down years ago. We now have a lovely church built on a choice lot on the main highway that goes through our community.

Mother is 85 now, her hair is white, her shoulders bent, and her steps slow, but she still attends all the services of the church. She seldom misses. How wonderful it was to hear her testify in a recent prayer meeting that her heart felt so clean.

We children know that she has never regretted choosing the way of holiness. Her heart must be thrilled as she looks around in church and sees all four of her children with their companions, plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren worshiping along with her.

Her eyesight is failing now, but she still reads her large-print Bible.
with the aid of a magnifying glass. Arthritis makes it very difficult for her to kneel in prayer, but she continues to be a firm believer in prayer and fasting. When it is revival time, or some need arises, she will often say, “We need to pray and fast.”

We children feel that we have so very much for which to be thankful, for indeed we have lived sheltered lives. We can look back over the past years and see many, many pitfalls of sin that have been avoided because we had an old-fashioned praying mother. We four children can all rest assured that we will never die of lung cancer due to smoking cigarettes or cirrhosis of the liver from drinking alcoholic beverages.

Is there any wonder that her children rise up and call her blessed? They have been sheltered by a mother’s prayer.

**Prayer for a Child**

Little one with wonder in your eyes,
With questions ever forming in your mind,
Endeavoring so hard to realize,
To understand each mystery you find.

May God speak quickly to your heart
Which seeks so willingly to know the truth.
Where faith and trust still hold the greater part;
Before the darts and doubts can pierce your youth.

God grant the wisdom that I need,
To guide this precious life in ways divine;
God grant Thy loving favor as I plead
For this small child whose life is mine and Thine.

—VIRGINIA WALMSLEY
Bourbonnais, Illinois

**Billboards That Breathe**

by A. BRENT COBB

HAVEN YOU EVER wished you could advertise Christ as boldly as a billboard? I have. And I’m beginning to believe we can. Let me explain by use of an analogy.

Do you remember Coalinga? It’s the central California town that was devastated by a series of earthquakes. Well, the aftershocks are still coming. In fact, the experts say that they will continue for seven years.

Buildings are being reconstructed and lives put back together. A recent 5.1 aftershock broke apart new foundations and reminded the townspeople of an ever-present threat.

There is one thing about a visit to Coalinga

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these days that is almost sure to grab your attention at once. A large billboard along Highway 33 has a bold message. In giant size letters it announces: JESUS IS LORD OF COALINGA.

That speaks to me. It has something to say to us Christians. It’s this—you and I need to be walking, skin-and-flesh-and-bones, breathing billboards. Our very lives should advertise: “Jesus Christ is Lord over my life.” People should see that Jesus is Lord of our relationships, marriage, family, finances—everything.

Of course, none of us can really, truthfully say, “Jesus is Lord,” unless we have asked the Holy Spirit to reside and reign in us (1 Corinthians 12:3), making our advertisement a living reality. Only then will we become breathing billboards heralding messages of hope.
WE MUST keep before us the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians as the perfect picture of the doctrine of Christian perfection.

There is a tendency in those who receive great outpourings of the Holy Spirit to classify and distinguish such blessings, to separate them by numerals, to distinguish them by names. This tendency existed in Mr. Wesley’s day and exists now. He referred to and rebuked it thus: “Many of our brethren and sisters in London during the great outpouring of the Spirit spoke of several new blessings which they had attained. But after all they could find nothing higher than pure love, on which the full assurance of faith generally attends. This is the highest point; only there are innumerable degrees of it.” He wants them to look for and expect nothing but more love: “If you look for anything but more love, you are looking wide of the mark, you are getting out of the royal way. And when you are asking others, Have you received this or that blessing? if you mean anything but love you mean wrong; you are leading them out of the way and putting them on a false scent.” Wise words are these. They ought to be labeled, Antidote to Fanaticism. The Holy Spirit only brings more and more of God to us; but the very being of God is love, so the Holy Spirit only brings more and more of love to us as He brings more and more of God. The Holy Spirit brings more and more of heaven to us, but the heaven of heavens is only love; and so the more of heaven the Holy Spirit gives us the more of love He gives.

We never can exhaust God. We never can receive all of heaven. So, however varied, however profound, however rich and unspeakable, however numberless and ecstatic the blessings we receive, they are each and all but the notes of love’s full diapason. Wesley writes to one, “Oh, desire nothing different in nature from love. There is nothing higher in earth or heaven. Whatever he speaks of, which seems to be higher, is either natural or preternatural enthusiasm. Desire none of those extraordinaries. Such a desire might be an inlet to a thousand delusions. I avoid, I am afraid of whatever is peculiar either in the experience or language of any one. I desire nothing. I will accept of nothing but the common salvation. New expressions naturally tend to give new sets of ideas, set your imagination at work, and make you fancy wonderful things, but they are only shadows.”

No man has ever exceeded John Wesley in practical, spiritual wisdom. He submits everything to a practical test. He is calm, judicial, experimental, above all practical. He demands fruit for profession. He demands holy living as the result of holy experience. Professions and talk and high experience are with him but vain and delusive if they do not spring from a holy character and bear the fruitage of holy living. We do not find him digging about the roots, but examining the fruits. We do not find him stressing the baptism with the Holy Spirit, which is germinal, initial, and seed-sowing, but constantly and with varied expressions, and many a necessary iteration and reiteration, he is emphasizing, itemizing, dissecting, compounding the fruit of the Spirit. His sermons mainly, boiled down to their essential essence and last analysis, may be found in Galatians 5:22-23. The whole of his system, in principle and germ, may be found in the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians. The seed, roots, body, and bulk, branches, flower, and fruit of the Methodist movement, its repulsive and attractive force, its glory and its scandal are there. The fruit of the Spirit and love are the fulcrum on which the Wesleys put their Christly leverage and moved the world. The glorious truth of entire sanctification as a second definite work of grace is the filling of our hearts and lives with that perfect love that casts out all fear.

Editor’s note: B. F. Haynes was the first editor of the Herald of Holiness. This message appeared in our magazine for September 11, 1918. Not strictly a sermon, it is wise, good material and still highly relevant.
Sanctified Enthusiasm—Our Heritage

by PAUL MANGUM

D R. D. I. VANDERPOOL, general superintendent emeritus and my first district superintendent on the Northwest District, was a great spiritual leader in our beloved Zion. One of the things that he feared most was that the church would lose its sanctified enthusiasm. As I thought again on this danger, I could not help but reflect on my early ministry and the enthusiasm I sensed in many churches, and among the majority of our people.

There was enthusiasm for the church's doctrines. Our people sought, experienced, and enthusiastically testified to being sanctified wholly as a second definite work of grace. Some came to us already in the experience, but not knowing what to call it. Such enthusiasm put others who were saved but not sanctified under conviction, until they too sought and found the second blessing.

There was enthusiastic support of the pastor. He was God-called and anointed, thus he held the respect of the people not only in the church but also in the community. They called me “parson” in one church with the connotation of greater respect. Churches grow when the members enthusiastically support the pastor and earnestly lift him up daily in prayer.

There was enthusiastic support of the program of the church, whether it was a Sunday School contest, a revival meeting, or the regular services. If the church board or church school board presented a program, the people supported it.

There was enthusiastic support of the standards. The special rules and general rules were respected. There was a sensitivity to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in individual lives, and it was refreshing to see the spiritual growth. It has always been a mystery to me that some would come to us because of the beautiful spirit of our people, but not want to conform to the standards of the church, when the spirit was due to the fact that our people lived disciplined lives. I cannot support that which is doing its best to tear down what I am giving my life to build up.

There was enthusiastic support for the district and general programs of our church. Zone activities were always a blessing. District camps and assemblies were looked forward to each year. Budgets were not frowned on, rather they were taken as goals to exceed. General gatherings were looked forward to and many times great sacrifice was made to attend and support them. What a joy to be a part of such a great church!

Thank God we have not lost all of this enthusiasm, and it can be revived. I see it in many places, but losing it still lurks as a danger. When we compromise our standards, gossip about the pastor and family at the Sunday dinner or otherwise, begin to treat budgets as a tax and not a ministry, we are indeed drifting from this enthusiasm. When we fail to testify to the experience of entire sanctification as a second definite work of grace, the spiritual foundation begins to crumble. When we forget our special rules and ignore them, we begin to “let the world around you [us] squeeze you [us] into its own mould” (Romans 12:1, Phillips). The result can only be “lost enthusiasm” for the spiritual program of the church.

Rev. John Wembler, church growth specialist, was asked by one of the district superintendents in a conference a few years ago what he felt was the reason for our small percentage of growth compared to early years, and he answered: “My observation is that you are not hungry enough for souls.” These two thoughts in a sense are really one, for if we maintain the sanctified enthusiasm, the hunger for winning souls and for growth will be there. Sanctified enthusiasm is the key to growth spiritually and numerically!
The puzzled look on the sales clerk’s face implied that I must have lost my mind. I handed her the money for the dozen or so Mother’s Day cards that seemed so personally from me.

“Surely these aren’t all from you?” she questioned, as she handed me my change. I knew she couldn’t possibly understand it all if I told her.

How I yearned for my mother to know Jesus when I found the Lord as a 16-year-old! But I soon found that the Lord would give me a multitude of mothers (Mark 10:29-30) to help me grow spiritually.

IRMGARD L. WILLIAMS is the wife of the pastor of the Henderson, Kentucky, church. She is a first grade teacher and a freelance writer.

Some, like “Grandma Apple,” came many years before my teen conversion. The entrance of “Grandma Apple” into my life came when I, as a tiny 5-year-old, rode my rusty red trike past her white framed bungalow each day. She couldn’t resist inviting me to her “Happy Hour” one afternoon a week to sing and learn about Jesus. Though that seed lay dormant for many years, it was watered with prayer (unknown to me) until I found the Lord at 16.

Two other ladies decided I needed their spiritual wings. A year later when I moved 1,500 miles to a southern city, they drove 500 miles out of their way just to encourage me in the faith. How could I ever forget?

In that large city of many thousands, I was warmed by a young mother of two tiny children who whetted my spiritual appetite by sharing the things of God. The plaque on her mobile home wall was engraved on my heart and usually closes my letters to this day: “Be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58). It became a favorite promise as I made my way by faith alone to a Christian college.

My first and only head resident in my college dorm turned out to be the best “mom” to any girl away from home. This precious mother, who still had a son missing in action, was a tender, compassionate woman who transformed a visit to her apartment into a veritable gold mine of spiritual insight.

It was providential that I went to work for the college president’s wife, assisting her in cleaning the president’s home. Though she had no children, I found in her an example of simplicity, gentleness, and humility, among other traits that were needed in my life.

Through the college years, a widow with three children became my “other mother.” Her Sunday dinners, opened to many college students, will not be forgotten as she made her house “a home away from home,” and taught me the joy of an open heart and open home. When I began to make wedding plans, it was she who insisted that I have the finest white tulle to complete my bridal veil instead of what I could afford.

When three years later a baby was born into our home, it was she, now calling herself “Aunt Elsie,” who took time from her work to care for me when I arrived home from the hospital. Three years later when another son came, she couldn’t miss the joy of being there to care for me again. It was equally thrilling seven years later for her to drive for three hours to meet the little girl that was “like icing on the cake.” What a priceless memory I shall always treasure!
In each of our three pastorates there have been many "spiritual mothers" who have given me good examples to follow.

My mother-in-law is wonderful. Though many miles separated us, I learned to be a loving daughter to her (to join her family of nine), and she became a mother to me.

My greatest joy came the week following my father's funeral. The grief was real, but a fellow classmate who was holding revival in Mother's city came by to express his sympathy. That week, following his invitation to the revival services, my mother attended her first revival ever and became a new creature in Christ as she opened up her heart. My own mother, in answer to the prayers of many years, became part of the family of God.

God has given me, not only a Christian mom now, but a multitude of other mothers who have showered me with love and guidance. I yearn for it as a hungry babe starved for affection. Thank You, Lord, that You knew my deepest needs and the desires of my heart. Surely, I will "rise up and call them blessed."

**Lech Walesa,** the man who led the workers in Poland in forming trade unions, was promised offices by the government. The office space was provided. But, the room was barren—no desk, no chairs, nothing was in the room. When Walesa saw the room, he paused a minute, then said: "These are empty rooms, but they are full of hope!"

The Christian may be saddened by the emptiness and the events around him. His emotions may be blunted. His experiences may be scary. But, in Christ, his future has the touch of hope. It has the touch of hope because God, through Christ, has promised to walk with us, lead us, love us, even in the worst of times. It is a promise that the Christian treasures and one from which he draws strength when the dust of battle blurs the pilgrimage.

At the end of World War II, North Carolina converted part of the facilities of Camp Butner into an alcoholic rehabilitation center. Those who planned the center knew how indispensable hope was if healing was to take place. No matter how adequate the facilities or how well trained the personnel, sick men and women who went there would leave sick unless they could have hope. So, they devised a simple symbol of hope—a three-pronged star. The message of the star was: "Let all who enter here have hope."

This is the promise for all who enter the Christian walk. To be in Christ is to be in His care. To be in His care is to have His arms of strength for life's battles. And it is finally to have claim to eternal life, the hope that draws us ever onward in our walk with God.

The Christian's future has this touch of hope because it has the influence of the Resurrection! Resurrection authority and assurance lends guardian care to each day of the earthly journey and guaranteed certainty to the promise of eternal life.

So no day can be so dark that it obscures hope, nor no night so terrible that it diminishes the promises of hope. For hope is the legacy of the Savior to His children. Whenever we walk, we walk in hope!

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*C. Neil Strait is superintendent of the Michigan District and resides in Grand Rapids.*
Her Hands Have Served Well
by PAULINE E. SPRAY

WHEN I was a little girl, I could hardly wait until my hands looked like my mother’s. She was amused when I told her that.

Ma never had a manicure to my knowledge. In fact, I don’t even recall her using hand cream (we were so poor, she probably couldn’t afford it). Every fine line in her palms was blackened from peeling potatoes, scrubbing floors, minding children—working indoors and outside, as well.

It is difficult to believe my mother ever had baby hands—soft, pink, tiny—but she did. She was the youngest in her family for seven years until another brother came along. And even at the outset of marriage, her hands were pampered to a degree.

Years later, we laughed heartily when Ma told us how her new husband refused to let her pick cucumbers the summer they were married. He insisted she accompany him while he worked and carry the pan only. And still more humorous, during their courtship he had promised she would never have to scrub floors.

Well, life certainly brought changes, but my mother’s hands are still beautiful to me, for they clearly symbolize love, selflessness, and dedication.

Ma’s hands lovingly cared for seven babies, washed their diapers, burped them, and wiped their runny noses. Her hands held us while she rocked us, sang to us, and instructed us in the way of righteousness. And they nursed our wounds when we were injured physically and emotionally.

With her hands, Ma showed us how to make baskets out of dock burrs. She taught us girls to cook and sew, although she had always been a tomboy herself and preferred riding horses to using a needle. She cut countless rubber bands from old inner tubes for the guns her sons constructed out of scraps of lumber, and she helped make many a tail for a spring kite.

Once, years ago, Ma was made bandage chairman for the district missionary society. Consequently, umpteen boxes of carefully rolled bandages arrived at our house and were stored in the attic. Because there were no available funds during the Depression with which to mail the bandages to the mission fields, they were conscientiously moved, along with our household goods, each time Dad changed pastorates. After years of wear and tear, the boxes finally fell apart and the bandages yellowed with age, but they still made excellent tails for...
little boys’ kites, and my brothers did not let the efforts of missionary-minded ladies go to waste.

Ma’s hands cooked numberless meals for friends and relatives. Sometimes, even after the family had eaten and despite her weariness, Ma prepared another meal for unexpected guests. Hundreds of people have enjoyed the hospitality of my parents’ home and Mother’s selfless efforts. Serving others seems to be her calling.

Love motivated my mother to do many other things too. Once after I was married, when I went home to visit, I looked at Ma’s severely blistered hands with shock and horror.

“Sh-h-h. Don’t say anything,” she cautioned, “I don’t want him to know.”

While her aged father was visiting them, Grandpa had pulled the heater too close to his bed one night and accidentally set it afire. Fortunately, Ma smelled the smoke and discovered the flames. Without giving any thought to herself, she began beating out the fire with her bare hands.

Her love for the Lord and people motivated Ma to write many letters to missionaries, slipping money in the scores. She never sat by “like a lady” while someone else labored, but she humbly took the lead when there was work to be done.

My mother’s hands were seldom idle while we youngsters were growing up. She talked to us while she worked. Her hands moved as she diligently counseled and cautioned us children, including five sons, two of whom are now pastors.

At church functions, Ma’s hands washed dishes by the scores. She never sat by “like a lady” while someone else labored, but she humbly took the lead when there was work to be done.

My mother’s hands were seldom idle while we youngsters were growing up. She talked to us while she worked. Her hands moved as she diligently counseled and cautioned us children, including five sons, two of whom are now pastors.

After Dad’s health failed, Ma cared for him as long as she was physically able. Now she visits him daily in the nursing home where she fixes his tray, carries his coffee, and seeks to satisfy his every whim. Her gnarled hands caress him reassuringly. They hold his face as she kisses him lovingly.

At 85 Ma’s hands are still doing for others. She never overlooks a birthday or an anniversary. Besides her own offspring and their spouses, she remembers each of her 21 grandchildren, their spouses, and 25 great-grandchildren, too.

For years she shopped for each of us (there are now 74—at last count) at Christmastime. But this past year she decided that perhaps she shouldn’t try to do that anymore, what with Dad in the nursing home, the added expenses, and her limited strength. But as Christmas neared, Ma could not say no. Although many of her gifts came in the form of bills tucked inside envelopes, and homemade cookies, Ma came through as always.

Most importantly, she prays for us all and continues to help bear our burdens. With her hands she wipes away tears of supplication and of joy when she touches God and knows He will answer.

My mother’s hands have been made beautiful by a loving and generous heart, a heart doctors say has become enlarged, literally. Like the lady who poured out her love gift on Jesus, Ma too “hath done what she could.” Her hands have served well.

“Give her of the fruit of her hands,” O Lord, “and let her ... works praise her in the gates” (Proverbs 31:31).

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**YOU CAN HAVE PEACE**

**YES,** in this warring world, and in the midst of your problems, your heart can be filled with peace.

1) **Sin destroys peace.**

   “‘There is no peace,’ says my God, ‘for the wicked’” (Isaiah 57:21).

   Sin brings guilt and fear. It destroys relationships, creating suspicion, jealousy, and hatred. Until something is done about sin, you cannot have peace.

2) **Jesus Christ makes peace.**

   “Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side” (John 20:19-20).

   The hands and side of the risen Christ bore the marks of His crucifixion. By His death on the Cross, He atoned for our sins and provided our peace.

3) **You can have peace.**

   You can have peace **with God.** “Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).

   To be justified means to be forgiven and accepted by God. This is possible because “while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (v. 8). When we trust in Christ as the One who died to save us, God pardons our sins and reconciles us to Himself. We are then at peace with Him.

   You can have peace **with others.** “For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility” (Ephesians 2:14).

   Forgiven by God, we can live forgivingly toward others. Loved by Him, we can love others. The cross of Christ unites us with one another even as it unites us with God.

   You can have peace **within yourself.** “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7).

   In the midst of all your troubles and trials, God’s peace keeps sentry duty at your inner life. This is God’s good news—that we can be saved from sin and filled with peace through Jesus Christ.

   Scripture quotations are from the New International Version.
There Is No Justice
by JERRY W. McCANT

A NEWSCASTER reports that a gunman slipped up behind a woman and shot her in the back. The bullet severed her spine so that she will be permanently paralyzed. She never saw her assailant and no one who saw the incident has come forward to testify. Rewards have been offered for anyone giving clues leading to the arrest of the villain. Police want to “bring the gunman to justice.” Is that really possible?

In a courtroom a man faces libelous charges made by his vindictive ex-wife. There are months of stress, pain, and sleeplessness. Humiliation is heaped upon him as police and court officials treat an innocent man like a convicted criminal. When all the evidence is in, the man is exonerated and the judge chastises his accuser. As they leave the courtroom, his lawyer says to him, “See the system does work and justice does win.” Still he must wonder, “Where do I find justice?”

From the time of Plato to the contemporary writings of Lawrence Kohlberg, justice has been extolled as an ideal. Americans have made it a part of their patriotic doctrine. In the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, Americans conclude “with liberty and justice for all.” Do we really believe that justice comes to all Americans? Does justice come to all people? If such justice is possible, where and how does one find it?

Justice usually means that in some way the scales are balanced. Since a person must live with the consequences of wrongs done, how is it possible to have justice? A court may award payments for punitive damages to the injured party, but the wounds remain. The man who lost five years of his life in prison cannot regain those years shambles. Where is the justice in all of this?

Recently the newspapers carried the story of a man who had spent five years in prison on multiple rape and assault charges. A medical doctor has now been arrested after confessing not only to those crimes but also to many similar subsequent charges. The man originally charged is happy to be free again. Still he must wonder, “Where do I find justice?”

Life is not fair! It seems to us that the wrong people get sick and die. Innocent people are robbed, raped, and hurt by life. Peaceful, loving, and righteous men die in senseless wars. Little children are abused and die of hunger and malnutrition. Six million Jews died in Hitler’s concentration camps. Law-abiding citizens die on our highways because of drunken drivers. We yearn for justice, but every time we think we have found justice, it eludes us again.

Archibald MacLeish has given us even if the courts should pay him the salary he lost while in prison. The woman whose spine was severed by a bullet will remain paralyzed when the assailant is apprehended, convicted, and imprisoned. Justice would mean that wrongs would be undone in such a way that it would be as if the wrongs were never done.

A young woman entered my office. With painful hesitance she told of being raped. She felt guilty, dirty, and violated. She feared she could not now marry the man she loves. No longer did she feel like the virgin she wanted to present to her husband as a nuptial gift. Memories of that trauma will remain alive in her mind for a long time. Expensive therapy will be necessary. Can she ever find justice?

Not even God can undo events once they have happened. Exoneration and proof of innocence do not remove the scars left by the wounds. Words spoken can never be unsaid. Thus, functioning with our usual understanding, justice in our world is an impossibility. Nowhere in sacred Scripture do we have any assurance of justice in this world. Life does not make room for justice.

The thesis of this article is not based on cynical skepticism and unbelief. Once a person accepts the impossibility of justice, he can open himself to the grace of a loving God. He can then realize the healing power of the Holy Spirit. No longer seeking for the illusion of justice, he can hear the Master gently saying, “My grace is sufficient for you” (2 Corinthians 12:9, NKJV). Then, the voice of Jesus can reach him: “The Spirit of the Lord... has anointed Me... to heal the broken-hearted” (Luke 4:18, NKJV).

JERRY W. McCANT is associate professor of religion at Point Loma Nazarene College, San Diego, California.
his version of the Job story in a modern setting in his poetic drama, J. B. In the end, Job forgives God and commits himself to go on living. His wife says to him, "You wanted justice, didn't you? There isn't any . . . there is only love." MacLeish's Job answers the problem of suffering, not with theology or psychology, but by choosing to go on living and creating a new life. He decides to take life as it is. He will no longer look for justice or fairness in the world. Instead he will rebuild his life and look for love.

Our response to tragedy is, "Why did this happen to me? What did I do to deserve this?" These questions of outrage are inevitable, but in the end they are unanswerable, pointless, and senseless questions. Bad things do not have meaning when they happen to us. But, by God's grace we can give them meaning. We can redeem these tragedies from senselessness by imposing meaning on them. We must learn to ask a new question: "Since this has happened to me, what am I going to do about it?"

Injustice, like sunshine and rain, comes to the righteous and the unrighteous alike (Matthew 5:45). Neither walls of goodness nor fortresses of righteousness will protect us against unrighteousness. Tragedy and injustice are no respecters of persons. We cannot prevent injustice and we cannot secure justice. We can only decide how we will respond when injustice comes our way. Life will go on with or without us; in the face of injustice only we can choose life, love, and the grace of God.

Justice is not a reality in this world. God has not chosen to wipe out injustice or its perpetrators. But, in Jesus Christ, God came all the way into a world rampant with injustice. He got into the arena with us. Because He has become a part of our world, He is able to help us (Hebrews 2:17). No, He does not take away the injustice but He suffers all our injustices with us.

Without the presence of God, life could become meaningless amidst the unfairness of our world. Because He is there we may dare to deal creatively with the suffering we must endure. Not everyone chooses to respond to injustice with life and love. The same sun that softens butter also hardens the clay. Our response to tragedy, and not the tragedy itself, makes the difference. God has already come all the way to us in our world of injustice. What we do with the lack of justice is our responsibility, not His.

Acceptance of injustice as a permanent reality in our world is the first step to reconciliation and peace. We would do well to remember with Henry W. Longfellow that "God is not dead, nor doth he sleep." Somewhere between the awful reality of an unjust world and the ideal of "justice for all" we can make our world a better place in which to live. Life is unfair but perhaps we can make it more fair. This is an unjust world but maybe we can make it more just for a greater number of people.

MacLeish's J.B. is right to respond to injustice with love. Paul learned the sufficiency of God's grace in the face of injustice. Jesus came to be with us in our experiences of injustice and He promises healing for our brokenness. Injustice will never be permanently replaced by justice in this world. But because of the greatness of God's grace and the peace He gives us in the raging storm, we can meaningfully respond and choose to go on living. Love and grace are the only effective antidotes to injustice.

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**OPEN YOUR WINDOWS**

Open your windows to the spring! The red willows are budding and the river flows swollen and turbulent from melting snows, while meadowlark pipe lyrics overhead among new leaves and wild plum blossoms spread as white as winter frost. The south wind blows on hillside grass, where browse two soft-eyed does, and clouds' cool shadows down the slopes are shed.

Open your windows to the spring, the sun, scent of the grasses, breath of bursting bloom, fluting of birds, the glimpse of wings abroad! Let freshest breezes through your windows run. And quick, as springtide floods into your room, Open your heart to life, and joy, and God!

—JEAN HOGAN DUDLEY
Harlingen, Texas
What is it that people have in common whose achievements have made them famous?

Some people had one quality and others did not. Some had a first-class education; others had not. Some had outstanding parents; others had not.

They all had one quality. They were wholeheartedly committed to a cause. These causes differed, but not their attitude toward them. That was the secret of their success.

What had outstanding Christians in common? Some had one quality and some did not. Some were gifted; some were not. Some had the benefit of wealth; others had scarcely two cents to rub together. Some had especially attractive personalities; others had not.

The common quality here, too, was commitment. They were committed to Jesus Christ. They were determined to live for Him. They allowed nothing and no one to prevent their fulfilling their purpose.

Nothing worthwhile is ever done without full commitment. The act alone gives a unifying purpose to our many interests and activities.

Commitment to Jesus Christ will give direction to life. Unless we have this commitment we are likely to go first in one direction and then in another. We could then rightly be described as the novelist did one of his characters: "She mounted her horse and rode off in all directions."

Commitment to Jesus Christ will give us the joy we all covet. When our energies are scattered first on this project and then on another, we cannot know full satisfaction that comes only from a wholehearted devotion to one unifying cause—Jesus Christ. Our purpose will give us a right attitude to life with all its demands, opportunities, and sorrows. Committed to Jesus Christ, we shall experience that joy which He is keen for us to have—a joy that has the same quality as His.

Commitment to Jesus Christ will give us the eagerly sought peace. When we are committed to the one goal of making Jesus Christ everything in life, then all will fall into place. We shall know that deep peace which is not disturbed by minor events that can have only temporary existence.

Commitment to Jesus Christ will stimulate our service. The early days of serving the Lord in a specified way, whether Sunday School teaching or visiting, will bring some satisfaction. Yet later days can bring disappointment. The desired success does not arrive as quickly as we had hoped. The hopes we had of seeing our work produce favourable results in some person's life fade away. Are we so discouraged that we want to abandon our work?

It depends on the strength of our commitment to Jesus Christ. If it is strong, we shall have the spiritual stamina to keep on. We shall be less concerned with results and other people's lack of response than we shall with looking to and living for Jesus Christ.

More important to us than what we gain from our commitment is the knowledge that it will please Jesus Christ. He explained what is meant by the fullest commitment this way: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37). This is unqualified commitment. It admits to no degrees or exceptions.

In teaching His disciples, He said that the person...
who followed Him was to “deny himself” (Matthew 16:24).

To deny is to disown, to refuse to recognize as Peter did when he later denied Jesus Christ. This denial is saying no to self and yes to Jesus Christ. Money, reputation, friendships are to be disregarded if they prevent our fullest commitment to Him. The first disciples left all they had to follow the Son of Man who had no place for His head.

Even the retaining of life itself was not to prevent this commitment. Jesus urges us to take up our cross and carry it after Him. The disciples who first heard these words knew exactly what Jesus meant. They had often seen the sad spectacle of a person carrying his cross, the instrument of shame, humiliation, and death. They knew he was on his way to execution. The condemned man was allowed no preferences or wishes. All that lay before him was death.

We might have to spend time helping someone when we should have preferred to watch or take part in a ball game. If ours is a full commitment to Jesus Christ, nothing will restrict our taking up our cross for Him by helping the needy person.

Jesus looks for our whole personality and wants it all the time.

Is not such commitment costly? Yes, but what worthwhile achievement is not costly? We think of what it cost Jesus Christ to save us.

Before He came to earth Jesus knew all the blessings of living in heaven. He had the service of angels, the only servants who did His will fully, perfectly, and immediately.

More, He had the blessing of living with His Father. He was in the beginning “with God” (John 1:1). Not only were they in the same place, but Jesus had the fellowship with God that He valued so much. He and the Father could look to one another in perfect harmony and complete understanding.

In that presence, Jesus enjoyed His Father’s love to the full. Unlike us who have an inadequate capacity to receive it fully, Jesus never knew the slightest limitation of reception, but experienced it to the full.

His was a life of the fullest joy. Nothing could mar the serene ecstasy of moment-by-moment consciousness of being at His Father’s side. It is no wonder that just before Calvary Jesus asked for a return of the position He had earlier (John 17:5).

Jesus’ commitment to His Father’s will for our salvation was so complete that He gave up all these advantages to come to a world that rejected Him. Those who loved Him best caused Him pain. Those who hated Him hounded Him out of this world. It was finally “the death of the cross.” What a sacrifice!

Beside this sacrifice, the cost to us can hardly be reckoned. C. T. Studd, the founder of the World Wide Evangelization Crusade, gave away his wealth and went to Africa to preach the gospel. He commented: “If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him.”

We need a closer walk with Jesus Christ. Enjoying the unbroken fellowship of that relationship will enable us to commit ourselves fully to Him in any circumstances.

We cannot get the best at bargain rates. A spiritually prosperous life comes only through the fullest and the most unreserved commitment to Jesus Christ.

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**Book Brief**

**JESUS, THE CHILDREN’S FRIEND**

**MIRIAM J. HALL**

author

As most individuals who have been touched by Christ reflect back over their lives, two great joys surface: pleasures they’ve had working with children (or parenting), and—reaching farther back—Christian people who showed interest in them in childhood. Many of us are what we are in Christian living because people outside our family “had room for us in their datebook.”

Miriam Hall, director of Children’s Ministries, focuses on caring about kids. She begins by pointing out the importance placed on children in early Jewish tradition—girls as well as boys. And (grandmas and baby-sitters take note) care was taken to see that toddlers learned portions of scripture at home. Boys went to school and she writes, “It was said that the Jews would rather interrupt the building of the Temple than to interrupt school.” All this in a society where women and children took somewhat of a backseat.

Pulling the reader into today’s society, the author compares Carla, who “ain’t nobody,” and Shelley, whose mother told her she wouldn’t take “a hundred million thousand dollars” for her.

The book gives many reasons to reach out to children. Children are eternally important, and they grow into adults all too soon.

You’ll like the contrast (on page 50) between Jesus’ attitude toward the moneychangers and toward the children who “came skipping into the Temple.” As you read, I believe you’ll capture the spirit of the author who calls us to take note of Jesus as the children’s Friend.

There are too many Carlas in the world today. Some child you know could become a million-dollar kid with just a little extra love from you. Mrs. Hall’s book might just lead you into the most important thing you’ll ever do for God!

—Evelyn Stenbock

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City

63 pages. To order, see page 23.
MY OTHER MOM

On February 7, with the good help of Pastor James Mapes and District Superintendent Jonathan Gassett, I conducted a funeral service for my wife’s mother, Mildred Wheeler.

She died at the age of 89, reduced to complete helplessness in the last few weeks of her life. She could have been an invalid for many years had she yielded to her suffering. For more than 50 years, she battled an excruciating form of crippling arthritis. She hardly drew a breath without pain as her joints were gradually disfigured, but she fought tenaciously against her torturer and filled those years of agony with tons of work.

She loved the Lord. Communion with Him was the first priority of her life. When she prayed, she preferred to kneel, and swollen knees were rested on fluffy pillows when the hard floor finally became unendurable. The last words anyone heard her speak were addressed to her Lord.

She loved the Bible. For the last 16 years of her life, the period of her widowhood, she used a large-print Bible that Doris and I had given her on a Mother’s Day. Even with the large print and her spectacles, she had to use two magnifying glasses to read. The sight of her crippled little form, bent over God’s Word, as she patiently focused those reading aids above the page, always moved me deeply. Despite near-blindness, she read several chapters a day from the Book through which God spoke to her.

She loved the church. On Sundays she wanted to be with the Lord’s people in His house. Seeing little and hearing less, she still insisted on being present. Her presence itself was a testimony to the value of corporate worship, and it served public notice on the devil that she was against him!

She loved people. Several generations of children learned from her about Jesus. Grownups were also the object of her prayers and admonitions. Hospitality was one of her gifts, and she fed and sheltered a steady stream of people.

I am blessed and challenged by her example. Meeting her again will be one of the chief attractions of heaven.

THE LORD WASHES FEET

Shortly before His arrest, trial, and execution, Jesus met with His disciples for a last supper together. During the supper our Lord girded himself with a towel, poured water into a basin, and washed the disciples’ feet. This was a service normally provided by a servant for his master’s guests when they arrived with the dust of unpaved streets on their sandaled feet. Here the Master himself assumes the position and does the work of a servant. It is an act of love and humility exceeded only by His atoning death on the Cross.

When He resumed His place at the table, He broke the silence of the amazed disciples by saying, “I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.” Historically, the church has not interpreted this feet-washing as the institution of a ritual, but as a challenge to a life of humble service to human need. Some groups do practice feet-washing ritually, and they find it meaningful. More important than washing already clean feet is serving a dirty world in humble love.

Why didn’t one of the disciples perform this service for the others? Luke tells us that at this last supper, “there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.” Jesus came to serve; they wanted to be served. He came to save; they wanted to rule. The Christian who wants to dominate others has betrayed the spirit of Christ, who made himself a servant to others.

When Peter protested—“You shall never wash my feet”—Jesus responded, “If I wash you not, you have no part with me.” Fellowship with Christ is partnership in service. Those who exalt themselves may use His name, but they have parted company with Him. Only a cleansing from pride, which wants to rule, and a filling with love, which seeks to serve, will keep us walking with Jesus Christ.

Our Lord washed feet! He did it, not to show off, not as a political gesture, but as a sincere menial task. The towel and the basin, as surely as the Cross, are appropriate emblems of His kingdom. Christianity is love in action, and love serves; it does not demand to be served.
Sometimes our preaching isn’t rugged enough to warrant attention. We try to say “God” in a way that doesn’t rile the devil. Frontal assaults on evil are never heard from some pulpits.

ON TAKING BISHOPS SERIOUSLY

A recent biographer of John Milton has said, “It needs an act of supreme historical imagination to be able to recapture an atmosphere in which Anglican bishops might be taken seriously; still more, one in which they might be thought threatening.”

A. N. Wilson’s remark, however unflattering, is true not only of Anglican bishops but of ministers generally. How seldom are we taken seriously! How seldom are we perceived as threats! For the most part, we seem to inspire sheer indifference or amused tolerance.

There may be several reasons for this. To many the gospel we preach seems irrelevant. They want “how to succeed” advice, not “time to repent” demands. Sometimes our preaching isn’t rugged enough to warrant attention. We try to say “God” in a way that doesn’t rile the devil. Frontal assaults on evil are never heard from some pulpits. Being “positive” becomes an excuse to ignore sin and form alliances with evildoers. Stanley High once complained that he went to church needing a kick in the pants and got instead a pat on the back.

Indifference is the worst treatment bishops and other clergy can receive. It’s best to be heard and believed, to incite repentance, faith, and commitment. But it’s better to be opposed, cursed, jailed, beaten, or killed than to simply be ignored. The ministry everywhere should be a force for good and a threat to evil, provoking some kind of vigorous reaction.

Many laymen share the blame. Too many want preachers adroit at sanctifying the status quo. They don’t want their carnal, selfish lives disturbed. They want a gentle massage for a sore conscience each Sunday. They want an echo of popular opinion, not a voice crying in the wilderness. They want the world’s wisdom proclaimed, not God’s Word.

To be taken seriously, preachers must be a threat to evil, not to distant evil, but to at-home evil. And they will be taken seriously only when they offer deliverance, not mere denunciation. To hammer against the bad fix and trumpet the Good News will gain a hearing and a response.

GETTING IT ALL WON’T SATISFY

On a bumper sticker I read these blunt words: “I WANT IT ALL.” The car was old, with dented fenders, peeling paint, and broken upholstery. It was parked on the street before a house that had no garage. The house was run down. Evidently the owner of that heap wasn’t getting it all. If he feels very deeply the sentiment expressed on the bumper sticker, he must be highly optimistic or deeply depressed.

But suppose he gets it all. Suppose he achieves his dreams and gets his hands on everything his heart is already set upon. Will he be happy? Will he be fulfilled?

No. God has set eternity in the human heart. We cannot be content simply because we achieve success in our careers and possess things in abundance. Without God, material wealth cannot satisfy. With God, material wealth does not matter.

This is not a brief for poverty. It is a reminder that God has made us for himself, and we are fulfilled only in fellowship with Him. In that fellowship, we know ourselves as stewards, not possessors, and our properties become our opportunities to serve His kingdom’s purposes.

Jesus told a story about a man who got it all. This man studded his speech with “my” and “mine,” congratulating himself on his large holdings. Then, quite suddenly, he died. God called him a fool, because on the other side of death he was poverty-stricken. One moment he had it all; the next moment he had nothing.

The true follower of Jesus Christ does not find identity and security in material possessions. The disciple’s greatest desire is to know and do the will of God. In doing God’s will, he can be content with little or much. He accepts the little without whining, and shares the much without grudging. “Godliness with contentment is great gain,” but riches without godliness cannot drive misery from the heart, as multitudes have discovered.

Do you want it all? You probably won’t get it. But if you do, it will disappoint and destroy you. Only God satisfies the human spirit’s hunger.
Letters (Continued from page 4)

our president in rearming our country whether we agree with all his policies on other matters or not.

Joe O. Howell
Miami, Florida

GOD IN CHARGE

"Giving Life to the Future" (Nov. 15) left me more depressed after I read it than I was before I read it. The author contended that each one of us is responsible in some measure, and morally accountable, for the state of affairs in this world. But there is no way that I, or any of us, can in any measure be responsible for what an unresponsive and utterly insane world is doing. How can Christians stop, for example, the deployment of nuclear-tipped Pershing missiles in West Germany? How could any Christian have stopped President Reagan from flinging all kinds of derogatory remarks at the Russians after an airliner was shot down over their territory? Was that any worse than what the U.S. Cavalry did to the Indians at Sand Creek, or what a U.S. Navy pilot did to that hospital in Grenada? Did Reagan's name-calling improve our relations with the Russian government or aid the furtherance of world peace? Did it make any changes in their personality?

But after a few minutes of depression, I prayed about it, and then realized that God is still in charge, and that He is not going to let man destroy himself. I realized that there is only one thing for which I am responsible and morally accountable, and that is to continue to carry out the Great Commission He has given to His church, to the best of my ability, and as long as I have breath.

The Christian, far from being depressed about the state of affairs in this sin-cursed world, can look with certainty to God, who is still in control.

Although it may sound cruel and calloused, how a man lives is far more important than how he dies—whether it be by cancer, being run over by a truck, succumbing in a hospital bed, or being incinerated by a nuclear blast.

Let the non-Christians worry about a nuclear holocaust, the Christians can use that worry to lead them to the only hope for the world—Jesus Christ.

Let us not be disturbed by others whose religious or philosophical beliefs do not include a faith and trust in a God who can give "Life to the Future."

Bob Mitchell
Joshua Tree, California

HELPFUL SERMON

I went to district assembly in May. Our speaker was Dr. V. H. Lewis. He was very good. His sermon was on obedience. I have learned a lot from Dr. Lewis' sermon. He is a very good speaker. The Holy Spirit and obedience has helped me in my Christian walk with Jesus.

Millie Richmond
Palo Alto, California

"Come Play Softball with Us"

by RALPH E. TAYLOR

THERE I STOOD in center field, with a borrowed glove on my left hand, wondering what I would do if some unthinking batter hit a ball toward me. I chanted to myself, "Please don't hit it to me; please don't hit it to me." But the unthinkable happened and that very hard softball found itself on a trajectory that would require action on my part. The question in my mind screaming for an answer at that moment was, "What am I doing here?"

I was there at the invitation of some friendly Nazarenes from the Binghamton, N.Y., First Church. They had invited me, a stranger in their midst, to play softball with them. And although I hadn't played softball in many years, I could hardly refuse such a genuine offer of friendship.

There weren't many worshipers there that July Sunday in 1978 when we sat in the congregation for the first time. The pastor explained that many of those who would normally be there were at a Nazarene camp meeting. We returned the next Sunday, drawn by the warmth of that friendly church. We accepted an invitation to share some homemade ice cream with new friends and tentatively agreed to go out to the old ball game. In short, we were made to feel welcome.

That fortuitous contact led to my conversion on February 11, 1979, at the altar of that church with those very same friends there to pray with me. I was sanctified that summer at the camp meeting where so many of that congregation "disappeared to" every summer.

God began to deal with me about the ministry. I answered His call and eventually left my job to prepare for service in the kingdom of God. My wife, our daughter, and I followed the gentle leadings of God step by step until we found ourselves on the campus of a Nazarene college pursuing a graduate program in preparation for someday pastoring a congregation—a congregation who, I hope, will have a softball team.

Back to the fly ball. Unpracticed as I was, I let the ball hit a finger on my ungloved hand. X-rays showed it to be broken. Even today it is still crooked and hurts a little when the weather is changing. But it has become for me a unique reminder of that life-changing contact with the Church of the Nazarene.
Beverly Ann Cunningham has been selected for Outstanding Young Women of America for 1983. She attended Bethany Nazarene College and graduated from Wesley School of Nursing in Wichita, Kans. She is a registered nurse at Coffeyville Memorial Hospital and teaches a nursing class at Coffeyville Community Junior College and at the hospital.

She is director of children’s ministries and treasurer of Coffeyville, Kans., First Church. She is married to Michael Cunningham, an anesthetist at the hospital. They have two sons, Jason, 11, and Joshua, 7. Her parents are Rev. and Mrs. Richard Copple, Fort Scott, Kans.

Mary Lou Parrott was granted the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Maryland, December 19, 1983. Her areas of specialty included early and modern American literature and Victorian literature. Dr. Parrott’s dissertation was entitled “Subversive Conformity: Feminism and Motherhood in Joyce Carol Oates.”

Dr. Parrott is currently a faculty member at Mid-America Nazarene College. She is a 1976 graduate of Eastern Nazarene College and completed her master’s degree from the University of Maryland in 1978. She is married to Dr. Roger Parrott, the chief development officer at MANC.

David W. Heughins, formerly of Canadian Nazarene College, was recently awarded the doctoral degree in history by the University of Minnesota. His Ph.D. thesis was entitled R. D. Hampden and the “Oxford Malignants.” It dealt with a controversy in the Church of England during the Oxford Movement of the 1830s.

Mr. Heughins is the son of Rev. William A. Heughins, retired elder on the Maine District. An alumnus of Eastern Nazarene College (1966), he received his M.A. from Minnesota in 1971 and served as assistant professor of history at CNC from 1972 to 1979, before leaving to complete his research in Oxford, England. He is currently an assistant dean in continuing education at Post College, Waterbury, Conn., and active in the Wallingford, Conn., church.


His work was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Timothy L. Smith.

Dr. Cunningham is a graduate of Eastern Nazarene College and Nazarene Theological Seminary. He has been appointed associate professor of history and religion in the Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary, dedicated in the Philippines, January 15, 1984.

Carol Patricia Gritton of Kansas City has been selected to the Outstanding Young Women of America for 1983.

Carol received her B.S. in elementary education from Trevecca Nazarene College in 1973. She is presently employed by Youth Ministries of the General Headquarters of the Church of the Nazarene as an editorial assistant and is also a free-lance writer.

Carol is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Wight of Orange Park, Fla., and is also a free-lance writer.

They have one son, David Garrison.

Judy Ward Tosatto has been selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1983 in recognition of exceptional personal and professional achievements. Judy graduated Magna Cum Laude from Mid-America Nazarene College in May 1981. She is employed by Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Corporation in Kansas City.

She and her husband, Michael, are members of the Kansas City Dundee Hills Church, where she is currently serving as local NYI president. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Merle E. Ward.

Kelly Steve McCormick received the Ph.D. degree at Drew University in Madison, N.J., in December 1983. His dissertation title was “John Wesley’s Use of John Chrysostom on the Christian Life: Faith Filled with the Essence of Love.”

Besides the doctorate in systematic and historical theology, Dr. McCormick holds the M.Phil. (Drew, 1982); the M.Div. (Nazarene Theological Seminary, 1979, honors); the M.A. in religion (Bethany Nazarene College, 1977); and the A.B. in religion (BNC, 1976).

Dr. McCormick departed the U.S.A. January 5 for European Nazarene Bible College in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, where he will serve with his wife, Tricia, as a Nazarene missionary and professor of systematic theology and church history. Mrs. McCormick will use her secretarial skills in the college office.

Otolgist Larry McIntire, D.O., recently performed the first ear implant surgery at Kirksville (Mo.) Osteopathic Health Center. Dr. McIntire is one of only 34 physician/researchers in the country authorized to perform the surgery and implant developed by the House Ear Institute of California. Dr. McIntire, the only osteopathic physician to be named as a coinvestigator, says the procedure literally offers profoundly deaf persons a new sense. It involved the placement of an electronic implant in the inner ear. The procedure has a 90 percent success rate.

Dr. Larry McIntire grew up in a Nazarene parsonage. He is secretary of the Kirksville, Mo., church board, and is a member of the Missouri District Advisory Board.

Deborah Elaine Bembry has been selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1983 in recognition of her outstanding ability, accomplishments, and service to the community.

This is the third time Dr. Bembry has been so honored, in that she was selected in 1979 and 1980. She presently serves as assistant to the vice-president for academic affairs at Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill.
MVNC ANNOUNCES
FACULTY ADDITIONS

Three new faculty members will join the Mount Vernon Nazarene College staff next fall.

Dr. Darrel R. Falk has been named professor of biology; Dr. Terrell Sanders, assistant professor of religion; and Randy Cronk, assistant professor of psychology.

Currently a professor at Syracuse University, Dr. Falk is the supervisor of candidates in the M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs. He is also a member of the curriculum, faculty search, and health professions committees.

Falk earned his B.S. degree from Simon Fraser University (Canada) in 1968 and his Ph.D. in genetics from the University of Alberta in 1973. He was involved in postdoctoral studies at the University of British Columbia and the University of California-Irvine from 1973-76. Falk served as a demonstrator in biology at Simon Fraser University and a demonstrator in genetics at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Sanders has served as pastor of the Tallahassee, Fla., South Heights Church since 1980. During the 1979-80 academic year, he was a part-time instructor of religion at Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville. Prior to his stay at Trevecca, he pastored the Lawrence, Kans., Holiday Hills Church.

He earned his A.B. in speech and English from Trevecca Nazarene College in 1972, M.Div. in theology from the Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1978, D.Min. in homiletics from Vanderbilt University (Tenn.) in 1980, and Ph.D. in religious studies from Florida State University in 1983.

Nick Blosser, instructor of art at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, was awarded the prestigious "Pre de Rome" grant in painting by the American Academy in Rome, Italy. He is pictured with his painting, entitled "Possession." It was one of three paintings viewed by a panel of three prominent contemporary artists in the awarding process. The grant will cover all his expenses while he works and studies in Rome for one year. Blosser, who has been teaching at MVNC this past year, received his B.A. and M.S. degrees from Ohio State following two years of undergraduate work at MVNC.
BBHP

Mount Vernon Nazarene College held groundbreaking ceremonies for its 22,000 sq. ft. classroom building March 1. Doing the honors were (l. to r.) Dr. William Prince, president of MVNC; William Stroud, president of First Knox National Bank; Donald Steele, retired president of Cooper Energy Services; and Dr. Harold Graves, chairman of the MVNC Board of Trustees.

Cronk has served as a teaching assistant of psychology at Indiana University while completing requirements for his M.A. and Ph.D. in social psychology.

He earned his B.A. in psychology from Greenville College in 1980, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude and was a member of Alpha Kappa Sigma, the National Honor Society for Free Methodist Church of Higher Education.

MVNC HOSTS CONFERENCE

Mount Vernon Nazarene College hosted a Multiple Staff Ministry Conference, featuring workshops, seminars, and guest speakers March 5-6 on the MVNC campus.

The purpose of the conference, a joint venture between the MVNC Religion Department and the regional Nazarene Youth International, was to offer challenges to promote both professional and personal growth.

Dr. John Bowling, pastor of the Olivet Nazarene College Church in Kankakee, Ill., addressed the topic, “Leadership, Management, and Ministry” in the opening session. Bowling also spoke on “Strategies for Building Positive Staff Relationships” in the closing session.

Rev. Larry White, pastor of Mount Vernon’s Lakeholm Church, addressed the topic, “On Being Set Free for Spiritual Growth,” in the March 5 general session.

Workshops were conducted by MVNC professors Alex Varughese, Virginia Cameron, Dr. Bill Youngman, and Rebecca Hilderbrand. Youngman also conducted a seminar in Christian education.

BIBLE COLLEGE SENIORS VISIT K.C.

The Nazarene Bible College graduating seniors made their annual trek to Kansas City via Trailway buses, which left Colorado Springs around midnight, March 1. They arrived in Kansas City the following noon for a 24-hour blitz of the International Headquarters, Nazarene Theological Seminary, and the Nazarene Publishing House.

Shortly after they arrived, the students toured the publishing house. Their tour ended with a question-and-answer session with the manager regarding its operation, the products, and the service to the church.

Following the tour, an evening banquet was held for them at the Alameda Plaza hotel. Dr. Jorge Barros, coordinator of Publication Services, was the speaker for the evening to these future pastors and Christian workers.

On Friday, March 2, the seniors were hosted by the International Headquarters, where the day started with a continental breakfast shared with Headquarters employees. This was followed by a special chapel service presented by the group from NBC. Among the faculty members in attendance were President L. S. Oliver, Dr. Richard Lewis, and Rev. Ross Hayslip. Students who participated in the service were Jim Davidson, Clifton Watt, and Charlotte Quigley, Tom Riordan, Robert Welch, Philip Manson, Jr., and Gary Houston shared personal testimonies.

Following the chapel service, the Bible college seniors toured the Headquarters complex and then had a noon hour fellowship luncheon at Nazarene Theological Seminary with President Terrell C. Sanders, Jr., and other faculty members.

After checking out of the hotel, they began the long journey back to Colorado Springs. But first, they stopped briefly at Mid-America Nazarene College where they picked up sack lunches for their evening snack en route home.

Book Briefs ORDER COUPON

See page 17 for description.

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ARMSTRONG, LEO, LINDA & FAMILY: Portland, OR (1st), May 8-13; Minneapolis, MN (1st), May 15-20; Toledo, OH (Northpoint). May 22-27; Flat Rock, KY May 29—June 3

BAGGETT, DALLAS: Muncie, IN (1st), May 16-20; Youngstown, OH (Central). May 8-13; St. Albans, WV (1st). May 8-13

Baker, John: Idaho (1st), May 8-13; Newburgh, NY (1st). May 15-20; Muncie, IN (1st). May 15-20; Columbus, OH (1st). May 30—June 3

Beeler, Lowell: Grayville, IL (Free Will Baptist). May 1-6; Celina, OH (Church of God). May 17-23

Bell, JAMES & JEAN: Manchester, CT (1st). May 6-12

Blue, Dave & Dana: European Concert Tour Month of May

Blythe, Ellis: Trin. (1st). May 15; Indianapolis, IN (Park Lane). May 8-13; Springfield, MO. May 15-20


Brown, Fred: Monticello, AR (1st), May 9-13; Lemont, IL (1st), May 15-20; Indi­ana. May 22-27

Brown, Kenneth: New Haven, IN (1st), May 15-20; Lowdston, MT. May 29—June 3

Carlisle, Larry & Roberta: Sturgis, SD (Church of God). May 6 p.m. The Re, MI May 15-20

Casteel, Howard: Plano, TX. May 1-6; Springfield, OR (1st). May 20-27; Rogue River, OR May 29—June 3

Caton, John: Reserved, May 1-6; Alam Bank, OH (1st). May 8-13; Charleston, WV (Southeast). May 15-20; Phipp. WV May 22-27; Newark, DT (1st). May 29—June 3

Cher Vernel, Kay: Covina, CA. May 1-6; Paterson, NJ (1st). May 22-27

Chrisman, Jack: Bradford, OH (1st). May 8-13; Bradford, PA (Salvation Army). May 8-13; Bradford, OH (Free Mem.). May 15-20; West Lafayette, OH. May 22-27; Newton, WV. May 29—June 3

Clark, E. M.: Parkersburg, WV (1st). May 1-6; Dye, WI May 15-20; Fairmont, WV (Central). May 22-27; Wenten (CO). May 29—June 3

Cobb, Bill, Tobacco: Hammond, IN (1st). May 1-6; Richmond, IN. May 22-27; Ellicott City, MD. May 15-20; Ft. Guegrople, GA. May 25-27

Coffman, MICH & MARIE: Lawton (Height). OK. May 1-6

Cox, JOHN & MARTHA: Chesterton, IN. May 1-6; Robinson, IL (1st). May 8-13; McEwen TN (Pine Hill). May 15-20; Reserved May 22-27; Merryville, LA (Evangelical). May 29—June 3

Crabtree, L. C.: Richmond, KY (1st). May 15-20; Mt. Carmel, IL (Pet). May 29—June 3

Crandall, Vernor & Barbara: Gorodonsville, TN. May 1-6; Seymour, IN (Peter's Switch). May 8-13; Versailles. KY May 15-20; Cleveland, OH (Bethel). May 22-27; Chesterton, IN. May 29—June 3


Dobie, TED & DOROTHY: Marseilles, IL. May 1-6; Georgetown, IN. May 11-13

Dell, JIMMY: Waco, OK (1st), May 9-13; Grandview, WA (1st). May 22-27; Pasco, WA May 17-20; Moses Lake, WA (1st). May 23-27

DENNIS, CARL: Pittsburgh, PA (1st). May 15-20; Farmington, CT. May 16-20; Sandusky, MI. May 15-20; B.smart, WA. May 15-20; Red Oak, IA. May 15-20; Torgton, WV May 22-27; Muncie, IN. May 29—June 1

Dennis, JOHN: Cardington, OH (1st). May 16-20; Kenton, OH. May 8-13. Reserved, May 14-31

DOLLS, LARRY: Otumwa, IA (Timis). May 16; Creston, IA (1st). May 29—June 3

Dough, Jim & Carol: Buffalo, OK. May 1-6; Awaska, OK. May 15-20; Missouri, MO. May 16-20; Coffeyville, KS. May 15-20

ECKERLY, LYLE: Indianapolis, IN (Westbrook). May 1-6; Carmi, IL. May 15-20; Huntington, WV. May 29—June 3

Eckley, Lyle: Milwaukee, WI. May 16; Greenfield, WI (9th). May 15-20; Columbus, WI. May 22-27; Gainesville, GA. May 29—June 3


Fader, Wes & MARIE: Berkeley Springs, WV. May 4-6; Elsberg, SD (South Carolina). May 15-20; surrender. May 2-13; MD. May 15-20; Grand Teton, WY. May 29—June 3

FISHES, GLORIA & DOROTHY ADAMS: Marsatown. WV. May 1-6


FLORENCE, EARNEST: Andersonville, KS. May 15-20

FORTNER, Robert: Lexington, KY (1st). May 8-13; Aubum, IL. May 15-20; Bevender, IL (Free Mem.). May 22-27; Quincy, IL. May 29—June 3

Foster, HALLIE & MARSHA: Markham City, IL. May 1-6

Frank, Richard: New Braunfels, TX (1st). May 15-20; Conroe, TX (1st). May 15-20; Fort Worth, TX (1st). May 15-20

GADWAY, B. C.: Cedar Rapids, IA (1st). May 22-27

GARDNER, John: Huntington, W. VA (1st). May 15-20; Ellicott City, MD. May 22-27

Gathwright, WAYLAND: Indianapolis, IN (Rutland). May 1-6; Chicago, IL (West Missionary). May 8-13; Indianpolis, IN (Pitter). May 15-20; Mt. Carmel, IL (Pet). May 22-27

Ginter, Tim: Ashbyah, OH. May 8-13; Mesion, OH (Kensington Place). May 8-13

Gorman, Hugh: Sudbury, ON (Rosewood Evangelical). May 22-27

Grady, BOB & BECKY: Reserved, May 1-6; Iowa District Home Missions Tour. May 8-13; Webster City, IA (West). May 22-27; Gay, IA (Cinkle Park). May 30—June 3


Green, JAMES & ROSEMARY: Bethany, OH (Williams Memorial). May 1-5; Highland, MI. May 9-13; Warren, OH (Champion). May 15-20


Haines, Gary: Tucson, AZ (OR Valley). May 3-16; Mde: Meadville, PA (11st). May 15-20; Lancaster, PA (1st). May 16-20

Hamlin, Mark: Charleston, IN (1st). May 15-20; Freeport, IN (1st). May 8-13
Shown at the CONET North District Superintendents’ Meeting at Kankakee, Ill. (l. to r., clockwise), are: Wilbur W. Brannon, Pastoral Ministries director; Ted Holstein, Wisconsin District; Don Gibson (now deceased and replaced by Marselle Knight), Eastern Michigan District; C. Neil Strait, Michigan District; Dale Horton, representing John Hancock, Illinois District; Keith Bottles, Chicago Central District; B. G. Wiggs, Southwest Indiana District; Floyd Pounds, Northwestern Illinois District; and Bruce Taylor, Northeastern Indiana District. Not pictured are district superintendents John F. Hay, Indianapolis; and Thomas Hermon, Northwest Indiana. Other Coordinating Committee members not pictured are: C. William Ellwanger, Bourbonnais, Ill.; Roderick Smith, Otisville, Mich.; Thomas Tucker, Anderson, Ind.; David Elwood, Columbus, Ind.; and William Coleman, Bloomington, Ind.

CONFIDENTIAL NETWORK INSTALLED FOR MINISTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Pastoral Ministries Director Wilbur W. Brannon announced the launching of a pilot project under the trade name of CONET March 26. CONET is designed to provide support for ministers and their families through Communication, Consultation, Continuing Education, and a Confidential Counseling Network.

The project will serve the 10 districts in the Central U.S.A. Region and the state of Florida. This effort was initiated by the Board of General Superintendents and approved by the Department of Church Growth of the General Board at its recent meeting February 29.

Access to the referral network of counseling personnel resources will be made by a toll-free “Heartline” located in Nashville. Each participating district superintendent is supporting the project as an extension of his pastoral concern for ministers and their families.

After one year the model will be evaluated. If the objectives are met and it offers a valid potential for ministry, consideration will be given for other districts to participate.

The most important aspect of this particular part of CONET is that strict confidence is assured.

This “ministry to ministers” focuses on morale in relation to personal and church growth. As a minister feels good about himself, his ministry, his church, and his family relations, he will be better able to lead his church toward spiritual and numerical growth. CONET is saying to Nazarene ministers and their families, “Your church cares.”

For more information you may write to Pastoral Ministries, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

PENSIONS AND BENEFITS SERVICES—65 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NAZARENE MINISTERS

Pensions and Benefits Services is 65 years old this year, but it is not retiring! There is still plenty of work to be done in “Honoring the Trust” that has been placed in the church.

What began as a benevolence program in 1919 has now grown to provide benefits of up to $250 per month based on years of service. Currently, over 2,400 retired ministers and widowed spouses are receiving a “Basic” Pension. The average minister’s pension is $150 per month.

The profile of the average retired Nazarene minister is as follows. He is...
now 73 years old and has had 30 years of ministerial service. He might be living in any state in the U.S. or in Canada, but most likely is living in California, Oklahoma, Florida, or the heart of the Midwest. He and his wife are possibly celebrating a significant wedding anniversary, since there are 87 couples who are celebrating their 50th in 1984.

In addition to these, 48 are celebrating their 55th, 11 their 60th, and 7 their 65th wedding anniversaries this year. Retired ministers and their spouses have a history of longevity. The 50 oldest individuals on the roll range from 92 to 103 years of age.

Rev. E. J. Flemming, the first secretary of the Department of Ministerial Benevolence, enrolled two widows to receive benevolence assistance upon the deaths of their husbands in 1939. Today, these two widows continue to receive benefits under the “Basic” Pension Program.

Pensions and Benefits Services will go on growing. As more and more eligible individuals are added to the roll, the church will honor their trust and seek ways to improve the ministry and services provided to them.

NAZARENE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS HAND-COPIED INTO KHMER

A team of four Cambodians and a former missionary to Cambodia for the Christian and Missionary Alliance church, Mr. John Ellison, have translated and hand-copied the 1984 Basic Sunday School Lessons for the Church of the Nazarene into the Cambodian language. In addition to the translation work, this project took 80 hours of hand-copying.

Virtually all Cambodian typewriters were destroyed in the Communist takeover. A German manufacturer is beginning to make new ones. Funds are being sought to purchase typewriters to assist in the preparation of print media for the Cambodians in the U.S.A. and Canada.

These lessons are being used in the ministries many Nazarene churches have with Cambodian refugees. The work of producing basic Sunday School lessons and other materials in ESL (English as a Second Language) format was pioneered by Rev. Jerry Appleby, Ethnic/Urban Missions coordinator for Church Extension Ministries.

Other ESL projects include a Basic English Dictionary of Theological and Biblical Terms.

MISSION AWARD DISTRICTS ANNOUNCED

Dr. Phyllis Brown, NWMS general director, announced that 20 districts achieved Mission Award status for 1982-83. The Mission Award program stipulates that to reach this goal a district must have met three requirements:

1. Membership in the NWMS equal to 70% of church membership.
2. Readership of missionary books twice the membership reported the previous year.
3. General Budget paid in full.

The following districts met the prescribed requirements: Alaska, Australia Northern Pacific, British Isles North, British Isles South, Dakota, East Tennessee, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, North Arkansas, Northeastern Indiana, Philadelphia, Sacramento, South Carolina, Southeast Oklahoma, Southwest Indiana, Virginia, Washington, and West Texas.

There are occasions when a hymnbook becomes an obstacle to worship. For those times, an overhead projector and the new Lillenas Hymn Transparencies will provide an added dimension to group and congregational singing.

Two volumes of 10 songs each are now available. Each volume includes:

- Ten hymns or songs, each on a separate overlay (melody and words)
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A copy of a page in Khmer
CAPE VERDE ISLANDS TO RECEIVE HOSPITAL

The Cape Verde Islands will at last receive the hoped-for hospital in Santa Catarina on the island of Santiago. Three years of negotiations initiated by the Church of the Nazarene resulted in the commitment of the EZE (Evangelische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe E.V.) in West Germany and ICCO (interkerkelijke coördinatie commissie ontwikkelingsprojecten) in Holland to finance the construction. All funds for construction of the hospital will come from these interchurch agencies.

The Cape Verdians have expressed their appreciation to the Church of the Nazarene for its involvement in securing the aid.

At the same time, the Cape Veridian government feels that it is now capable of administering and staffing the hospital with Cape Veridian personnel after the building is completed. The Church of the Nazarene will be free from any further involvement.

The church will continue to explore needs in other areas for continued and progressive involvement through its compassionate ministry office.

BRITISH ISLES SOUTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

March 23-24, the 31st British Isles South District Assembly was convened at Bolton First, Dr. Charles H. Strickland, general superintendent, presiding. At this assembly the outgoing district superintendent, Rev. T. W. Schofield, was given a love-gift of £1,500, for 17 years of service.

Rev. Herbert McGonigle was elected as the third superintendent of British Isles South District by an overwhelming majority. Brother McGonigle was formerly a faculty member of British Isles Nazarene College.

Rev. Thirkell and Packard (ministerial) and Messrs. Davies and William (lay) were elected to the District Advisory Board. The General Assembly delegates are Rev. Leslie Evans and Mr. David Barnes.

CANADA PACIFIC—June 8-9. First Church of the Nazarene, 4277 Quadra St., Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, V8X 1L5. Host Pastor: Riley Coulter. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.


DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION


FOR THE RECORD

NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS


The Burr Oak, Kans., church will celebrate its 70th anniversary on Sunday, July 1. There will be morning, afternoon, and evening services with a celebration dinner following the morning worship service. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend or to send greetings to be read. For further information please contact: Mrs. Gertrude Hancock, P.O. Box 115, Burr Oak, KS 66936, or call (913) 647-6201, or contact: Pastor Don Pierce, Box 215, Burr Oak, KS 66936, or call (913) 647-7551.

South Bend, Ind., First Church will celebrate its 65th anniversary July 8-9, 1984. The services on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon, and on Sunday, will feature former and present members of the congregation. All former pastors, members, and friends of the church are invited to attend.

Further information may be obtained by writing or calling the church: 905 E. Collfax Ave., South Bend, IN 46622, (219) 232-7872.

The Erick, Okla., church is planning a 75th anniversary celebration July 9-11, 1984. Rev. Gene Keith, pastor, and Dr. Bert Daniels, district superintendent, will lead the event. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to participate in celebrating the Erick church’s Christian heritage. For further information write Ayliffe Garnett, P.O. Box 1204, Erick, OK 73465.

Announcements should reach us three months prior to the date of the event announced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I am happy to recommend TIMOTHY BROWN, who is entering the field of evangelism full time. Tim has served the church both in the United States and overseas and has given a good accounting of himself wherever he has been. I am convinced that he will be a blessing to any church using his service and I would encourage pastors to keep him busy. Contact him at 1003 E. Prairie, Olathe, KS 66061, or call 913-764-6781.— Milton B. Parrish, Kansas City district superintendent.

He is a graduate of Ohio State University, had served as a missionary. They’ll learn about our church’s greatest missionary life and work.

Make Great Heroes!

And that’s what the 1984-85 Children’s Mission Education study is all about. Your children will meet some of our church’s greatest missionary heroes past and present. They’ll discover what it takes to become a missionary. They’ll learn about missionary life and work.

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MAY 1, 1984 29
JEWISH CHRISTIANS SURVEYED ON HOW THEY CAME TO CHRIST. The Jews for Jesus have completed a survey of 8,000 Jewish believers in Christ. The questionnaire contained the following two items among others: “What initially attracted you to the gospel?” and “What one agent most helped you find the Lord?”

Forty-seven percent indicated that the Christian faith of another person, usually a friend or family member, influenced them the most to consider the gospel.

The next highest factors were a search for truth (11 percent) and the Bible (8 percent). The influence of radio/TV/movies was instrumental among only 2 percent of the respondents.

Concerns regarding life after death and fear were listed by 1 percent. This survey reveals the strong impact of a loving personal Christian witness.

HOLLYWOOD MOVIE MAKERS REVEAL LIBERAL, HUMANISTIC ATTITUDES IN POLL. Hollywood moviemakers, who have such a significant impact on American society, have responded to a poll to indicate that 55 percent claim no religion. 59 percent believe our government should redistribute income, 67 percent think television should be a means of social reform, and 96 percent avoid going to church. On current moral issues, only 2 percent strongly oppose abortion on demand, 7 percent feel strongly that homosexuality is morally wrong, and 13 percent strongly agree that adultery is wrong.

The poll was taken by the research team of Stanley Rothman and Robert Lichter and is reported in the December/January 1984 Public Opinion magazine. The report includes statistics gathered from a random sampling of 96 writers, producers, and directors of the 50 top-grossing films from 1965 through 1982. The same team released a similar study on television elite in January 1983, which closely parallels the findings of the latest poll.

The “most striking finding,” according to the researchers in the TV study, was that 67 percent think that television should be a force for social reform. Since many movies wind up on TV eventually, the movie moguls must see themselves as shapers of society.

MAASAI PEOPLE ORDERED THEIR NEW SCRIPTURE WELL IN ADVANCE. So great was the eagerness for a new translation of the New Testament in modern Maasai, the everyday tongue of some 300,000 people in Kenya, that a number of people ordered their copies two years before the first edition came from the printer.

Almost two-thirds of the initial run by the Bible Society of Kenya of 25,000 copies were distributed the first month of publication, the American Bible Society reports.

The Maasai people greeted the event with joy and thanksgiving. They had waited seven years for their Testaments. And the celebrations were made even more joyful because of the preaching of Rev. John Mpaayei, himself a Maasai, who had been one of the translators.

The Maasai are a nomadic people who have been deeply influenced by the message of new life from the Scriptures. Almost one-third of the work of translating the Old Testament into modern Maasai is now complete.

THE LANGUAGE OF JESUS. Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus and His disciples, is once again being taught in Jerusalem.

A Syrian Orthodox congregation has started an Aramaic class for children. Some 180 families in the Jerusalem-Bethlehem region speak Aramaic in their homes.
to DON AND KRISTEN (UNDERWOOD) CARLSON, Shawnee, Kans., a girl, Angela Kaye. Mar. 11
to DAVID JR. AND CHERYL (BERGEN) CHILDS, Brookville, Ohio, a boy, David Everett III. Mar. 7
to KEITH AND CYNTHIA (MARTIN) CLARK, Cass City, Mich., a boy, Adam Thomas. Feb. 7
to BERNIE AND EDIE (SAUER) DICKSON, Bed ford, Ohio, a boy, Gregory Wayne. Mar. 8
to DON AND EVELYN (LOON) GARDNER, Bethany, Okla., a girl, Alissa Dawn. Mar. 6
to REV TIM AND VICKI (PHILPS) GATES, Lansing, Mich., a girl, Alison Rochelle. Feb. 2

to STEVEN AND COLEEN (BRUNS) HENISA, Toledo, Ohio, a boy, David Steven. Mar. 7
to CHAPLAIN AND MRS. J. W. JOHNSON, Oklahoma City, Okla., a girl, Emily Suzanne. Mar. 12
to DR. AND MRS. J. W. JOHNSON, Oklahoma City, Okla., a boy, Andrew Hunt. born Feb. 8, 1984, adopted Feb. 9

to STEVE AND CAROL ANN (UNGER) JOHNSON, Riney, Iowa, a boy, Scott Joseph. Mar. 6
to REV RICK AND PATTI (BEALS) SNODGRASS, Vallejo, Calif., a boy, Jered John. Jan. 24
to JIM AND SANDY (LYLE) THORNTON, Fort Scott, Kans., a girl, Kelsi Brooke. Jan. 25

to REV. TIMOTHY AND SUSAN YOUNG, Buffalo, N.Y., a boy, Timothy Paul. Jr. Mar. 10

ADOPTIONS
by ANDY AND JUDY (HUNT) BENNETT, Seattle, Wash., a boy, Andrew Hunt; born Feb. 8, 1984

MARRIAGES
DAULINDA DAWN MOORE and VINCENT ANDRE BEER at Denver, Colo., Feb. 4

SHARON MARIE STIENSTRA and RANDAL MARVIN RUEBSAMEN at San Jose, Calif., Feb. 4

PAMELA RAE RAYMONDS and MARILYN ELLIOTT PEED at San Jose, Calif., Feb. 11

DENISE L. CALVIN and STEPHEN D. MITCHELL at Kankakee, Ill., Mar. 3

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CONDUCTED
by W. E. McCumber, Editor

We welcome questions on biblical and doctrinal matters. The editor is not able to send replies to questions not selected for publication. Address ANSWER CORNER, Herald of Holiness, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Does God know when we’re born whether we will go to heaven or hell? If so, isn’t this predestination?

I believe God knows the ultimate fate of all persons even before they are born. This is predestination and foreknowledge, but not in the sense that Calvin taught.

God knows what decision a person will make concerning Christ as Savior, and upon that decision he will go to heaven or hell? If so, isn’t this predestination and foreknowledge, but not in the sense that Calvin taught.

The decision is not coerced, though it is influenced. The decree of God by which our destinies are determined may be read in John 11:36.

In Acts 9:3-18, Paul seems to be converted on the Damascus Road and three days later is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Then in Acts 11:14-15, the household of Cornelius seems to get saved and filled with the Holy Spirit at the same time.

How do we explain it?

Saul of Tarsus, for all his religious zeal, was a rebel against God, an enemy of Christ. Cornelius, on the other hand, was a "devout" man in touch with God, whose prayers and alms were a "memorial before God"—sacrifice acceptable to God. He sought the whole truth sincerely and responded to it readily. He was acquainted with the word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ. This is not the description of a rebel who needs to be converted.

Notice that Peter, in Acts 11:16, says, “Then [when the Holy Spirit fell on Cornelius and his household] remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.” Peter identifies the experience of Cornelius with that of himself and others at Pentecost. This went beyond John’s baptism, which had reference to repentance, forgiveness, and faith in the Messiah (Luke 3:3-16) to an inner cleansing from sin (Acts 15:8, 9).

I am convinced that Peter is using the word “saved” in a broader sense than “converted” or “forgiven” in Acts 11:14.

Does the Greek Bible word baptize mean immersion or dip? In John 3:23, John was baptizing near Salim because there was much water. In Mark 1:10, speaking of Jesus, He came straightway up out of the water. In other places in the Bible, it speaks of going near Salim because there was much water to be baptized. I wonder why in this modern age so many pastors are leaning toward sprinkling. Isn’t it our goal to be more Christlike, to stand humble before God?

How humble do we have to be to walk to the front of the church and be sprinkled with a few drops of water?

Is sprinkling mentioned in the Bible?

Yes, the Greek word baptizo means to immerse, to dip. It is also used to mean wash or cleanse where the mode is not immersion.

Jesus promised the disciples, “You shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” The promise was fulfilled at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was “poured out” on the disciples. The Holy Spirit who inspired Scripture here calls pouring baptism.

“How much water” (John 3:23) is literally “many waters.” Such large crowds attended John’s preaching that these springs would be needed for hygiene and drinking purposes. As for pride, the immersed can be as proud as the sprinkled, and are often more argumentative. Diffusion (pouring or sprinkling) is indeed mentioned in Scripture and called baptism.

Some pastors have been “leaning toward sprinkling” from ancient times to the present for this very reason.
Mount Vernon, Ohio, First Church recently had its service marked by grace and beauty in a unique way when the entire Ohio Junior Miss delegation attended the Sunday morning service.

Thirty-two young ladies, contestants in the teen scholarship program, in which they are judged on academics, talent, poise, physical fitness, and appearance, took a break from their week of Junior Miss activities to worship with Dr. Jack Archer and the people of First Church. On this February Sunday morning, 980 were present as Pastor Archer spoke on “The Scarecrows of Life” allowing these young ladies to hear how the gospel of Christ helps people overcome fear.

One of the Junior Miss contestants, Miss Elaine Shaffer, is a member of First Church and the teen group. Elaine, the Knox County representative, finished in the top 10 statewide.

Due to some very serious problems, the Dayton, Ohio, Maryland Avenue Sunday School average had dropped to approximately 23. The church had only one child, 20 months old, and no other children, only adults.

Evangelists Mel and Donna Justice recently held a two-day “Sunday Fun’day.” Posters were put in the elementary schools in the neighborhood announcing a free gospel magic show on Saturday. At 10:30 on Saturday morning, workers registered 83 children and 10 or 12 adults who attended with their children. After the magic show, refreshments were served and everyone was invited back for Sunday School. On the following day 45 children returned for Sunday School. Each Sunday new children have attended and the Sunday School jumped from 23 in attendance to 68 in one Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. Justice outlined a four-Sunday program for the teachers, and the children are excited about coming to Sunday School. A total of 99 children have been reached through this program with 62 families represented. These families are within a six- to eight-block radius of the church. Evangelist Leonard J. Daws has been serving as interim pastor.

The parsonage-home of the Celina, Ohio, church was totally destroyed by fire March 15. Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Gerboth, who serve the Celina church, were at home when a fire broke out in the basement. The fire department responded, extinguishing the fire.

The Auburn, Maine, church celebrated the completion of its new two-story addition by holding a dedication service February 15. Pastor Gary O. Sinclair and the members of the church welcomed Dr. J. E. Shankel, district superintendent; former pastor, Rev. Paul Rines; and Auburn City Mayor John Cleveland, who were all speakers at the service. The new structure provides additional space in the sanctuary as well as needed classrooms for the Sunday School. Pictured are Dr. J. E. Shankel, Rev. Paul Rines, Pastor Gary Sinclair, and Mayor John Cleveland.

Mrs. Nellie King, member of the Indianapolis Northside Church, was recently honored as she celebrated her 95th birthday. She was presented with a corsage and other gifts of appreciation. She joined the Church of the Nazarene at Northside on June 6, 1948. Pastor Harold Suman reports she has been a faithful member and a friend to young and old alike.

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The "Satisfaction of Judgment" is presented to Pastor Danny Goddard of the Columbus, Nebr., church, ending a three-year lawsuit that forced the church to pay $135,000 for the $101,000 building. The contractor had been paid on time by the church, but the contractor failed to pay his subcontractors and died, leaving few assets in his estate. State law permitted the 12 contractors to file mechanic's lien lawsuits against the church. The money was raised by the sacrificial giving of members, the gifts of local friends, and from people from seven states. The church received more than $5,200 within two weeks. Pictured (l. to r.) at the celebration service January 22 are: District Superintendent Jim Diehl, Pastor Danny Goddard, Attorney Tom Maul, and Church Treasurer Bill Weekly.

On January 8, Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent, conducted dedication services of the new expanded sanctuary and educational facilities of the Ridgeway, Mich., church, which added 45,000 sq. ft. to the church plant. The building cost $130,000, but one-half was raised in cash by the congregation, leaving a total debt of $60,000. Donald K. Ault, Jr., is the pastor.

The Sparks, Nev., new church and fellowship hall were dedicated on January 15, 1984, at 3 p.m. District Superintendent Walter Hubbard spoke at the dedication. The building is appraised at nearly $2.3 million. The sanctuary will seat 500 and can expand to 800. After the old facilities have been sold, the 19,000 sq. ft. structure will have an indebtedness of approximately $180,000. Theodore L. Allen has been the pastor for 10 years.

Mrs. Hazel Colwell is presented an appreciation plaque on her 90th birthday from Bradenton, Fla., First Church, by Senior Pastor Hugh Smith (r.) and Visitation Minister C. E. Winslow (l.). Mrs. Colwell has 5 living children, 20 grandchildren, and 33 great-grandchildren. Born in Seymour, Ind., she joined the Church of the Nazarene in 1916. She has served the church as a Sunday School teacher and children's worker.
Indianapolis First Church has served in the Work and Witness program in the Dominican Republic during the past eight years. Under the leadership of Pastor William Griffin and Associate Pastor Jerry Stipp, the teams have helped to build churches, schools, and parsonages. Twenty-two members from the sanctuary choir of First Church recently made their first sing-and-witness tour in the Dominican Republic. Nine concerts were presented in eight different cities. Each concert included 14 musical arrangements in Spanish, 3 arrangements in English, 2 testimonies, and a short message by Rev. Stipp. The churches were filled and each service ended with people seeking the Lord. Bill Morris, minister of music, directed the choir and planned all tour arrangements. Missions director Marshall Griffith accompanied the group on their nine-day schedule and served as translator. Pictured (l. to r., front row) are: Melissa Long, Patty Cox, Carolyn Morris, Linda Duff, Rhonda Watson, Dave Watson, Dan Clark, Linda Moneymaker, Ann Long, Karen Stipp, and Mary Pitts; (back row) Dave Jewell, Linda Burton, Linda Spaulding, Vicky Martin, Randy Hamlyn, Jerry Stipp, Larry Spaulding, Chris Lutey, Donna Stevens, and Bill Morris. Not pictured is Gene Moneymaker.

WORK AND WITNESS TEAM ANSWERS PRAYER FOR PHILIPPINE CONGREGATION

A group of 14 men and 5 women from the Baker, Oreg., church spent two weeks in the Philippines in February, completing a sanctuary for the Binalonan First Church of the Nazarene.

The project was begun two years ago under the leadership of Rev. Alejandro Verceles, pastor of Binalonan First Church. Assistance was provided from Rev. Bob McCroskey, mission director, but still the church remained only 25 percent completed. At this point, members of Baker First Church entered the picture under the direction of layman Byron Henry.

Upon arriving in the Luzon District February 5, the crew labored according to their skills: carpentry, electricity, masonry, etc. Three of the women helped to paint the parsonage, while two senior citizen members, Eva and Hazel McBride (ages 71 and 77 respectively), served in the kitchen to provide meals.

Some of the team members also participated in three nights of special services in three nearby churches. Rev. Ron Kratzer, pastor of Baker First Church, preached, and other members of the team shared their testimonies and provided music. Rev. Melton G. Bernabe, superintendent of the Luzon District, reports that around 100 persons found help at the altar during these meetings.

February 15, the Work and Witness Team shared good-byes with their Filipino brothers and sisters at a special rally to dedicate the beautiful building valued at 300,000 pesos (about $22,000).

Superintendent Bernabe thanked the workers and praised the Lord for their assistance, "It would have taken us 10 years to complete the project from local resources. It is just like a dream come true. Glory to God for what has been accomplished!"

—NN

The completed sanctuary of Binalonan First Church.
PITTSBURGH DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT ELECTED PRESIDENT OF NBC

Rev. Jerry D. Lambert, superintendent of the Pittsburgh District, has been elected as the new president of Nazarene Bible College in Colorado Springs. Lambert was elected on the ninth ballot by the NBC Board of Trustees from nominees submitted by the Board of General Superintendents.

The March 27 election was held to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Dr. L. S. Oliver at the close of the current school year. Rev. Lambert will assume the new post effective July 1, 1984.

Rev. Lambert has served as superintendent of the Pittsburgh District since being appointed by Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, general superintendent, in October 1980. Prior to that time, he served pastorates in Florida, Georgia, Carolina, and Missouri.

He and his wife, Verla, have two daughters.

—NN

NAZARENE MINISTER SERVES AS OFFICIAL OBSERVER IN EL SALVADOR ELECTIONS

Dr. Paul Cunningham, pastor of the Olathe, Kans., College Church, served as an official observer in the elections March 25 in El Salvador. He served at the request of the nation's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was the only American to be so invited.

Dr. Cunningham made observations in the western cities of Santa Ana, Atiquizaya, Auachatan, and Sensonnante, traveling from poll to poll in an armored vehicle. His findings were reported to the government.

Later in the week, the Olathe minister was able to visit several areas of guerilla activity in the eastern part of the country including San Vincente, San Miguel, and Usulutan, where he visited with field commanders of the El Salvadorian army.

A highlight of the week included a visit to the First Church of the Nazarene in San Salvador, pastored by the national district superintendent of El Salvador, Rev. Ramon Campos. Prior to his preaching in the Thursday night service at the church, Dr. Cunningham was greeted by El Salvador's Senior Vice-president Raul Molina.

—NN

NAZARENE KILLED, MANY SUFFER LOSSES IN WAKE OF CAROLINA TORNADOES

Nazarene layman Pete Quick was killed by one of the many tornadoes that roared through the Carolinas March 28. Brother Quick attended the Church of the Nazarene in Bennettsville, S.C., a town that was very hard hit by the high winds.

Superintendent D. Moody Gunter of the North Carolina District says Nazarenes from across the state have responded to the call for assistance to many Nazarenes who suffered property damage or lost their homes in the tornadoes in the Bennettsville and Winnsboro areas. Local churches have responded with cash and clothing to assist those in need.

In North Carolina the storm passed through Laurinburg where a Nazarene congregation is located, but there were no reports of injury to church members.

At least 60 lives were lost, and millions of dollars in damages were incurred in the two states, prompting a "Declaration of Disaster" by President Reagan.

—NN

GENERAL SECRETARY ACCEPTS AWARD FOR CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Dr. B. Edgar Johnson, general secretary, represented the Church of the Nazarene at the recent Leaders' Meeting of the National Christian Association in Washington. The NCA is an organization of religious, political, business, and educational leaders who have banded together to battle the hedonistic philosophy of such publications as Playboy magazine.

Dr. Johnson delivered a devotional message to the group and accepted a plaque from the NCA for the efforts of the Church of the Nazarene in the fight against pornography and hedonism.

Another Nazarene on the program was Rev. B. J. Weber, who recently resigned from the position of associate pastor at the Manhattan Church of the Nazarene (Lamb's Club). He spoke to the group about his experience in crisis care and street ministry on Times Square in New York City.

—NN

FORMER MISSIONARY RETIRES FOR THE SECOND TIME

Dr. Lauren Seaman, former Nazarene missionary to Swaziland, has set aside his "little black bag" to take a much-deserved rest after 46 years as a physician, counselor, and friend to those in pain. He retired from his private practice in Olathe, Kans., in 1980, but for the past 4 years had continued to make rounds at three Johnson County, Kans., nursing homes and the Johnson County Jail.

In a recent story in the Kansas City Star, Dr. Seaman said he sometimes advised patients, including jail inmates with drug and alcohol addiction problems, that "you don't need a pill. You need to get on your knees and repent your wicked ways."

A 1938 graduate of the University of Alberta, Dr. Seaman spent several years in Canada before going to Swaziland in southern Africa in 1945 to serve as a doctor at a Nazarene mission.

After 5 years, Dr. Seaman left Africa for Chicago, where he spent 18 years in private practice before returning to his native Kansas.

"He sits down and talks to these people about their personal problems," said Diana Johnson, supervisor at one of the nursing homes where Dr. Seaman regularly made visits. She added that it was not uncommon for Dr. Seaman to pray with his patients.

Dr. Seaman and wife, Nell, attend the College Church of the Nazarene in Olathe, Kans. They have three grown children: John, who with wife Linda serves as Nazarene missionary to Martinique; Connie (Mrs. Paul) Cunningham of Olathe; and Mrs. Betty Miedema of Illinois.

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