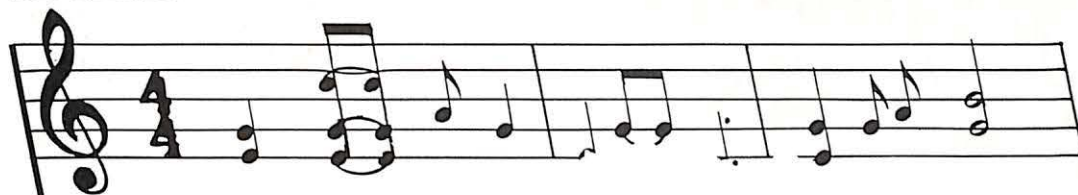


Baptist Herald

October 1986

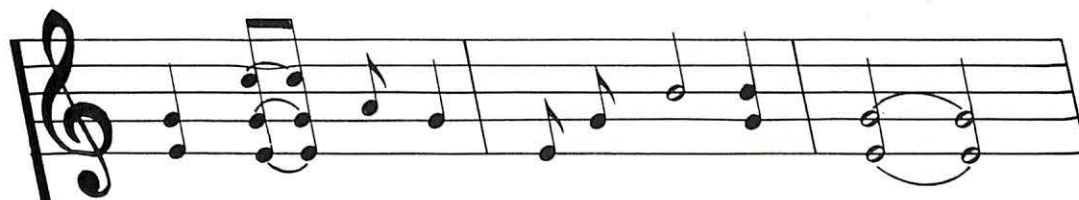
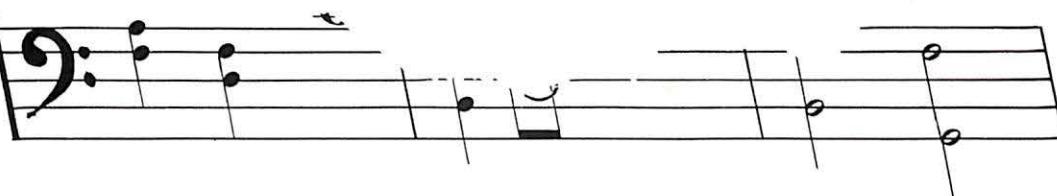
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Music by [unreadable]



Shout Joyfully

TO • THE • LORD



Shout Joyfully

TO • THE • LORD

Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before Him with joyful singing... Give thanks to Him; bless His name. For the Lord is good; His loving kindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations.

(Psalm 100: 1-2, 4b-5)

Celebration Of GRATITUDE OFFERING

Shouting is not something we tend to do as adults. But Psalm 100 encourages us to praise God with . . . public acclamation . . . sincere service . . . and joyful song.

Psalm 100 also encourages us to praise God by thanking Him for His lovingkindness and faithfulness.

The Celebration of Gratitude Offering is an opportunity for you, today, to offer your praise of thanksgiving to God and to share your blessings with others.

Your gift to the Celebration of Gratitude Offering will help others to hear of God's mercy and the message of salvation in Jesus Christ.

A gift of \$250, \$100, \$50 or whatever amount you can give will help start new churches at home and overseas . . . heal the sick through hospitals and medical clinics . . . and train future pastors and lay leaders through the mission and ministry outreach of the North American Baptist Conference.

Search your heart and remember the Lords' loving-kindness and faithfulness to you this past year, and let your thank offering be a blessing to others.

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE



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The Path of Prayer

by Jim Walton

Prayer is one of those mysteries of life which stretches us between the divine and the mundane. Somehow in prayer, Jesus' words of power—"I will do whatever you ask in my name" (John 14:13 NIV)—meet our words of petition, leaving us in union with Jesus, spanning the gulf between heaven and earth.

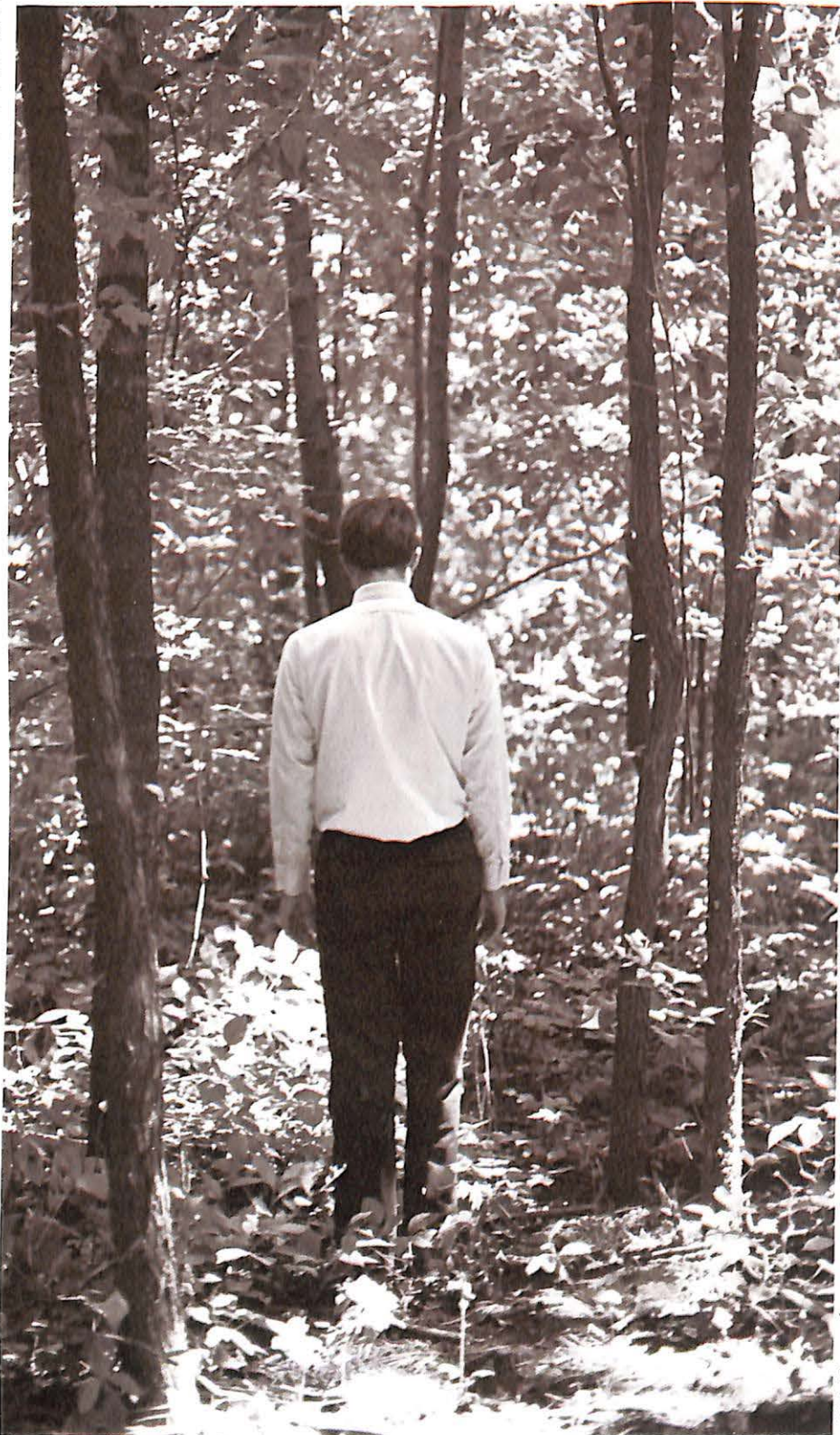
Our hearts are lifted when we see Jesus' vision become reality before our eyes: The hungry are fed; the sick healed; and the imprisoned freed. We praise Him for His power beyond our belief and His giving above and beyond all that we ask or think.

Our minds wallow in befuddlement when requests drag on, seemingly without answer: Beloved ones passing away, innocent children stricken with terrible diseases, or evangelistic attempts unsuccessful. We wonder why the heavens seem so silent when the times seem so desperate.

An analogy may help. Picture yourself at the edge of an immense jungle, deep and mysterious. Your sole object in being there is to reach a specific point at the far side. Some rules, however, govern your journey. First of all, to travel a road of your own choosing will not do. Indeed, you are not to follow a road at all, but a person; he will provide the only directions you will have or need. Never do you get to see the one you are tracking; however, you must traverse this jungle by cutting out his trail as one hunts an animal. Otherwise, you will not know which way to go.

In ways, this makes the journey more difficult, for you must pay careful attention to everything you see. On the other hand, this makes the trip far easier than it could otherwise be, for your guide has promised that the trail will always be marked.

Plunging into the jungle, you quickly discover yourself to be a novice at the task of following. Difficult problems arise swiftly; distractions from your course nag continual-



Phil Hampel

ly. Fatigue haunts you. You find that most of the habits and practices of the one you are following do not make sense to you. Sometimes his tracks seem to go in two distinct directions at the same time. Shallow impressions of his practices, the rationale for his decisions, and his skew traveling patterns collide with your judgments.

As you persist in the pursuit, you begin to recognize tendencies and design. His ways become more familiar and almost predictable. And, projecting to the end of your journey, the longer you follow the less effort you will have to expend in actual tracking, for his style will become so internalized that you adopt it as your own: You will have become like him.

During the journey, many problems plague you. You may come to places in the jungle where other trails diverge, some of which show much travel. Severe storms and dense fog frequent the region. These and other hazards can cause you to wander from the way. Only diligent seeking, patience, and a knowledge of the prevalent patterns can prevent straying.

Relating the analogy to prayer, suppose that, even though you can never see the one whom you are following, you are allowed—even invited—to converse with him. What would you say to him? At the beginning of your journey, you would probably inquire about what you were doing and why. You might request that the path be made more clear. You might ask him for many explanations. Hopefully, there will be things for which you are thankful.

Eventually, as your understanding and experience increased, your conversations with him might turn more toward getting to know him better. You might discuss subjects of a more personal nature, as old friends who just enjoy each other's company, where sharing supersedes questioning, and quiet confidence replaces doubt.

This is prayer—natural, respectful, practical. As pilgrims journeying through a strange land, the necessity of constant communication with our

guide presses upon us: Pray without ceasing.

In Matthew 6, Jesus provides His model prayer, a beautiful, concise conversation with a personal companion. It is both respectful and comfortable. It is practical, even down to the provision of life's staples. The Lord's Prayer acknowledges God as the unfailing Guide on this path of life; it places one in total dependence on Him for all things. There exists a no more basic description of prayer.

The Apostle John says, "This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (1 John 5:14).

In the jungle analogy, the way in which we are led is the Will of God; we are to walk in it. Yet how can this be practical, since we are unable to see into the future? This is a jungle! Sometimes we stumble in the fog, or at night; we don't know where we are going or what we are doing. How can we pray according to His will?

Suddenly, we remember that we are allowed to talk to our guide. And his response is predictable: "Look close. There is a step there. Have patience, You need to search for it, but the way is marked. Look for where I have been." He promises it. "Ask, and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find." The better you know His patterns, the better you'll know where to look for His footprint.

Clearly, then, prayer concerns walking as Jesus walked. This is the context of Jesus' incredible teaching on the subject. If your prayers are an accurate estimation of your course, you will get an answer as Jesus promised. A request in contradiction to the way, or even slightly outside of it, will result only in silence from the Divine Guide, for in most cases these prayers have already been answered in the Guidebook, the Bible.

Our culture teaches us to look either outside of ourselves toward the spectacular, or inside of ourselves toward our feelings. These two forces draw us away from what the true nature of prayer is and lead

us to confusion about God and His answers to prayer. We ask the same question Thomas did in John 14: "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus aptly replies, "I am the Way. . . ." There is no path; we follow a person. The closer one stays to the one being tracked, the more truth there is in Jesus' repeated promise that if you ask for anything you will get it. The disciples cast out demons, healed the sick, and worked other miracles. As one walks with Him, one discovers Jesus' statements to be literally true.

In summary, one pawns one's free will to adopt God's will. Only by finding God's will and craving it solely can one receive whatever one desires, for what one covets is what God wants. Free will is not relinquished; instead it becomes what it was always intended to be. Just as one can only find one's life by losing it, so also free will is only free when it is dependent. Prayer, then, is asking and receiving, seeking and finding, knocking and opening. What delightful change from people's treatment of prayer.

Jesus also said, "And if you have the faith of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." This miniscule faith to which Jesus is referring is the simple confidence to continue to follow Him wherever He takes you. If you just exhibit enough belief to know that "this is the place to be," God will work with you, and you will find yourself, as Richard Foster says, "In the rhythm of the Spirit."

Thus, prayer is necessary, real, and vital. You should pray as often as you need or desire to communicate and commune. At the beginning of your journey, the need of prayer motivates; at the end, it is desire that impels. It is that uniting link with our unseen guide that makes the long journey even a possibility. It is communion with the Way, the Truth, and the Life. □

Jim Walton is the Assistant Pastor at Latta Road Baptist Church, Rochester, New York.

Music in Worship

by Cathy Adams

The worshipping of God is a vital part of a Christian's life. Through this, we can receive new strength for each day. Psalm 29:2 says, "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness."

Worship may also be defined as a communion with God. This may be expressed as individuals or in a corporate worship setting. One important aspect is the incorporation of music into worship.

Music has most generally been used in worship for centuries. Before Christ went to the Mount of Olives to suffer death on a Roman cross, He and his disciples sang a hymn. The last meal had been followed with the singing of a hymn as an expression to His followers for their love and unity.¹

Vocal praise is more specifically mentioned in *Colossians* and *Ephesians*. They each note the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs as forms of scriptural praises set to music. Each of these add color and rejuvenation to the spirit in worship.²

However, in early Christian worship, also, it was believed that music aroused the emotions and senses too much, and it could be dangerous. They agreed that it could bring people from paganism into the church, but also it could take people from the church into paganism.³ Music is widely used today as a part of the worship setting.

During the Reformation, music was used in a very powerful sense. Martin Luther was quoted as saying, "Next to theology, I give the first and highest honor to music." Every spiritual high point in church history was accompanied by song. "Singing is as close to worship as breathing is to life itself."⁴

Relating Music to Worship: Four Characteristics

There are four main characteristics that relate music to worship. Firstly,

there are elements of *mystery* which surround both. God is mysterious to people's minds in worship, and many sounds or chords in music sound mysterious to people in a worship setting.

Secondly, music and worship are intertwined with *emotions*. Music can be a personal and a universal language. One person may sing a hymn and acquire a specific meaning, and another person may receive a slightly different message.⁵ Generally, in hymn singing, the meaning will be quite common to one another.

Thirdly, music and worship have a common bond of *creativity*. Worship can be a creative experience between man and God. Music is related in this way to worship through the inspiration a composer gains from a glimpse from God. Finally, the two are connected through *communication*. Both, music and worship, express feelings and thoughts to God.⁶

Furthermore, along with the idea of expression, music also serves the impressionistic side of a worship service. The impression gained through reading and preaching is also exemplified through music. Hymns sung by the congregation can make the scriptures and sermons much more meaningful. Hymns also add a depth to the prayers in a church. This form is called expression. Examples of prayer hymns would be "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" and "Kum By Ya, My Lord." When the congregation sings these hymns, they must be in an attitude of prayer and petition.⁷

Using Music in Corporate Worship

Music as a part of a worship service may occur through the use of choirs, soloists, organ prelude and postlude, and congregational hymns (sometimes a liturgy, also). All may participate in congregational hymns.

Congregational music is the basic form of Protestant church music. Without hymns, the service would



seem to be lacking something. Hymns are usually kept simple, so that everyone will be able to participate. Once in a while, a new hymn will be introduced to increase the "repertoire" of the congregation.⁸

On an average, a church hymnal contains from three to six hundred hymns. A congregation usually only knows about one hundred. The minister should select about three hymns for the service. The first hymn should be spiritually objective and uplifting, familiar, and a hymn of praise. The second would be more reflective in the form of a prayer hymn. Finally, the third would occur after the sermon and would be a hymn that ties the key points of the sermon together. Its words and melody reflect the thought and mood from the message.⁹

Stumbling Blocks to Worshipping Through Music

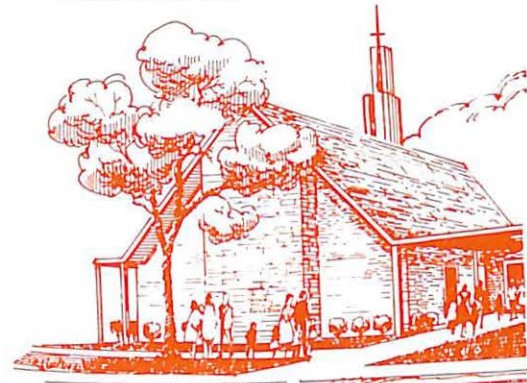
There are stumbling blocks that we need to be aware of in worshipping through music. Many times the congregational singing gains no attention from anyone. The minister may be too busy thinking about his sermon; the choir may be thinking of the next anthem; and the organist may be concentrating on playing the right notes. Also, sometimes the congregation is too busy thinking about dinner.

Some may sing only when they "feel like it" or sing without any concentration or purpose in mind. This does not happen with everyone, but I am afraid that a vast majority would fit into this category. The Bible states in *Colossians* 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with

all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."

Hymns have a place in the worship service and an influence second only to the Bible in the Protestant church. This is true because hymns are easily remembered and can be recalled from the memory easily. Many people obtain their concepts of theology and religion from hymns.¹⁰

Worshipping through music in the service is not fully attained until people realize the inspiration of the text. However, the tune or melody is also very important, for it intensifies and strengthens the mood of the text. If the hymn were just read, it would not be as effective.



Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before Him with joyful singing . . . Give thanks to Him; bless His name. For the Lord is good; His loving kindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations. (Psalm 100:1-2, 4b-5)

How can congregations become more aware of the importance of hymns and begin to really concentrate on the words they are singing? I believe it must begin on the individual level. If a person would read through the verses of one hymn before the worship service and grasp the meaning, it should make them want to praise God or reflect, or be in prayer as they sing it. Hymns are not just a filler of time during the service!

Also, some people may feel they do not have any musical abilities, and they would not want anyone to hear them. Therefore, they either do not sing or sing very softly so their neighbor does not hear them. God did not create a world full of accomplished musicians. He hears all of us, and we all sound beautiful to Him when we praise His name. We need to sing out His praises for the world to hear! *Psalms* 63:5 says, "My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods, with singing lips my mouth will praise you." The more that a person concentrates on singing for God's

glory, the melodies and singing will become easier.

Using Music in a Personal Worship Time

Using music as a part of *personal worship* can become a very refreshing and rewarding experience. Music can connect our world to God's and allows us to concentrate only on Him.

Psalms 174:1 states, "How good it is to sing praises to our God. How pleasant and fitting to praise Him." God is not concerned with how we respond but is concerned that we do

respond. In *Psalms* 100:1 the term "joyful noise" is used. The response to God would emphasize the word "joyful." Praise needs to come from a joyful heart.¹¹ The quality of the sound is not nearly as important as the state of the heart.

Music puts me in a more worshipful mood and allows my heart and thoughts to feel closer to God. Many times, a song will come to mind when I am in a certain situation or am troubled about something.

Ways to Praise God in Personal Worship Through Music

There are many ways to praise God through music during a personal worship time. They are

1) Listening to a tape or album. Closing your eyes and visualizing the words. You may want to sing along. Also, you may want to have a prayer time after each song to express to God the message you received from the text.

2) Playing an instrument. You may want to learn piano or guitar if you do not play one. Christian bookstores carry books for beginners.

3) Using a song for a prayer.

4) Choosing a topic and checking the topical index in the back of a hymnal on that subject.

5) Writing your own song.

6) Using motions to act out the song (kneeling, raising arms).

(Above illustrations from Kim Swanson, "Music Can Revitalize Your Personal Worship.")

Reading the story behind a hymn, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," written by St. Theodulph of Orleans, was thought to have been written while he was in prison at Angers around 820. It is said that when King Louis the Pious passed the prison and heard Theodulph singing this hymn, he set him free.¹² Reflecting on the words of a song, a person may choose a hymn such as "Were You There" and reflect about Jesus' dying on the cross and laying Him in the tomb. The mood of the music will put the heart and mind in the proper frame of mind for meditation.

I use many of these ideas. Playing favorite songs on the piano helps me meditate on God. Listening to records and tapes has been very meaningful for me as I am cleaning the house. It takes my mind off the work and lets me meditate on the words.

Music is a creative way to worship God in the church or at home. We can express our love to God through singing or just listening. □

Cathy Adams is a student at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

FOOTNOTES

¹David P. Appleby, *History of Church Music*. Moody Press, Chicago 1965.

²Appleby.

³William C. Rice, *A Concise History of Church Music*. Abingdon Press, New York - Nashville, 1984.

⁴Austin C. Lovelace, William C. Rice, *Music and Worship in the Church*. Abingdon Press, New York - Nashville, 1960, pp. 15-19.

⁵Lovelace, Rice, pp. 15-19.

⁶Lovelace, Rice, pp. 15-19.

⁷Linda Clark, "Ministry and the Arts: Music in the Community of Faith," *Nexus*, 1982, pp. 13-16.

⁸Joseph N. Ashton, *Music in Worship*. The Pilgrim Press, Boston - Chicago, 1943, p. 92.

⁹Ashton, p. 98.

¹⁰Ashton, p. 107.

¹¹Kim Swanson, "Music Can Revitalize Your Personal Worship Partnership," Jan.-Feb., pp. 43-46.

¹²Richard Andersen, Donald L. Dettner, *For Example*. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO, 1977, p. 169.

¹³Swanson, p. 44.

A Mother's Joy at a Baptism in Cameroon

by Mary June Burgess

Mother's Day 1986 was a memorable day in my life as a missionary wife in Cameroon. No, there was no special breakfast in bed (our cook doesn't work on Sunday—I had to get up!) or going out to dinner (the local restaurant has a limited menu of rice or fufu with soup) or even a surprising floral bouquet delivered by the neighborhood florist. But for me, personally, and the Burgess family, in particular, it was a special day.

May 11 was not celebrated as Mother's Day in Cameroon, but at the Cameroon Baptist Convention here in Ndu, of which we are members, it was Baptism Day. Among the 25 young people and adults who were baptized, two were our own children—Mark, 13, and Joynel, 11. What greater joy could a mother have than to be part of a public witness to their earlier decision to follow Jesus Christ!

The day began with a light mist; we had been having quite a bit of rain. We prayed that rain would not spoil the day. Mark, Joy, and Philip had come up to Ndu on Saturday with their "parents" at Bamenda, Pat and Oryn Meinerts, with whom they stay while attending school there. Nancy Grover, their teacher, also joined the party making the 90 mile trip to Ndu.

A very brief service with several songs, prayer, and comments, was held first at the school chapel. Then the entire congregation marched the quarter mile distance from the church to the baptismal site. The procession was led by the pastors, candidates, and choirs, followed by the general congregation. The "baptistry" was a 4 by 12 foot overflow catchment that had to be cleaned out earlier in the week. Even that morning, a few more weeds had to be removed.

The service began with scripture reading and a message by Rev. Charles Tangwa, one of our degree

students. The sight reminded us of the many scenes in the New Testament of Christ preaching to the multitudes on the hillside. The colorful uniforms of Joseph Merrick Baptist College students, the various prints on the native cloth worn by the women, plus the solid blacks and blues of some of the men's suits made an attractive picture. The preacher stressed the significance of baptism as obedience to the Lord's command.

The candidates entered the water in groups of two. Rev. Ilaja Jam, our church pastor, and Dave baptized them two at a time. As soon as each candidate came up out of the water, the choir burst into songs of praise to God and encouragement to the Christians, some in English and some in the vernacular, and all accompanied by drums and local instruments. Church deacons, deaconesses, and parents helped the newly baptized ones up to their individual "changing rooms," one for boys and one for girls. These were hastily built shelters of sticks and grasses, just enough to give some privacy in the bush. Pat and Oryn led their "Bamenda children" to their respective places.

When all was done at the baptismal site, everyone returned to the church, many singing and dancing and rejoicing in this great occasion. A regular worship service followed and then a Lord's Supper service, uniting us all together in fellowship and oneness. Several pictures were taken, and finally the en-

tire congregation participated in a fellowship meal on the church lawn with the individual families providing local dishes and soda pop. Just as the meal was finishing, the rain began, so we quickly gathered things up and scrambled back into the chapel to "wait it out."

After the rain eased up, the entire congregation danced and walked to the home of each of the newly baptized Christians to pray for them and encourage them by their support. Since several of the new members were from our school and Joseph Merrick Baptist College compounds, the congregation did not have to travel so far. They finished the visits around 6:30 p.m.

It was a day of joy. Many commented about their happiness in seeing a missionary participate in baptizing Cameroonians and in witnessing the baptism of two white children in their muddy waters. Truly, "In Christ there is no East or West, no South or North, but one great fellowship of love." For this, we praise Him who has given us the privilege of serving Him here in Cameroon, West Africa.

Mrs. Mary June Burgess and her husband David serve as missionaries at Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary in Ndu, Cameroon, West Africa.



The candidates entered the water in groups of two. Rev. Ilaja Jam, the church pastor, and Missionary David Burgess baptized them two at a time, with the choir bursting into songs of praise. Mark and Joynel Burgess are being baptized.



Let God Be God

by Harold Schroeder

The smell of rotting flesh was the first thing I noticed as we entered the hospital room. A flood of memories filled my mind. It was the same room where six months earlier our daughter Charis—then only eleven months old—had been treated for a severe case of malaria. Those had been agonizing days and sleepless nights. There were times when I thought her feverish, dehydrated body would not recover.

Coming to Cameroon and having to adjust to a different life-style and climate was difficult. But as if that had not been enough to bear, five months into our three-year term, we had the added pressure of seeing our little daughter in pain in a hospital bed. But God heard our prayers back then, and he heard the prayers of those who knew of her condition. Soon she recovered and was as playful as before.

Now, half a year later, I was returning to the same government hospital, to the same room, but for an altogether different visit. As Joseph, Peter, and I entered the room with six beds, we made our way to the patient in the far corner. As we approached the bed, the smell became so unbearable that at one point I had to turn away to catch my breath. Seated around her bed in solemn quietness were two village women, her father, and her husband. And there she lay—a mother in her early thirties, obviously in great pain and close to death. Her body had withered away so that her cheekbones protruded. She had no smile to offer. Her arms and fingers seemed much too long and slender and betrayed that she was grossly undernourished. She had been put "on drip" (intravenous feeding) because she was unable to digest whole food.

In my mind's eye, I could picture her as once having been an attractive young woman with a full life ahead of her. But now, it was obvious that she was dying. Flies, attracted by the

smell, were everywhere on her body, especially around the abdominal area. As we drew close to her bed, her father rose to his feet and, before greeting us, took a small hand towel and swept away the flies. It didn't help. They just came back again to irritate her and create an annoyance to those who looked on. It was a pitiful scene, and one that I will not easily forget.

The manner in which I was led to this bedside was just as mysterious as the circumstances surrounding this young woman's sickness. Peter was a young man of 18 years of age, a student at our Baptist Boys Secondary School in Great Soppo. One night, he had a dream that greatly troubled him. In his dream, he saw his mother in the hospital, about to give birth. When she gave birth, it was to a set of twin girls. However, there were complications in the delivery so that the first child was born naturally, but the second was born by Caesarean section.

In the morning when Peter awoke from his sleep, he immediately headed for the hospital where his mother was employed as a night-shift nurse. (Later, I was to remember that she had in fact been the nurse who attended Charis in the hospital when she was down with malaria.) The reason for his haste to see her was because she was in fact pregnant.

When he arrived, he found that his mother had been admitted as a patient and had indeed given birth that very night! However, it was only one baby girl, not two, and she was born without any complications. When Peter told his mother of the dream, which had brought him to her in such haste, she went on to explain that recently there had in fact been a

woman in the hospital who had given birth to twins. And it was just as Peter had dreamt it—two girls, the first one born naturally, the second one born by Caesarean section. She was still being treated for complications during delivery.

Peter decided then and there he would visit this young mother. What he didn't know as he went to see her was that because of the complications experienced during the delivery, her own body was not mending. In fact, she had been there a whole month by the time he first visited her, and the open wound simply refused to heal itself. In the meantime, the second child had died. After praying with her and talking to her about Jesus Christ, Peter promised to come back and to bring two friends with him who would also pray with her.

When Peter first related his story of the dream to me and asked Joseph, a teacher at Baptist Boys Secondary School, and me to accompany him to the hospital, I was admittedly skeptical about the whole thing. Both Joseph and Peter were convinced that the dream had been God's way of directing us to go to her and pray with her. But privately, I was reciting Hebrews 1:1 and 2 to myself: "Long ago God spoke in many different ways to our fathers through the prophets in visions, dreams, and even face to face, telling them little by little about his plans. But now in these days he has spoken to us through his Son to whom he has given everything . . ." (Living Bible).

"God doesn't make his will known through dreams any more," I thought to myself. "In former times, yes, but today? No."

Even though I was skeptical about the dream being God's way of leading

I began to realize that there are certain mysteries of life that must be left with God. We may not always comprehend what He is doing—or even agree with His ways—but even so, His ways are best.



us to this woman, I knew that here was an opportunity to minister to someone in need in the name of Jesus Christ. I had committed my life to that very purpose and now was being given an invitation to do just that. And so we went, Joseph, Peter and I.

As we approached her bedside and were greeted by her family and friends, Joseph began to talk with her in Pidgin English. He related the story of the woman who for 12 years had suffered with a flow of blood, and who had sought out the help of many physicians, but to no avail. Finally, she met Jesus and reached out to him in faith. As she touched the fringe of his garment, she was healed. Joseph encouraged the woman who lay dying before us to place her faith and trust in Jesus Christ, to reach out to him who can heal both body and soul. After a few moments of silence in which we encouraged her to confess her sins and bring all her burdens to the feet of Jesus, we placed our hands on her and prayed with her. After giving encouragement to the family and saying our good-byes, we left. That was Tuesday evening.

On Friday morning, Joseph and I returned to the hospital. To our great delight we found that the young mother's condition had improved. The smell of rotting flesh was still there, but we were surprised when she managed to sit up in bed and greet us with a smile from ear to ear. She had begun to take in solid food and no longer required the intravenous feeding. She told us that the night following our visit with her was one of the first in which she had experienced no pain and had slept peacefully.

When we left her that morning, we had a song in our hearts and the renewed assurance that God hears

prayers and, if only we take hold of such opportunities as these, He proves His power and might and brings glory to His name. Then, two days later, she died. She was quietly buried on Sunday afternoon in a small village near her home.

Naturally it came as quite a blow to all of us, but especially to young Peter. In my own mind, I asked God a flood of questions: "Was Peter's dream merely a coincidence or Your means of leading us to her? Would not her full recovery have proved to be a greater testimony to Your power and greatness? There were many people looking on that day as we prayed with her. What will they say now? What will they think?" And on it went.

There were even times when I felt cheated of God because my own reputation as a missionary was at stake. For days, I was troubled about the events surrounding this young mother's death.

Gradually, however, I began to realize that there are certain mysteries of life that must be left with God. We may not always comprehend what He is doing—or even agree with His ways—but even so, His ways are best. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah God said, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (RSV).

So what was God's way in the life of this young mother? In this lifetime, we will never know for certain. But the more I think of it, the more I am convinced that by God's mercy her soul was saved that day when we prayed with her. And then, when she had settled her account with God, He took her to be with Himself. God had

indeed answered our prayers! She experienced the greatest healing a person can receive.

Shortly after the death of this young mother, I came across her father. Curious to know what his reaction was to the events which had transpired, I asked him, "Are you bitter with God over the death of your daughter?"

His response was negative. He went on to share how he learned of the great love and concern which his son-in-law had for his daughter, a truth he had not known before. And then, as if to reassure myself that he really was not bitter, I remarked, "When we come to God in our prayers, we cannot come telling Him what He must do. We come in an attitude of faith and assurance, trusting Him to respond to our prayers in ways which He sees are best. If we do otherwise, then He is not God. We must let God be God." As I spoke those last words, and we said our good-byes and parted, my own heart found a peace in the very counsel which I had sought to give to another. □

The Rev. Harold Schroeder recently returned from Cameroon where he has just finished his first term of service as a missionary and is now on furlough.

The Choice is Ours

by LaVern Bjorklund

The nursery in the Village Green Church was pulsating with life. I marveled at the dynamics of God's workmanship. A contented baby greeted me with a smile, waving his arms and wiggling his legs. Some of the 400 muscles in his tiny frame were responding to messages from neurons in his sophisticated communication system. Soon his finger grasped mine, calling into motion many of the 70 muscles that contribute to hand movements. Nearby, a newborn was enjoying his bottle.

The miracle of living follows the miracle of birth as the amazing unity and harmony of the body promotes growth according to a divine plan. We were made for a special purpose, and the Creator built into our bodies the potential to fulfill that purpose. Developing that potential is our responsibility. The result is "Wellness."

All human beings have basic needs. Babies may sleep 18 hours a day. Adults need far less sleep, but rest and renewal are essential. Adequate rest helps to create a positive attitude. This outlook on life supports development. And no growth can take place without stress, as it triggers action. Certain nutrients are necessary to sustain life. Our food must supply them. Finally, the body must be used. Exercise is essential.

God Appointed Us Stewards of Our Bodies

God built these needs into our bodies. The response is ours. He gave us freedom of choice and appointed us stewards of our bodies. Freedom implies responsibility and accountability. Responsible stewardship involves supplying body needs for optimal development that we might fulfill God's purpose for us, to glorify Him.

In Romans 12:1, we see the relationship between stewardship and our purpose in life: "I urge you to present your bodies a living sacrifice, wholly acceptable to God which is

your spiritual service of worship." That sacrifice of worship is "body-living."

Our bodies live as we move and function. It is in our daily doing that we are to flesh out our living sacrifice. This elevates all we do from the secular to the sacred, transforming the office, kitchen, or laundry into a chapel. We glorify God by giving back to Him in sacrificial living the life He gave us. The effectiveness of our sacrificial living is influenced by the level of body functioning, the level of Wellness. By raising that level we can glorify God more effectively.

Responsible stewardship calls for a serious commitment to a Wellness way of life. We can choose not to allow culture to squeeze us into the instant and fast food rage, the daily sweets, the coffee or coke break, or a workaholic and sedentary life-style. Instead we can choose health-promoting behavior.

We can choose to plan our days to include adequate rest and renewal. A good night's sleep allows us to feel refreshed, alert and in a good mood the next day. The number of hours of sleep needed varies with individuals. We also experience renewal through self-expression. It may be in art, music, culinary skills, or hospitality. A concert, book, walk, or beautiful scene also brings renewal.

Our Attitude Shapes Our Health

Next, our attitude, which shapes our world, also shapes our health. We choose our attitude, for we fashion the grid through which we view life. How can we be positive in today's world? In a personal relationship with a loving God who controls the world, we can have His attitude.

That attitude is beautifully demonstrated in the life of Paul. He continued to rejoice in spite of rejection, imprisonment, or torture. He instructs us to rejoice always and gives thanks in everything.

We can choose to meet the inevitable heavy demands of life positively. Dr. Hans Delye, a researcher of stress, states that attitude determines whether we perceive these demands as pleasant or unpleasant. A pleasant perception can convert negative stress into a positive one. The result is not distress but what he terms "eustress" or good stress. The harmful effects are replaced by fulfilling achievement.

The Kind and Amount of Food Determines Wellness Level

Food, essential for life, is one of the good things God has given us to enjoy; however, the kind and amount of food determine whether it will raise our Wellness level or lower it. A 1981 report in the Cancer Institute Journal states that one-third of all cancers are preventable by dietary change. Well-established facts indicate that fat in the blood is the primary risk factor for heart disease and high sugar intake upsets the blood sugar level and can exhaust the pancreas. We can change a diet that is governed by taste, habit, and convenience to one that provides the needed nutrients.

We must consider what the billions of body cells need to function normally. Starches, the complex carbohydrates, once thought to merely add fat, are the best and most direct source of energy and are low in calories. One-half cup of brown rice has 116 calories and a medium sized potato only 100. Foods such as whole wheat bread, cooked oatmeal, barley soup and all other unrefined grain and seed products are excellent car-

bohydrate and fiber sources. Today's market offers a wide variety of beans, which are also rich in protein. Green and yellow vegetables have less starch but provide an excellent source of vitamins and minerals. Vitamins are helpers that make possible the digestion, absorption, and utilization of food. Each mineral has a specific role in body functioning.

Fruit is another source of vitamins and minerals. They also add fiber, fructose, and water to our diet. The wide and delicious selection of fruits available make them a nutritious dessert option to replace sweets with empty calories. The benefits of eating carbohydrates are numerous. Nutritionists recommend that carbohydrates make up 60 percent of our diet.

Protein is essential. Life cannot go on without it. However, it ought to make up only 15-20 percent of our food. A protein diet of juicy steaks, stuffed pork chops and one-half-pound hamburgers is not in line with health. Fish, chicken, and beans are better sources of protein.

Most Americans get 40-45 percent of their calories in fat, twice the recommended amount. We can alter our menus that are high in animal fat products by substituting more pasta and green salads.

Our taste will change as our eating habits improve. Nutritious diets satisfy and are enjoyable. This combination promotes Wellness.

We Need Exercise

Finally, the body needs exercise. We must use the body or lose it. Babies develop as they wiggle and squirm. Developed bodies also need exercise to function well. Exercise is the best stress reducer and anti-aging drug. It causes bone cell growth

reducing the risk of fractures. It helps regulate body weight and can reduce the blood fat level.

An aerobics program of walking, jogging, cycling, or swimming increases the amount of oxygen the lungs process, increases blood volume, and activates dormant capillaries in the extremities. It strengthens the heart so it can pump more blood per beat, lowering the pulse rate. An exercise program that develops the strength, flexibility, and endurance of the skeletal muscles results in better support for the body, less fatigue, fewer injuries, and better protection for the back. All these benefits can be experienced if one participates in two types of exercise programs three times a week. The decision is ours.

We can choose a life-style that deals adequately with these needs and demonstrates worthy stewardship of the body. This life-style will not only increase the effectiveness of our sacrificial living but show respect for God's Temple. The body is made by God, is for God, and is indwelt by Him.

We build no great Cathedrals
That centuries applaud but
With grace exquisite our lives
Cathedral God. □



Phil Hampel

We were made for a special purpose, and the Creator built into our bodies the potential to fulfill that purpose.

Is Church Extension Contagious?

by Anita Hale

How were Ken and I to know that after five visits from Pastor Bob Walther that we would visit North Carrollton Baptist Church and become a major part of its ministry and leadership in Carrollton, Texas? My husband Ken and I had been married two years, this was in 1980, and had visited several churches in the area. We had felt uncomfortable or ignored at those churches.

My first visit to a North Carrollton Baptist Church service was motivated when Pastor Bob asked me to sing at the next morning worship service. I thought he really took a chance since he had never heard me sing. I sang, and I found it to be the friendliest church I had ever visited. Ken had to work that Sunday, so he couldn't attend. There weren't but about 20-25 people there, but I felt so welcome and like a part of the people who were there.

At the time, the Church was meeting in an elementary school cafeteria and used several classrooms for Sunday School, nursery, and children's church. It wasn't too long until Ken and I were involved in Sunday School and Wednesday Night Bible Studies.

Some of the special memories that stand out in my mind during our first year with North Carrollton Baptist are a big ice cream party at Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour; a church picnic at the lake; the baptism at our sister church, North Highlands in Dallas, and Ken being one of the candidates for baptism (what a thrilling moment!).

I remember our first Association meeting at Kyle, Texas, and meeting all of our Association brothers and sisters. I remember meeting Jim Frey who was in estate planning for the Conference, and Dr. Roy Seibel, a retired Seminary professor concerned



about church growth, as well as Rev. Milton Zeeb, area minister, at various meetings. I remember how enthusiastic they were about our little extension church.

What a thrill we felt when our next door neighbors, the Mike Morlinos, visited and become an integral part of our growing Church. I remember volunteering for some of the typing which led to a part-time commitment to help with the church typing. (I am a full-time legal secretary.) Ken helped with usher duties, and we both helped with the Wednesday night children's program.

As we studied God's Word and grew spiritually, our congregation began to expand. We began to talk about a badly needed church building. The space in the elementary school was becoming cramped. Our faith in God's ability to provide for us was going to be tested time and time again as we initiated our building program. God blessed us with an attorney, Clarence Bentley, who benevolently contributed his wisdom and guidance to all aspects of the

building project. God also blessed our congregation with untiring, committed and talented church leaders who would begin the slow process of meeting every Friday night for the next year at the Bill Nabors' home to plan, organize, and carry out building a church building. These men had to obtain surveys and city ordinance approvals, attend city council meetings, choose the architect, review again and again the plans, choose the building contractor, get the foundation poured not once but twice, face possible loss of everything because of the building contractor's bad business ethics, choose another building contractor, get building materials ordered, repair vandalism, and then see a church building begin to take a beautiful shape as God's house of worship.

As the church building progress continued, the people continued to reach out to the community through visitation, weekly Bible studies, picnics, children's and youth activities, and as a result, many people were introduced to Jesus as their Saviour and

Lord and were disciplined in a spirit-filled life. Many new friends were made, and lots of prayers were answered in people's lives.

One activity that really made a difference in my life was finding out my spiritual gifts. Since that time, I, along with many others, have tried to develop those gifts and serve the Lord through our gifts. It never ceases to amaze me how richly blessed I am when I willingly serve the Lord with my time, money, and prayer.

It all seems like a dream now, but in 1983, Ken and I began looking for a home to buy. We had been renting in Carrollton. Something kept making us go back to look at the homes in Flower Mound. Then we made the big decision and purchased our home in Flower Mound.

A couple of weeks after we got settled in, Bob Walther and Milton Zeeb visited us and asked us to consider and pray about our committing to be a pilot family for a new church extension project in Flower Mound. God

had jobs waiting for us in church extension again.

Flower Mound Baptist Church celebrated its one-year anniversary in March 1986 and is averaging about 50-60 in Sunday morning worship at the YMCA and about 20-30 in Wednesday Night Bible Studies meeting in people's homes. Pastor Doug Harsch, the North American Baptist Conference Church Growth Department, the Association Church Extension Committee, and the Church Building and Land Committee are fervently trying to decide between several choice pieces of land to purchase for a building site. And, much to our excitement, Dan and Geri Heringer have moved to Coppell (another suburb of Dallas/Fort Worth) to start a church extension project. We think church extension is very contagious!

Ken and I are proud to have been a part of the North Carrollton project and a part of the Flower Mound Church extension project of

the North American Baptist Conference. When we were married in 1978, we never dreamed that God had such an exciting future planned for us. We thank all of you for your prayers and financial support and especially the North American Baptist Conference for taking the step in faith to start several church extension projects in the Southern Association. God will provide the increase if we will give our time willingly to do His work.

Mrs. Anita Hale of Flower Mound, Texas, is an active member of the church extension project in Flower Mound and is a legal secretary. She was involved in the North Carrollton Baptist Church in Carrollton, Texas, a church extension project, before helping to start the Flower Mound church. Anita has been secretary of the Southern Association also for several years.



In July, Area Minister Milton Zeeb welcomed Flower Mound Baptist Church into the Southern Association.



"New Day" is a team of 15 young people committed to evangelism and church growth. This team, sponsored by the North American Baptist Conference, helps churches through a variety of ministries, including music, drama, and discipleship. The purpose of "New Day" is to act as a catalyst in

the churches to reach people for Christ and to help them grow in their relationship with Him and others. Our goal is to motivate individuals to accept their responsibility to be witnesses to those in their community.

"New Day" assists in the exciting process of renewal and recommitment of sharing Christ and spiritual growth that is already happening within the churches of our Conference.

Members of "New Day" will serve for nine months—October through May, and minister to more than 34 churches in western Canada and the United States during the 1986-87 tour year. The crusades vary from one to six days.

"New Day" offers many ministries through the church including full evening programs, Sunday school classes, men's and women's groups, club programs, youth groups and retreats, and nursing home, service clubs, and school ministries.

As I introduce this year's "New Day" team, it is with the hope that you will pray for the team as they minister throughout our Conference. Their ministry can only be as effective as you are faithful in praying for them.



LOREN KOPF

New Director of Youth and "New Day" for the North American Baptist Conference
Youth Pastor in Medicine Hat, Alberta, since 1979

Graduated with a Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree from North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Enjoys traveling, reading, photography, and letter writing

Member of Ridgewood Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin



ILENE BAYER

Assistant Director of Music for "New Day"

Served last year on the "New Day" music section

Member of Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia

Has a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology degree from Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

Has spent the summer working as a camp counselor

Enjoys reading, classical music, and participating in many sports

Sings soprano and plays guitar

Ilene returns to "New Day" with a wealth of musical knowledge and experience

Birthdate: September 27



MARY K. WRIGHT

Assistant Director of Drama for "New Day"

Served last year on the "New Day" discipling section

Member of Grace Baptist Church, Grand Forks, North Dakota

Graduated with Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre degree from the

University of North Dakota with an emphasis in acting

Spent the summer working with the youth of Grace Baptist in the area of drama

Has been involved in many stage productions, including nine musicals

Sings soprano
Birthdate: October 5

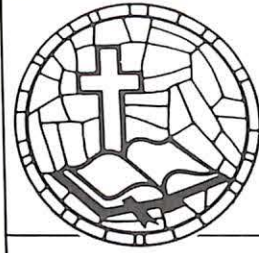


CORRINE AHRENS

Member of Grace Baptist Church, Monte Vista, Colorado

Graduated as a Registered Nurse from Hesston College, Hesston, Kansas

Has been involved as a Sunday school



Botschaft und Nachrichten

3 Jahrgang, Nummer 8

Oktober 1986

KOMMT, LASST UNS ANBETEN

von Heinz D. Rossol

"Kommt herzu, lasst uns dem Herrn frohlocken und jauchzen dem Hort unseres Heils! Lasset uns mit Danken vor sein Angesicht kommen und mit Psalmen ihm jauchzen!" (Psalm 95,1-2). Diese Worte duerfen wir nicht ueberhoeren, denn sie rufen uns nicht nur zum Lob und Danksagen zusammen, sondern weisen uns auch darauf hin, wie wir Gott "im Geist und in der Wahrheit" anbeten koennen.

Wahre Anbetung faengt an, wenn wir erkennen, dass Gott allein Ehre gebuehrt. Der Psalmist weist darauf hin, dass alle Kreatur ihm untersteht, und dass die ganze Schoepfung ihm untertan ist, denn er allein ist Gott. "Denn der Herr ist ein grosser Gott und ein grosser Koenig ueber alle Goetter. Denn in seiner Hand ist, was unten in der Erde ist; und die Hoehen der Berge sind auch sein. Denn sein ist das Meer, und er hat's gemacht; und seine Haende haben das Trockene bereitet. Kommt, lasst uns anbeten und knieen und niederfallen vor dem Herrn, der uns gemacht hat" (Psalm 95,3-6). Wenn wir seine grosse Macht als Schoepfer und Herr des Universums erkennen, dann bleibt uns nichts uebrig, als dass wir vor ihm in Ehrfurcht und Anbetung niederfallen.

Er hat uns geschaffen

Er hat auch uns geschaffen und wir sind deshalb voellig auf ihn angewiesen. Er gibt uns Atem und Leben. Er schenkt uns Kraft fuer jeden Tag. Unser taeglich Brot

nehmen wir aus seiner Hand, und er giesst seinen Segen ueber uns aus. Deshalb sollte sein Lob auf unseren

Wahre Anbetung ist ein Ausdruck unserer Liebe Gott gegenueber fuer alles, was er ist, und was er an uns und in uns getan hat.

Lippen sein und wir sollten mit Danksagung vor seinen Thron treten.

Er hat uns erloest

Aber das ist alles nur der Anfang; denn Gott allein gebuehrt Ehre nicht nur, weil er uns geschaffen hat, sondern auch weil er uns erloest hat. "Denn er ist unser Gott und wir das Volk seiner Weide und Schafe seiner Hand" (Psalm 95,7). Durch das Opfer Jesu am Kreuz ist er fuer uns jetzt nicht nur Gott, sondern er ist unser Gott, unser Vater, unser Herr, und wir sind Sein Volk. Er hat uns durch des Lammes Blut von der Knechtschaft Satans erkauf und wir gehoeren ihm. Wir sind seine Kinder. Uns ist Vergebung zuteil geworden, und wir haben das ewige Leben erhalten. Seine Gnade und Staerke steht uns taeglich zur Veruegung, und sein Geist fuehrt und leitet uns allerwegs.

Gibt es einen besseren Grund, ihn zu loben? Koennen wir eine groessere Ursache finden, mit Dank vor seinen Thron zu treten und in Anbetung vor ihm niederzufallen?

Wir beten an durch Lob und Tat

In all unserem Loben, Danken, und Anbeten duerfen wir aber eins nicht vergessen. Das, was wir mit Worten und im Gesang ausdruecken, muss sich in der Tat, im Gehorsam Gott gegenueber, sichtbar machen. Der Psalmist weist deutlich darauf hin, wenn er sagt, "Heute, so ihr seine Stimme hoert, so verstockt euer Herz nicht" (Psalm 95,7b-8a). Wahre Anbetung faengt wohl mit Lobgesang an, aber sie findet ihre Vollendung nur im taeglichen Leben, in der Tat.

Wahre Anbetung ist ein Ausdruck unserer Liebe Gott gegenueber fuer alles, was er ist, und was er an uns und in uns getan hat. Solch eine Liebe muss sich aber im taeglichen Leben beweisen, und es gibt keinen besseren Beweiss, als dass wir sein Wort hoeren und ihm folgen. Wenn wir nicht danach streben, seinen Willen in unserem Leben zu tun, dann ist unser Lob leer und unser Dank Heuchelei. Dann koennen wir Gott nicht in "Geist und Wahrheit" anbeten.

Gott allein gebuehrt die Ehre, denn er ist unser Schoepfer und Herr, er hat uns durch des Lammes Blut erkauf, und er lebt in uns durch seinen Geist. Wie beten wir ihn an? Nur mit unseren Worten und Gesang, oder mit unserem ganzen Leben, indem wir durch den Glauben und in Liebe seinen Willen suchen und ihm folgen?

Dr. Heinz D. Rossol ist Pastor der Immanuel Baptist Church, Woodside, New York

Aus Mission und Gemeinschaft

Gott beweist sich in Torres, Brasilien

„Im Winter geht alles in Torres in den Winterschlaf,“ schreiben Ken und Jerilyn Bayer aus Brasilien, wo die Jahreszeiten entgegengesetzt den unseren sind. „Um diese Zeit sehen wir weniger Leute in der Kirche. Als wir uns in dieser Lage sahen, betete ich darum, dass Gott im Leben dieser Menschen wirken moege, trotz ihres Mangels an Interesse. In den letzten Wochen hatten wir nun auch jede Woche neue Gesichter in den Gottesdiensten; manche suchten Hilfe und Beratung, andere kamen, weil sie von Freunden eingeladen wurden. Gott hat uns wieder bewiesen, dass fuer ihn nichts zu schwer ist.“

‘Shorttermer’ beendet gesegnete Arbeit

‘Shorttermer’ (kurzfristige Missionarin) Marlene Ginter berichtet: „Es war mein letzter Sonntag, und ich war aufgefodert worden, etwas zu sagen.“

„Waehrend ich die bekannten Gesichter in unserer Versammlung ueberblickte, erfuelle mich besonderer Dank Gott gegenueber. Unser Gotteshaus war zum Bersten voll! Und vier Familien, denen ich in den vergangenen zwei Jahren besonders viel Zeit gewidmet hatte, waren zum Gottesdienst gekommen! Ich war uebergluendlich, sie zu sehen. Betet mit mir darum, dass diese Familien weiterhin die Gottesdienste besuchen und Jesus Christus im Glauben annehmen moechten.“

Hausbibelstunden in Rio Do Sul, Brasilien

„Als wir uns der Stadt Rio Do Sul im Staat Santa Catarina naeherten, konnte man sich schwer vorstellen, dass sie in den vergangenen zwei Jahren zeitweise ueberschwemmt war,“ schreiben Martha und Ralph Nelson von Brasilien. „Aber waehr-

end der zehn Tage, die wir dort in Team Evangelisation verbrachten, konnten wir noch viel von der Katastrophe in den Familien, die wir besuchten, sehen.“

„Jeden Morgen, nachdem wir unsere Andachten und Gebetsgemeinschaft gehalten hatten, teilten wir uns in Gruppen auf und machten Hausbesuche, bei denen wir ganz kurz die Frohe Botschaft brachten und Hausbibelstunden anboten. Ausser uns nahmen zehn Studenten von den Seminaren in Rio de Janeiro und Sao Paulo und von der Bibelschule in Rio Grande Do Sul und der Ortspastor mit seiner Familie an dieser Arbeit teil.“

„In einem Heim, das sich uns oeffnete, waren drei Kinder noch zu Hause und drei in der selben Stadt verheiratet. Der Vater war gluecklich, Hausbibelstunde bei sich zu haben. Er versammelte seine verheirateten Kinder mit ihren Ehegatten, die Kinder, die noch zu Hause waren, und einige Nachbarn, so dass jeden Abend 20 Personen zugegen waren. Selbst die kleineren Kinder nahmen am Lesen und Besprechen der Bibelstellen teil. Ich hatte meine transportable Orgel dabei und zusammen mit Jorge, einem der Studenten, sangen wir Glaubenslieder.“

„Bei der ersten oeffentlichen Versammlung in der Kirche waren sechs der Familienmitglieder vertreten; und vier davon nahmen den Herrn als Erloeser an. Am folgenden Abend bezeugte eins der Ehepaare aus der selben Familie, dass es dem Herrn nachfolgen wolle.“

‘Goettliche Zufaele’ in Kamerun

„Wir hatten das Vorrecht, eine Gruppe von sieben jungen Leuten (verbunden mit ‘Youth with a Mission’) von England hier zu haben, die Evangelisationsarbeit auf dem Belo

Feld und in dem neuerschlossenen Furu-awa Gebiet taten,“ berichtet Dr. Kenneth Jones, Missionsarzt in Kamerun. „In Furu-awa teilten sie sich auf einige Doerfer auf. Ihre Bibelstunden in kleinen Gruppen, in denen sie die Neubekehrten unterwiesen, war wohl ihre wichtigste Arbeit.“

„Wir unternahmen auch, um die Arbeit zu unterstuetzen, ambulante aertzliche Behandlung. Unser letzter Termin musste jedoch ausfallen, weil der Hubschrauber in Furu-awa abstuerzte. Zum Glueck war er nicht schwer beschadigt, aber es schien unmoeglich, den schweren Motor zur Reparatur aus dieser abgelegenen Gegend herauszuschaffen. Dann begannen die ‘goettlichen Zufaele’.“

„Der Junior Pilot war bei der letzten ungluecklichen Fahrt nicht dabei gewesen, und nun konnte er zu Hilfe kommen und die noetigen Werkzeuge mitbringen. Er kam mit einem Militaerhubschrauber, der normalerweise keine Zivilisten an Bord nimmt und noch nicht einmal seinen Zielort bekanntgibt. Dieser Hubschrauber kommt nur alle fuenf Jahre einmal nach Furu-awa waehrend der Wahlen. Er hatte nur drei Stunden zur Verfuegung. Gewoehnlich braucht man acht Stunden, um den Motor auszubauen. Aber irgendwie wurde es geschafft, und die Furu-awaner trugen ihn auf Stangen gerade noch im letzten Augenblick zu dem Militaerhubschrauber. So kamen der Sr. Pilot, Jim McConnell und der Motor innerhalb von drei Tagen aus der entlegenen Gegend heraus. Nach etwa drei Monaten Verzoeigerung durch Buerokratie und Reparaturen ist der Hubschrauber der Helimission wieder in Betrieb.“

„Die jungen Leute kamen in drei Tagen zu Fuss aus der unwegbaren Gegend. Eine junge Frau hatte ein vierjaehrige Maedchen bei sich. Ihre Strapazen erwiesen sich als ein beredtes Zeugnis fuer Christus.“

Fuer die Familie von Eva Helwing

Oktober bedeutet in unseren deutschen Kreisen Erntedank. Ein schoen gedeckter Tisch mit den Fruechten von Feld und Garten wird allenthalben von unserer Jugend zusammengestellt. Gastredner und Gaestechor von unserer Nachbargemeinde sind eingeladen. Eine Predigt ueber Dankbarkeit fuer Speis und Trank, sowie unsere Arbeit und allgemeines Wohlergehen ist ueblich. Ein gutes Opfer von den Geschwistern ist erwartet.

Dies alles ist eine Tradition, die ich fuer gut heisse, denn sie ruft in mir Gedanken und Gefuehle wach, die mich zwingen, besinnlich zu werden und ueber Sinn und Zweck meines Lebens im Sinne von Ernte Rechenschaft zu geben. Der Psalmist weist uns dabei in die richtige Richtung indem er sagt: „... und wenn’s hoch kommt, so sind’s achzig Jahre, und wenn’s koestlich gewesen ist, so ist es Muehe und Arbeit gewesen.“

Kuerzlich beantwortete ich einen Fragebogen in einer der grossen Wochenendzeitschriften ueber ‘Lebenslaenge’. Die Fragen riefen mein Interesse wach denn man be-

hauptete, nach einer Formel mit gewissen Punkten fuer Familie, Beruf, Lebensstil, Krankheiten der Eltern und Grosseltern die uns bemessenen Jahre auszurechnen. In meinem Fall ergab diese Formel 93 Jahre. Erfreut und zur gleichen Zeit erschrocken dankte ich im Innersten meines Herzens, dass unsere Zeit hier auf Erden in Gottes Haenden liegt, und dass wir in dieser Hinsicht keine Auskunft ueber die Laenge unseres Wandels hier auf Erden haben. Beruhigend wirkte sich das dabei ausgesprochene Dankesgebet auf mich aus.

Die Aussicht auf ein langes Leben ist nach den heutigen medizinischen Errungenschaften ziemlich guenstig. Die Frage, die sich einem hier aufdraengt, ist: ‘Was fangen wir mit den uns so reich geschenkten Jahren an?’ Wiederum erhalten wir eine Antwort darauf in der Heiligen Schrift, wenn der Prediger davon spricht, dass ‘ein jegliches seine Zeit hat’ (Pred. 3,1). Die Frage um ein erfuelles Leben beantwortete eine Grossmutter mit diesen Worten: ‘Drei Stufen sind noetig fuer ein

erfuelles Leben als Frau. Die ersten zwanzig Jahre sind Vorbereitung, die naechsten zwanzig sind der Fuesorge, Pflege und Erziehung der Familie und Kinder gewidmet, und die letzten zwanzig sind fuer Dienst an der Welt.’ Welch ein Kontrast ist dies zu den ‘Maedchentraeumen,’ von denen ein Backfisch traeuimt.

Das schoenste Leben ist ein diensterfuelles Leben. Es fuellt unsere Haende mit dem Segen der selbstlosen Liebe und der freudigen Hingabe an eine Pflicht, an einen Beruf, an ein Ideal. Die Ueberschrift ‘zuviel getan — zu wenig geliebt’ in den Lebenserinnerungen einer aktiven Frau hat uns viel zu sagen. Es ist eine Not, die manch einer von uns erfahrt. Vor lauter Terminen, vor lauter ‘Tun’ kommt die Liebe zu kurz. Was wichtig ist und bleibt ist naemlich nicht die Laenge unseres Daseins, sondern was wir mit den uns geschenkten Jahren an Liebe, an dem sich dem anderen Zuwenden ausrichten. Danke zum Erntedank, dass es diese Gelegenheit ueberall und in allen Lebenssituationen gibt.

Blick vom Missionsfeld

‘Zeichen der Endzeit’

von Reimer Clausen

Bruder Omi und ich machten diese und jene, luden ein zu den Versammlungen und verteilten Schriften und Traktate. Wir schauten auch bei Herrn und Frau Yasui rein. Sie hatten gerade Besuch und luden uns auch ein zu Kaffee und Kuchen, und das Gespraech ging lustig hin und her. Wir versuchten das Gespraech auf geistliche Dinge zu steuern. Da erzaehlten sie uns von ihrer Religion. Sie gehoeren einer buddhistischen Sekte an. Sie leben ein sehr enthaltsames Leben. Sie rauchen nicht, trinken keinen Alkohol, essen kein Fleisch, und halten

viele aeusserliche Gesetze. Sie waren in vieler Hinsicht sehr religioes. Sie setzen sich besonders fuer den Weltfrieden ein und nahmen an Demonstrationen teil. Sie haben auch nichts gegen das Christentum. Sie versuchten uns klar zu machen, dass wir doch schliesslich dasselbe glauben. Sie meinten, Buddhismus, und Christentum sollten eins werden und Hand in Hand arbeiten. Ja sie hielten schon solche Gespraech mit den Katholiken. Sie zeigten uns Bilder, wo 400 Leute von ihrer Religion Rom besuchten. Da sahen wir, wie der katholische Papst und der Fuehrer dieser buddhistischen

Gruppe sich umarmten.

Bruder Omi und ich verliessen das Haus entmutigt. Wie kann man solchen Leuten klar machen, dass das Evangelium keine Religion ist? Ist das nicht ein Zeichen der Endzeit? Leben wir nicht in einer Zeit, in der die Leute eine grosse Weltreligion machen wollen, und diese Religion, welche als die grosse Hure in Offenbarung 17 dargestellt ist, sich mit dem Antichristen, dem Tier in Offenbarung 13, vereint? Ja die Weltlage fuehrt dahin. Moegen wir als Christen im Westen und im Osten wachend bleibend und uns nicht verfuehren lassen.

Aus der Gemeinde

Deutsche Glaubenskonferenz der Alberta Vereinigung

Die Deutschen Glaubenskonferenzen lassen sich aus der Taetigkeit der deutschsprachigen und auch der mehrsprachigen Gemeinden in den weit auseinanderliegenden Provinzen Kanadas nicht mehr wegdenken. Ihre Segensstrahlen breiten sich aus, lassen Menschen aufhorchen und schliesslich mitmachen.

Wir trafen uns am 23. Mai 1986 aus allen Richtungen Albertas in Calgary in der Temple Gemeinde, zu der 19. Deutschen Glaubenskonferenz der Alberta Vereinigung. Bruder Heinz Schoenhoff, Prediger der gastgebenden Gemeinde, hiess alle Konferenzteilnehmer herzlich willkommen, und Br. Erich Wirzba, Vorsitzender, sprach Worte der Einleitung und des Grusses. Das Konferenzthema lautete: "Das Evangelium der Ersten Gemeinde fuer unsere Zeit." Dr. Frank C. Peters, der Konferenzredner entwickelte das Thema wie folgt: "Der Geistliche Reichtum der Gemeinde" (Freitag Abend); "Die Gottgewollte Einigkeit in der Gemeinde" (Sonabend frueh); "Divine Wisdom in the Church" (Sonabend Abend). Dazu war die Jugend eingeladen, die uns unter der Leitung von Stephen Schoenhoff, musikalisch erfreute. "Das Sorgfaeltige Bauen in der Gemeinde" wurde am Sonntag Morgen betrachtet. Der Abschlussgottesdienst stand unter dem Gedanken, "Die Treue Haushalterschaft in der Gemeinde."

Im geschaeftlichen Teil wurde die neue Konferenzleitung gewaehlt. Vorsitzender — Pred. Dieter Reda, Stellvertreter — Pred. Heinrich Goliath, Kassierer — Br. L. Luellau, Schreiberin — Schw. Karin Ristau. Es wurde der abgehenden Konferenzleitung, den Bruedern Wirzba, Reda, Hildebrandt und Beerwald, herzlich gedankt fuer alle feine

Arbeit, die sie geleistet haben. Wir hoerten Berichte und Gebetsanliegen vom Area Minister, Rev. Charles Littman, sowie vom N.A.B.C./D.S. von Prof. Peter Ristau.

Der Posaunenchor der Temple Gemeinde, sowie die Choere der Thornhill und Temple Gemeinden umrahmten die Botschaften und verschoenerten die ganze Tagung. Zum Abschlussgottesdienst brachte der Konferenzchor aus Edmonton, unter der Leitung von Br. Heinz Kleiber, herrliche, himmlische Toene, die uns alle erquickten. Das gemeinsame Singen, von Br. Ray Labrentz geleitet, machte uns viel Freude.

Die Bewirtung der Konferenzteilnehmer wurde von den Schwestern der Temple Gemeinde vorzueglich und mit guter Planung vollzogen.

Die Glaubenskonferenz fuer 1987 soll in der Zionsgemeinde in Edmonton stattfinden. Als Konferenzredner hat Dr. Peters abermals zugesagt. —Berichterstatter, Edmund Beerwald und Karin Ristau.

Todesanzeigen

AGNES ITTERMANN, geb. Primke, wurde am 2. Mai 1905 in Lodz, Polen, geboren. Sie hatte eine betende Mutter, die den vier Kindern den Weg zum Heiland wies. 1919 wurde sie auf das Bekenntnis ihres Glaubens an Christus von Pred. Bernhard Goetze getauft. 1928 verehelichte sie sich mit Wenzel Swendrowski. Die Ehe wurde mit zwei Soehnen gesegnet, von denen Harry im Kindesalter und Eduard 1983 ihr im Tode vorausgingen. Ihr Mann verstarb 1943. 1952 wanderte sie nach Kanada aus, wo sie sich in Winnipeg niederliess und Mitglied der McDermot Ave. Baptisten Gemeinde wurde. 1953 verheiratete sie sich mit David Ittermann, mit dem sie ueber 25 Jahre Freude und Leid teilen durfte. Er verstarb 1979. 1966

schloss sie sich der Missionsgemeinde an. Am 1. August 1986 rief der Herr sie in die obere Heimat. Sie hatte ein weites Herz fuer die Mission, besonders fuer die Kindermission in Indien. Sie hinterlaesst als trauernde Hinterbliebene ihre Stiefkinder mit ihren Familien, Nelson und Richard Ittermann, Nell Golian, ihre Schwiegertochter Cecylia Swendrowski, sowie zahlreiche Enkel- und Urenkelkinder und eine Schwester, Martha Fus. Die Trauerfeier wurde am 6. August von den Predigern S. Hoppe und J. Leverette geleitet.

OLGA KLEINSCHMIDT, geb. Seifert, wurde am 8. Mai 1905 in Lisabudo, Ukraine, geboren. Am 29. Juli 1986 ging sie still und friedevoll heim zu ihrem Herrn. Von den 8 Kindern, die der Herr ihr aus erster Ehe mit Oskar Nehring schenkte, verstarben 4 im Kindesalter. 1937 wurde ihr Gatte, von dem seither jede Spur fehlte, nach Russland verschleppt. Trotz aller Not warf sie ihr Vertrauen in Gott nicht weg. 1949 verehelichte sie sich mit Leo Kleinschmidt, der ihr 1976 im Tode vorausging. 1957 wanderte sie nach Kanada ein; im gleichen Jahr wurde sie auf das Bekenntnis ihres Glaubens an Christus von Pred. Waldemar Laser getauft und wurde Mitglied der Baptisten Missionsgemeinde. Sie war eine fromme Frau und Beterin, die den Herrn und die Gemeinde liebte. Es gedenken ihrer in Dankbarkeit ihre zwei Soehne, Erdmann und Otto Nehring, mit ihren Familien, eine Tochter Erna Neubauer in Australien, 12 Enkelkinder und 8 Urenkelkinder, sowie zwei Schwestern und ein Bruder in Russland. Die Trauerfeier wurde am 1. August von Prediger S. Hoppe geleitet.

teacher, youth leader, camp counselor and worker, and in prison ministries

Sings soprano
Birthdate: January 26



ELANA HOHN

Member of Temple Baptist Church, Swan River, Manitoba

Graduated with an Associate Arts of Religion degree from North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta

Has been involved in youth group, Sunday school, camp, and vacation Bible school

Traveled this summer with the Good News Ambassadors, a mission team of North American Baptist College to Nigeria

Sings alto and plays flute

Birthdate: June 12



MARV HUBER

Member of the Thornhill Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta

Attended Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Calgary,

Alberta

Has been involved in youth group and as a camp counselor and worker

Is the only returning member of the 1985-86 "New Day" team

Sings tenor and plays piano

Birthdate: September 1



LAURIE KIEMELE

Member of Olympic View Baptist Church, Tacoma, Washington

Graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington

Has been involved in youth group, Sunday school, children's church, camp counseling, and vacation Bible school

Plays flute and piano

Birthdate: July 10



MYRON KRAUSE

Member of Grace Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta

Graduated with a Certificate in Biblical

Studies from the North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta

Has been involved in youth group and Sunday school

Sings bass and plays accordian

Birthdate: September 21



DEBORA NEEL

Member of Sunrise Baptist Church, Fair Oaks, California

Is a certified court reporter

Has been involved in Sunday school, camp counseling, and youth group

Sings alto and plays piano

Birthdate: January 13



JOHN SALINAS

Member of Bethel Baptist Church, Cherokee, Oklahoma

Studied business at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, Oklahoma

Has been involved in youth group, Sunday school, and vacation Bible school

Sings tenor, plays piano, flute, bass guitar,

and drums

Is the sound technician for "New Day"

Birthdate: April 21



ALLAN PATTERSON

Member of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta

Has been involved in Sunday school and choirs

Sings tenor, plays piano, and violin

Birthdate: September 2



CORINNE SEIDEL

Member of Bethany Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia

Graduated with a Certificate in Biblical Studies from North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta

Has been involved in vacation Bible school and musical groups

Sings soprano and plays piano

Birthdate: July 6



GREG HOCHHALTER

Member of Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, North Dakota
Student at North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta, in the area of religion

Has been involved in youth group, camps, and vacation Bible school

Sings baritone and enjoys juggling, magic, and public speaking
Birthdate: May 26



HARVEY HAIT

Member of Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia

Graduated with a Diploma of Biblical Studies from North American Baptist College, Edmonton, Alberta

Has been involved as a school playground assistant, a member of a youth group, and men's choir, and as camp counselor

Sings bass and is interested in radio and television

Birthdate: March 8

Serving from the Desk and Bench

by Nancy Snyder

There is nothing better for a man than to . . . see good in his labor. This also I have seen, that it is from the hand of God. Who can have enjoyment without Him?" (Ecclesiastes 2:24, 26a). I have been privileged to "see good in my labor" in two major areas of my life: Teaching and music.

In my years as an elementary teacher, God has allowed me to work with several hundred of His uniquely designed creatures. As I teach them science, I am reminded of His hand in everything from the vastness of the universe to the incredible realm of microorganisms. Mathematics reminds me of the order and balance in God's universe. In our social studies explorations, I am reminded of the courage and industry of the Pilgrims and pioneers as they trusted



ALYSIA HANEY

Member of Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Michigan

Studied elementary and secondary education at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

Has been involved in Sunday school, club programs, vacation Bible school, choir and camp

Sings alto and plays piano and guitar

Birthdate: April 1



"Ministry in music will always be a special part of my life."

God to see them through difficult circumstances.

It is exciting and rewarding to watch the spark of understanding ignited and to share those moments when students acquire new confidence in some areas of their lives. I have also rejoiced when through comments and circumstances God has revealed to me that some of my students are also my brothers and sisters in Christ. It is very special to me to let them know that someone they look up to also looks up to their Lord for direction.

As I have been the children's teacher, the Lord has been mine! He has guarded my tongue during times of exasperation and prodded me to encourage students when He knew they needed it. He has even led some of my students to give me encouragement when I needed it!

Through music I feel privileged to minister congratulations and joy at weddings and consolation and hope to those who have experienced bereavement. If the melodies I have played have brought people close to God and have helped them to see Him more fully, then my spiritual objectives have been met. I hope some have been lifted by exciting choruses when they needed that, and that others have found peace in the more quiet renditions.

Teaching and music are two aspects of my life here on earth. Learning and music will be a large part of all of our lives *then*, when we shall see Him as He really is. May we continue to learn and sing praises until then. □

Nancy Snyder is church organist at Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, PA, where she has been a member for a number of years.

Compulsion to Serve and Witness Results in Spanish Tongue in German Church

by Maria Rogalski



Erich and Nellie Roller, who were challenged by an address at the Triennial Conference, and Vi Wittenberg, who encouraged the Church to warmly welcome the newcomers, are key leaders of Spanish work at Mission Baptist Church.

One does not necessarily have to cross the ocean in order to fulfill Christ's commission to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." A vast mission field is on our very doorstep, as people from nearly all cultures and nations of the world arrive in our towns and cities and settle down to stay.

The Mission Baptist Church of Winnipeg, Manitoba, (formerly Deutsche Baptisten Missions-gemeinde) shows visible evidence that language need not be a barrier when the seed of God's Word is planted with such love and diligence in the hearts of people without Christ. It will sprout and bring forth fruit for His glory.

Family names like Jimenez, Kababie, Ventura, and Mayen appear right alongside the Muellers, Schmidts, and Schulzes on the Church's membership list. Hearing the lively Spanish chatter of dark-haired, brown-eyed moms and dads and children of all ages in the halls of the Church and observing how

naturally they seem to fit into the local Family of God, one senses a universal kinship of believers and comprehends the powerful truth of Paul's words to the Romans, "There is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, (English, German, or Spanish), for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him."

In the spring of 1984, Vi Wittenberg, one of the newer members of the church who had served as a missionary to Colombia for thirteen years, brought some Spanish-speaking immigrants from strife-torn El Salvador to watch the film series, "Dynamic Laity," being shown at the church so that they "could learn English."

With Vi's encouragement, the people of the church received the newcomers warmly, took them to their homes for dinner and with the full support of pastor and Board extended Christian love to them in so many practical ways that they began coming to the Sunday services. "And then it just snowballed," says Vi today. "I just stood back in awe how God began to work in the Spanish people's hearts. I could not believe it!"

Rich and Nellie Roller were some of the instruments God used in working this miracle. Argentinian born of Polish parents, Nellie speaks Spanish along with four other languages. She became the means of conveyance as they began to reach out to these new people with the love of Christ.

Sundays Nelli and Vi would sit between the Spanish couples in the service with a Spanish Bible open on their knees. There would be the occasional disapproving frown from wor-

shippers seated nearby at the whispers wanting to know what the pastor was saying.

"My faith sure grew," says Nellie, "as I had to really listen and take notes so that I could answer their questions afterwards."

"But you don't wait for new people in your community to come to church," she adds. "No, you pick them up. You commit yourself to visiting them in their homes, to seeing and responding to their need (like replacing a tattered couch, if



Nellie Roller (right) leads a Bible study; Anabella Rolland, the first believer, is at left.



Vi Wittenberg (left) teaches English to Martlia and Teresa at Mission Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB



Charlie Pohl and Kurt Koerstein volunteered to teach English.



The Tuesday night Bible study begins with rousing singing followed by Bible study groups divided according to language ability.

necessary). You bring the fellowship with you—the cake and the Bible. You keep contact with them on a daily basis. You are available to be called on the telephone at any hour of the

day or night." And call they did—a lot—sharing their fears and anxieties, their problems and perplexities. And always they were directed to the Lord and told, "You need Jesus to help you

with your problems. He is the only one who really can."

Various church members became important links in the chain of care and concern in helping the newcomers ease the culture shock. They taught them how to take the bus, where and how to shop, how to crochet and, in many instances, even

how to cook and keep house. They took the expectant mothers to doctor appointments. Some "adopted" a Spanish couple, befriending them and having a simple Bible study with them in their homes.

In June of 1985, one year after the initial exposure to the Word of God and the power of Christian love, Rene and Annabella Roldan followed up their decision for the Lord by being baptized and joining the church. They were the first of 11 that are now active members of the fellowship. Some of the men serve as ushers, and the ladies take turns in the nursery. After the baptismal service on June 8, of this year, several of them said: "Next time I will be baptized, too."

Keenly aware of the need to give these new believers a thorough grounding in the Word of God and some concrete help with the English language, Vi's original Spanish Sunday School class inevitably led to an organized ministry.

Erich, who could only "laugh" in Spanish, committed himself to accept the leadership. Both he and Nellie had been acutely challenged by the words of Dr. E.V. Hill in his address at the last Triennial Conference in Anaheim. "It is not either-or as far as feeding and winning the lost is concerned. It is both. Win the lost at any cost—that is Christ's mandate." The first Spanish couple had just been baptized back home in the Mission Baptist Church. Erich and Nellie made a covenant in their hearts before the Lord to direct all their time and energy toward that goal as far as their Spanish friends were concerned.

Erich's gift is music, and at the Spanish/English Bible Study on Tuesday nights at the church, he leads the rousing singing of at least six or seven choruses and hymns. The Spanish people love to sing, and it pulls at one's heartstrings to hear them sing their theme song: "Only To Be What He Wants Me to Be," by heart.

Vi and several helpers then patiently give one-on-one instruction in English using an Adult Literacy Series with Bible Content lessons and reading the week's scripture portion: "The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. . . ."

Erich leads the more advanced in an English Bible study. Nelli is always close by to interpret to assure the lesson is properly understood, as the learners will have to share what they have learned (in Spanish and English) when the rest of the group join them again for a further discussion on the lesson and a prayer time together.

These new people are learning discipling while being disciplined. Already they use the Andrew Principle—come and see—as they reach out to their own at the Government English School, which they attend for one year.

Sometimes as many as 30 Spanish speaking people attend the Worship Service on Sunday, and all are ministered to when they come: Those with little or no English knowledge in Vi's Spanish class on the "Fundamentals of Christian Living," and others, including the newly baptized, in Erich's class studying "The Fundamentals of Faith." To show just how tailor-made the ministry is to the needs of the people, Anne and Harry Pohl spend the Sunday School hour doing a simple Bible study with Eisho and Nahar Mate from Iraq, who have been coming to the church for over a year.

It's an all-encompassing ministry, a commitment of time and energy on the part of all involved, but all agree it's the Lord's doing and give glory to Him.

The ladies of the church have baby showers in their homes for the new mothers. Businessmen help the men find jobs or hire them themselves. Erich, who owns an Auto Body Shop, helps them to get good deals on a car and keeps it in running order. Nellie

is always on the lookout for used clothing and household items to distribute where needed. "No older than five years for the clothes," she says. "They have to be in style yet."

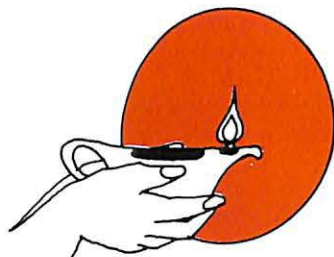
Looking back, Nellie recognized how the Lord prepared her for service when as a little girl her mother took her along to visit the sick and permanently shaped her attitude to service. "Never wait to be served, Nellie," she had always said. "You always serve others and never expect to be repaid. Never wait for a thank-you, but whatever you do, your Lord will repay you."

The reward for all involved in this ministry is in knowing that not only were they instrumental in helping these people to establish a new home in our country but also to find and begin a new life, a life joined to the Spirit of God and to the fellowship of His people. Says Johanna Kababie, a former strong Catholic from Guatemala who already knew some English when she came: "I would have never gone to an evangelical church there. But this one is different."

Since Johanna found the Lord, she feels like a child with a new toy wanting to go out to show others and to bring them in. Being part of the fellowship of the church means so much to her. "Even if I am just a little nail in the Church, I'm so happy I'm part of it. My daughter used to be shy. Going to Sunday School has changed her completely. She reminds me to smile and pray when I'm sad. My husband and I used to worry about our problems. But since he has become a Christian, too, we do not worry about them anymore. We know we can give them to the Lord, and He will work them out. I can't explain it. It's beautiful."

Gracias a Dios (Thanks be to God). □

Maria Rogalski is a freelance writer and a member of McDermont Avenue Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



“What Am I Doing Here?” Part 2

by Sarah Pasiciel, WMF president, Steinbach, MB

One of the things I found myself doing during the last school year was returning to school myself—not fulltime, and only one class at a time. As I sat in the first class and looked at the young, confident students of history and theology seated around me, my throat went dry; my tongue got tangled; I thought, “What am I doing here?”

If God Himself and the example and pattern of His Son provide my motivation for Christian life and service, how do I put method to this motivation? What is my responsibility in the place where I am?

First, I need to see it as God’s place for me. John Calvin, in speaking of each person’s calling, said: “Therefore each individual has his own kind of living (a good way to think of our ‘calling,’ I believe) assigned to him by the Lord as a sort of sentry post so that he may not heedlessly wander about throughout life.” What am I doing here? I’m standing at my post, assigned by God, working out the kind of living which God has given me.

Secondly, what do I do in God’s place for me? In 1 Peter 4:10, we read, “Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God” (TEV).

I must be a “good manager” of God’s gifts. I must do what God leads me to do, by His grace—sometimes in spite of opposition or disapproval—with graciousness, but with purpose. Effectiveness in service comes when I am doing my job—no less, but also no more.

This puts service into perspective for me. Within the framework of

God’s holiness—my motivation—I must take up my own post and become a good manager of the gifts God has given me, “. . . so that in all things praise may be given to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 4:11, TEV).

(P.S. The course I mentioned was “The Historical Theology of John Calvin.” I passed!)

Women in Ministry

Janell J. Christiansen,
D.D.S., Lennox, SD

The telephone rang just before dessert at our Sunday noon meal. Our guests understood as I left them to attend to an emergency. A seven-year-old girl had just fallen off her horse, knocking out a tooth. Re-implantation as soon as possible was urgent for successful results. The father supported his daughter as I performed the necessary procedures. I knew that in a stressful situation, communication is very important to gain cooperation. A silent prayer ran through my mind as we placed the tooth in its rightful place: “God, give me the right words to say and help me to do the task at hand the best way possible.” One week later, the little girl looked up at me and said, “That didn’t even hurt” —her way of saying “Thank you.”

Service to people is demanding and sometimes stressful, but knowing that God is always available to help makes each situation a new and ex-

citing learning experience. I’ve heard some say, “I hate to go to work each morning,” but I love my work and have not yet felt this way. There is joy in being in the will of the Lord and using His given talents for His honor.

It is interesting how one’s preparation and background contributes to each experience as life goes by. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing, then my masters degree in Nursing Education and taught nursing for 10 years before attending dental school. Much of this knowledge and experience is very appropriate as I practice today.

Shortly before my younger son started kindergarten, I applied to dental school at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. My husband was very supportive suggesting that if it was supposed to be, I would get admitted. The odds against my being admitted were especially high the year I applied, but I received my letter of acceptance and, in the fall of 1974, I was again a full-time student. Needless to say, the schedule was hectic, and my husband learned to do many household duties. Now, he sometimes assists me on dental emergencies.

After I graduated with my Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1977, we moved to Lennox, South Dakota, where I “hung out my shingle” with a feeling of uncertainty but confidence that the Lord would provide the patients. We were fortunate that my husband’s job was relocated to Sioux Falls nearby. Because there was nowhere else to move, we moved on to a farm and began farming.

Although we were both raised on



farms, returning to the farm was somewhat foreign to us after being away from it for nearly 15 years. Again the Lord has provided, and we love our lives on the farm. My husband now farms only and has a winter hobby of trucking.

Moving required nearly a year of adjustment. Making new friends, getting used to the openness of the country, and being alone without next-door neighbors for our boys to play with were some of the changes. Our older son has cerebral palsy and was limited to a degree in the amount of physical activities he could participate in at school. Last spring, he graduated from college with a degree in engineering physics. We rejoice with him in his accomplishments.

I praise the Lord for each new day He gives me. I am able to discuss not only dental problems but also personal needs that people may have. I try to treat each patient not as a dental problem but as a unique person created by God. I am reminded of the patient with Down’s Syndrome who, in her spontaneous loving way, gives me a smile of recognition and a hug to

go with it; the elderly man who has been stressed with dentures for more years than he can remember and who can now eat a little better; the teenage boy who fractured his front tooth in a sport and who can now smile without looking grotesque. These are just some of the incidents that have given me personal satisfaction.

Being a woman dentist brings many questions. Initially, I’m sure many people came just to see “what she was like”—a novelty, to be sure. There are still only six female dentists in my state; although the total enrollment of women in dental schools today is greater than 25 percent.

What is it like being a woman in a male-oriented profession? The first year the most common and frequent question was, “Can you pull teeth?” I wondered if men were asked that same question. Our emphasis is on prevention of disease and maintaining dental health and not on “pulling teeth.” We do a lot of educating; so my previous experience in education has been very helpful.

There are advantages to being a woman in dentistry. Physically,

women have smaller hands to work in a small area—the mouth. This is a very distinct advantage in many situations. I have a cartoon placed on my refrigerator showing a small boy being greeted by his mother after having some dental treatment. He says, “She may look like a mother, but she’s definitely a dentist.”

I believe how I look has an effect on how people perceive me and, consequently, how they react to dental work. Fear is our biggest obstacle. I have found that humor reduces that fear. Laughter reduces the tension we are faced with continually. I try to personalize each approach to my patients, trying to make their visit more comfortable.

Being an independent practitioner means that I have the freedom to establish my practice as I wish, but it is also demanding. If I’m not there, the office does not operate. People need to be taken care of as their need arises, so this sometimes means additional hours at the office.

When people ask me how I managed to bring up my children as well as run an office, I tell them it was easy. You just work and persist some more. The Lord has been good to me, giving me stamina and health to do this. He has given me the ability to use my time efficiently and in an organized fashion. What would I do without Him? Credit also goes to my staff whom I could not do without. I have three part-time dental assistants who are also mothers.

Many doors have opened for me. I have been able to participate on our church’s building committee, sing in our church choir, teach a Sunday school class and act as Sunday school superintendent. Currently, I serve on the Board of Trustees of the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls. These experiences have enriched my life and helped broaden my perspective.

My schedule is hectic, managing both office and home, but I am happy in my work. God provides the means for accomplishment. “The Lord shall guide thee continually” (Isaiah 58:11).

Compelled to Serve

Oldest N.A.B. Church in British Columbia Celebrates 70th Anniversary

PRINCE GEORGE, BC. Bethel Baptist Church, formerly Hager Memorial Church, celebrated its 70th anniversary, June 15, 1986.

In a brief historical sketch, Eugene Fichtner, moderator, told how the Rev. Abraham Hager came to Prince George from Edmonton in 1905 to minister to German-speaking immigrants. The first church was built in 1923, and in 1953, the present church was constructed next to it.



"As the city grew, so did the outreach from our Church," reports Christel Schlak. "Now we have four N.A.B. churches in Prince George, of which Bethel is the oldest as well as being the oldest of the British Columbia Association."

Rev. Art Schlak, pastor, challenged the congregation to follow the example of the pioneers. An offering was taken for the newly begun church extension work in Stewart, BC.

During the celebration, three daughter churches brought greetings to a full church. Speakers included the Rev. W. Ertis, former pastor, German morning service; and the Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister, afternoon service.

Buhler Honored for Forty Years of Ministry

LODI, CA. "Forty Years by the Grace of God" was the fitting theme of Rev. Aaron Buhler's morning message at First Baptist Church, June 29, 1986. He and his wife Dorothy were honored for completing four decades of ministry in N.A.B. churches in the U.S. and Canada.

In the evening, the Buhlers were recognized with letters of appreciation from churches they served. Congratulations came from Dr. John Binder, executive director, and the N.A.B. International Office Staff; the Nor-Cal Association churches through Dr. Kenneth Fischer, area minister; and visitors and friends.

The congregation of Community Bible Church, Railroad Flat, CA, where the Buhlers serve in an interim capacity, were guests of First Baptist Church for the evening service. The Buhlers are semi-retired and available for interim ministry. —Merle Brenner

Sterling Heights Church Celebrates 25 Years

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI. Fellowship Baptist Chapel celebrated its 25th anniversary, May 18-19, 1986.

"Our Church began in 1961 when 69 members of Ridgemont Baptist Church, East Detroit, MI, signed a resolution to form a new, all-English church," reports Helga Williford. Current membership stands at 205.

The Church celebrated its past, present, and future with a historical program, music, messages, fellowship, and "Crafhobtal" (crafts, hobbies, and talents). Participants included Rev. William Taft, area minister; Dr. William Pritchard, former member; Rev. Frank Walker, former pastor; and Rev. Ron Seck, pastor.

Immanuel, Kyle, Celebrates 100 Years

KYLE, TX. Immanuel Baptist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary, June 15, 1986.

Rev. Winston Smith, pastor, welcomed everyone. Participants included Dr. H. John Vanderbeck, former pastor, morning message; Rev. Milton Zeeb, area minister; and Dr. Edward Schmeltekopf, former member, afternoon message.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime occasion for the many members and guests who attended," reports Esther Lengefeld.

Sioux Falls Church Honors Pastor

SIOUX FALLS, SD. Hillcrest Baptist Church honored their pastor, John L. Terveen, recently, upon his receiving his Ph.D. from Edinburgh University, Scotland. The Church's deacons organized the program involving President Charles Hiatt and Dr. Stephen Brachlow of N.A.B. Seminary, and Rev. Ralph Cooke, area minister.

Dr. Terveen's thesis, "Jesus in Hebrews: An Exegetical and Traditio-Historical Analysis of the References to Jesus' Earthly Life in the Epistle to the Hebrews," examined the profound significance of Jesus' life as an authentic man for Christian theology and life. It was dedicated to the memory of his mother, Mrs. Louise (Hoeffner) Terveen.

Meadowlark Church Hosts Church Growth Seminar

EDMONTON, AB. "It brought a new excitement to our church." "The leadership of Ray Harsch was excellent." These are some of the comments following the Basic Church Growth Seminar held at Meadowlark Baptist Church, May 30-31, 1986.

Meadowlark called this seminar the "Catch the Vision

Seminar." A total of 106 people attended—88 from Meadowlark, 14 from Westland Baptist Church, Edmonton, and 4 from Parkland Baptist Church, Spruce Grove, AB.

Attendees studied the church's mandate to grow, analyzed local ministry in terms of growth and assimilation of new members, and began planning for five-year goals.

"These seminars are one of the finest things the Conference has done for the local churches," states Pastor Ken MacDonald of Meadowlark. —Carol Fulmore

Eureka Church Celebrates 100 Years

EUREKA, SD. First Baptist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary, June 14-15, 1986, with the theme, "Thanks to God." Speakers included the Rev. Elmo Herman, Emery, SD, son of the Church; the Rev. Fred Fuchs, Shattuck, OK, former pastor; and the Rev. Ralph Cooke, area minister.

Highlights of the celebration included a Saturday evening potluck meal and program, "I Remember When," at which present and former members reminisced. A large crowd enjoyed the Sunday noon meal followed by an afternoon service, which included greetings from many individuals and churches.

The Rev. Walter L. Weber is pastor of the Church. —Mrs. Harry Bertsch

Committed to Give

Ochre River Church Raises Money for Home

OCHRE RIVER, MB. Grace Baptist Church held a music night with choirs and music groups participating in a special fundraising effort for the local personal care home. The offering of \$2,370 was presented to the home. Nine residents of the home and several staff members attended the program. —Jean Roos

LaSalle Church Gives for Colorado Mission Churches

LaSALLE, CO. An offering of \$240 for the home mission churches in the San Luis Valley of Colorado was given by approximately 100 participants in First Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School in June. A part of the closing program included a video tape of some of the features of the Vacation Bible School. Pastor and Mrs. Harold Tuttle minister at this Church. —Dorothy Oster

Commanded to Care

Missoula Church Touches Lives in Prison

MISSOULA, MT. "Bethel Baptist Church goes to

prison!" reports Judy Ulrichs. "God's people are being utilized to touch the lives of others—in this case, the men at the Montana State Prison."

The Church participated in providing gifts to 53 children and 17 wives of inmates under the Project Angel Tree program. The "Sounds of Joy" traveled to Deer Lodge and presented an evening of ministry through song.

Some children from the Awana club correspond with inmates to encourage their Christian growth. Other members traveled to the prison recently to visit and participate in discipleship seminars. "It's exciting to see God glorifying Himself through these efforts," states Judy Ulrichs. The Rev. Hero Ulrichs is pastor of the Church.

Anne Krause Honored by Winnipeg Church

WINNIPEG, MB. The Rowandale Baptist Church congregation joined the family of Anna Krause to celebrate her 100th birthday, July 20, 1986. The program theme expressed praise to God for blessings and a deep concern that any unbeliever might be challenged to accept Christ.

The Krause family encouraged birthday presents to be limited to Bibles for distribution by the Gideons.—H. Kahler

McClusky Members Show Love to Bismarck Home Residents

MCCLUSKY, ND. The Rev. Oscar Fritzke, pastor, and nine members of McClusky Baptist Church's Naomi Mission Circle traveled to Bismarck, July 22, 1986, to extend friendship and cheer to former McClusky residents who now live at the Baptist Home. The Circle entertained three of these women and Missionary Laura Reddig at a buffet luncheon. They then spent the afternoon visiting in the Home and at a hospital.

Nearly 50 members and friends greeted the Rev. and Mrs. Edwin F. Walter, Freeman, SD, at an open house and fellowship meal at the Church, July 16, 1986, when they made a brief visit to the city. Rev. Walter pastored the Church from 1968 to 1973. Although retired, Rev. Walter serves as chaplain of the hospital and nursing home in Freeman. —Irene A. Froehlich

Harvey Women Visit Nursing Home

HARVEY, ND. Bethel Baptist Church's W.M.F. presented a program of music and devotions to the residents of the Harvey Nursing Home, July 1, 1986. Fellowship time and lunch followed.

Rev. Dan Edzards is pastor of the Church. —Mona Schmeets

Temple, Lodi, Involved in Caring Projects

LODI, CA. You've heard the appeals: "Donate walnuts! Help us crack them! Come help with White Cross Work! Bring us your Christian publications, books, and extra Bibles! Come help us sort and pack! Leave your good, clean, used clothing at the Relief Room!"

These projects take a great deal of organization, time, and effort. Whatever happens with them?

Temple Baptist Church sent 138 pounds of shelled walnuts and 126 pounds of food items to N.A.B. missionaries in Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, Cameroon, and the

Spanish-American fields. They also sent 225 pounds of White Cross materials to the medical missions ministries in Cameroon. They sent over 3,000 pounds of clothing to local missions as well as the Spanish-American field, and mailed 669 pounds of magazines, books, and Bibles to Cameroon.

These supplies were much appreciated. Responses from missionaries included: "As we conducted deeper life meetings with the pastors, we distributed the books, Bibles, and materials. They were overjoyed. Thanks for these excellent materials." "Thank you for the walnuts; thanks for caring. We appreciate the time it takes to shell them!" "Thank you on behalf of the hospital staff and new mothers who used the White Cross materials that came just in the nick of time." —Ernie Rogalski, from the Temple Visitor

Manitoba Youth Present Musical to Raise Money for Hunger

MANITOBA. In the past few years, the presentation of a musical has become an annual event of the Manitoba Baptist Youth Association (M.B.Y.A.). Each year, the youth from numerous N.A.B. churches throughout the province choose a youth musical, and begin practicing in January. By the end of April, performances begin and continue throughout the month of May.

This year, the M.B.Y.A. choir presented the youth musical, "Together We Will Stand," which presents a powerful message on the Christian's response to world hunger. This particular musical was chosen because it fit in well with the Conference theme, "A People of Hope in a World of Despair," and because the Manitoba young people wanted to play a part in meeting third world needs.

Over 80 young people participated in the choir. Mrs. Ewald Nikel of Grant Park Baptist Church, Winnipeg, directed the choir and also put much work into the narrations and pulling the musical together as a whole.



This year's musical was first presented on April 19, 1986, at the annual Manitoba Baptist Association meetings held at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris. It was further presented at various Manitoba Baptist Association churches throughout the month of May as well as at Spr-

ingside (SK) Baptist Church and a non-N.A.B. Church in Winnipeg.

At each presentation of the musical, an offering was taken for world hunger relief. Over \$8,900 was raised. The majority of money was sent to Baptist World Aid, and the remainder to other relief agencies.

"The presentation of this musical was certainly a highlight of the past year for the youth of the M.B.Y.A., as it has been in the past years," reports Erika Reschke, secretary.

The purpose of the M.B.Y.A. is to bring the youth of the Manitoba Baptist Association churches together for spiritual growth, fellowship, and fun, and to establish unity among the Association young people. This is done by planning such activities as youth rallies, camps, and sports tournaments for the youth of N.A.B. churches. Youth representatives from each Association church form an executive to plan and organize such activities.

Commissioned to Witness

Fifteen Join Surrey Church

SURREY, BC. Rev. Jim Calamunce, assistant pastor, conducting his first baptismal service, baptized nine people at Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church on Father's Day.

"As each candidate entered the waters of baptism, the congregation sang one verse of his or her favorite hymn," reports A. Esther Harris. They and six others were received into the Church's membership.

Dr. H. Waltereit, interim pastor, in his sermon, em-

phasized the Biblical basis of baptism as practiced by Baptists.

The congregation gathered following the service for a fellowship lunch, a tradition of Sunshine Ridge on baptismal days.

EUGEN ALBRECHT (55), Edmonton, AB; born Feb. 9, 1931, to Hulda and Robert Albrecht in the Ukraine; died Feb. 21, 1986; married Siegrid in 1953; member, trustee, Sunday school teacher, Immanuel Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB; survived by his wife Siegrid; three children: Harold (Laurie, fiancée), Gunthard (Nicolette), and Heide; two grandchildren; and three brothers: Willie, Valentin, and Alwin; Rev. T. Fossen, pastor, funeral service.

JOHN BIERIG (90), Okeene, OK; born Oct. 22, 1896, to Johannans and Anna Ruppel Bierig in rural Okeene; died June 19, 1986; married Lydia Helen Cornelsen; member, Zion Baptist Church, Okeene, OK; survived by one daughter, Jane (Mrs. Weldon Geis), Okeene, OK; one son, Marion Duane, Tyler, TX; one foster daughter, Irene (Mrs. Virgil Nusz), Okeene, OK; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three sisters: Bertha Schaffee, Marie Greb, and Esther Heinz; Rev. Elton O. Kirstein, pastor, funeral service.

EMELIA FUCHS, Oak Park, IL; born in Fredonia, ND, to John and Magdalena Walker; died July 15, 1986; as a child moved to Alberta, Canada, married the Rev. Daniel Fuchs in 1939; served as pastor's wife at Andrews Street Baptist Church, Rochester, NY, and McDermot Ave. Baptist Church, Winnipeg, MB, and several interim pastorates; served as Conference worker's wife while her husband was Director of Evangelism and Church Extension; predeceased by two brothers; survived by her husband Daniel; two sons: Roger, Broadview, IL; and Richard, Greeley, CO; two daughters: Louanne (Mrs. Richard Long), Redlands, CA; and Dorothy (Mrs. William Cummins), Lodi, CA; six grandchildren; and two sisters: Freda (Mrs. Alex Cembella) and Clair (Mrs. Harold Welsh); Reverends Michael Campbell, Willis Potratz, William Cummins, and Richard Schilke, pastors, funeral service.

WILHELM FUCHS (72), Plevna, MT; born April 23, 1914, to Fredrick and Magdalena Fuchs near Plevna, MT; died June 25, 1986; married Rosia Buerkle, Nov. 24, 1937; member, deacon, quartet member, Sunday school teacher, First Baptist Church, Plevna, MT; survived by his wife Rosina; three daughters: Delores Hickman, Mary Barr, and Eleanor Aldinger; one son, William; 13 grandchildren; and three brothers: Rev. Daniel, Emil, and Rev. Fred; Rev. Herbert Vetter, pastor, funeral service.

REUBEN BENJAMIN GLEWWE (81), South St. Paul, MN; born Aug. 14, 1904, to Henry and Martha Glewwe in Little Canada, MN; died May 7, 1986; married Ethel Hymers, June 7, 1928; lifetime

member, deacon, trustee, Sunday school teacher, superintendent, pulpit committee chairman, Riverview Baptist Church, West St. Paul, MN; several term treasurer, Minnesota-LaCrosse Association; board member, N.A.B. Seminary; predeceased by five sisters; survived by his wife Ethel; one son, Rollin (Joan); two daughters: Elva (Mrs. Gerald Miller), and Lois; 7 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; four sisters: Mrs. Mabel (Arnold) Erickson; Mrs. Esther (Harold) Stassen; Mrs. Selma (Reynolds) Knospe; and Mrs. Ruth (Kenneth) Hammerstrom; two brothers: Edwin (Luella), and Wesley; and one sister-in-law, Mrs. Alyce (George) Patet; Reverends Harold Lang and Raymond Yahn, pastors, funeral service.

DARRELL HARSCH (18), Edmonton, AB; born Aug. 11, 1967, to Bert and Myrna Harsch; died May 26, 1986; member, McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB; predeceased by three cousins and four grandparents: Chris and Rosie Harsch, and Fred and Molly Schalin; survived by his parents, Bert and Myrna Harsch; one brother, Stan; paternal step-grandfather, Edwin Ziegler; and many uncles, aunts, and cousins; Reverends Harvey Wilkie, Ron Berg, and Bob Carroll, pastors, funeral service.

Dear N.A.B. Conference Family:

For over four years, many of you remembered our family in your prayers and showed concern as our son Darrell battled Hodgkins disease. On May 26, 1986, the Lord released him from that struggle and healed him completely by taking him home to be with Him. The final cause of death was congestive heart failure.

We received many cards, letters, phone calls, and contributions to the scholarship fund at N.A.B. College in his memory. Words are inadequate to express our gratefulness for all of these. May God bless you all. We love you and thank God for you.

Bert, Myrna, and Stan Harsch
Edmonton, Alberta

ELIZABETH HELFENSTEIN (91), Wishek, ND; born Nov. 4, 1894, in South Russia; died July 17, 1986; immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 16; married Peter Helfenstein, Jan. 8, 1914; member, Ashley (ND) Baptist Church for 75 years; survived by six children: Alma (Mrs. Herbert Vanourny), Forbes, ND; Fred, Ashley, ND; Elizabeth Schilling, Ashley, ND; Peter, Ashley, ND; Katherine (Mrs. Leonard Janke), Aberdeen, SD; and Johnny, Spokane, WA; 19 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren; Rev. Allan Gerber,

pastor, funeral service.

SAMUEL LOWELL HOFFMAN (80), Morris, MB; born April 4, 1906, to William and Julianna Hoffman; died June 30, 1986; married Elma Neher, Feb. 1, 1945; member, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Morris, MB; predeceased by four brothers, three sisters, and one son; survived by his wife Elma; one daughter, Daphne (Mrs. Wilmar Keck), Beausejour, MB; two sons: Dale, Morris, MB, and Roland, Winnipeg, MB; five grandchildren; and four sisters: Mrs. Albertina Stober, Ida Hoffman, Mrs. Olive Rempel, and Mrs. Francis Bergstresser; Rev. Morley Schultz, pastor, funeral service.

REV. WILLIAM HOOVER (74), Anaheim, CA; born Sept. 27, 1911, Spokane, WA; died June 21, 1986; married Emily, July 12, 1935; attended Winnipeg Bible Institute; ordained September 1934; pastored four churches: Connors Ave. Baptist, Detroit, MI (11 yrs.); Napier Parkview Baptist, Benton Harbor, MI (15 yrs.); Bethel Baptist, Anaheim, CA (4 yrs.); and Sunkist Baptist, Anaheim, CA (4 yrs.); in 1946 made two trips to Germany on behalf of Michigan Relief, Inc., YCF, Billy Graham, and the N.A.B. Conference for six months; held ten evangelistic meetings in Europe in 1950, 1955, and 1961; survived by his wife Emily; five daughters: Darleen Reisig, Santa Barbara, CA; Vivian Achterberg, St. Joseph, MI; Eunice Pace, Newport Beach, CA; Louis McQuire, El Cajon, CA; and Gloria Boettcher, Anaheim, CA; ten grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two sisters: Lillie Riffler and Ann Muth; Dr. Lloyd Kwast and Dr. Adolph Braun, pastors, memorial service.

WALTER ALBERT MEHLHOFF (71), Bismarck, ND; born in 1914 to Philip and Minnie Mehlhoff at Tuttle, ND; died July 1, 1986; married Hilda Berg in 1936; member, Bismarck (ND) Baptist Church; survived by his wife Hilda; one son, Alden, LaCrosse, WI; one daughter, Myra (Mrs. Don McDonald), Barrington, IL; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six brothers: Philip, John, Elmer, Daniel, Donald, and William; and six sisters: Minnie Beatty, Viola Meade, Agnes Lura, Lillian Erhart, Adeline Neumann, and Rosella Klindworth; Rev. M.D. Wolff, pastor, funeral service.

CLIFTON E. POWERS, Lansing, MI; died June 8, 1986; member, Colonial Village Baptist church, Lansing, MI; survived by his wife Frances A.; two sons: R. Vance and Neil; one daughter, Jane Ann; one stepdaughter, Kay Nalett; and several grandchildren.

"Mabuhay" in Philippines

by Nancy Folkerts

"Mabuhay!" You see it on overpasses, placarded on city buses, scrawled in graffiti on walls, and emblazoned on magazine covers. "Mabuhay!" It is a Filipino verb in the form of a command: "Live!" Whoever says it wishes upon you the great gift of a long and full life. It is both a blessing and also a cheer. "Mabuhay" is such a large word that it lends itself to a wide number of secondary uses: Welcome, congratulations, thanks, godspeed, hello, good luck, aloha, and many other expressions of goodwill. All of these are part of life, but it is the gift of life that makes them possible. "Mabuhay," in other words, is an invocation and celebration of life itself.

It was the theme word of the revolution of February 1986. In that bloodless coup, human arms overcame steel tanks. Suddenly, it became a fiesta revolution, and triumphant Filipinos stuffed yellow flowers into gun barrels.

To stand on the streets of Manila in July 1986 was to feel a part of history in the making. Filipinos seem solidly supportive of their new government and eager to work together to lift economic depression.

It is these islands so replete with sunshine, charm, and color that comprise our newest North American Baptist Conference mission field. Most of the population lives on eleven large islands. There are 7,107 islands in all.

In July, it was our privilege to visit our missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Leland Bertsch, who have been in the Philippines since April. We visited them one week after they had moved into a duplex home in the city of Legazpi on the island of Luzon. They will work with two language helpers to learn the Bicol language. It was a joy to see Lee and Jennell eager to start language study and neighborhood Bible study groups.

The Bertsches plan to utilize a method of church growth known as

key center strategy. In this plan, the first step is to establish a centrally located church in an urban area with ready access to public transportation. Bible study cell groups, led by laymen, are then formed in outlying areas. On Sunday, the cell groups meet at the central church for a celebration and worship service.

How inspiring it was to see that plan at work on our Sunday in Manila: We worshiped at Metro Manila Bible Community of Baptist Conference of the Philippines with the Bertsches and other missionaries. It was a wonderful service with a Filipino band supplying the music, talented singers, and a message by a gifted Filipino pastor.

The Philippines is at the crossroads of Asia. Colonizers and invaders have come and gone. Out of diversity of cultures and bloods has come a

broad tolerance for other groups and ways. The Philippines is a true melting pot.

We enjoyed getting to know the friendly and relaxed Filipino people, who are naturally hospitable. They're courteous and gracious even among themselves. A host will pull out all stops to make a guest feel at home.

Pray for the Bertsches' ease in learning Bicol. Pray that their contacts will be fruitful. Pray that they might add a new dimension to "Mabuhay"—a celebration of a new life, lived in the hearts of men and women dedicated to Jesus Christ. □

Nancy Folkerts and her husband Fred, associate missions director, visited Philippines in July. Nancy is an elementary school teacher and a member of Village Green Baptist Church, Glen Ellyn, IL.



Jennell Bertsch was welcomed by these neighbor girls in her new home in Legazpi on Luzon Island in the Philippines.

what's happening

The Rev. Norman Dreger became the pastor of Valleyview Baptist Church, Valleyview, Alberta, on August 17, 1986. He previously served as Associate Pastor at Parkland Baptist Church, Spruce Grove, Alberta.

Mr. Cliff Lander became pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Drumheller, Alberta, on August 1. He is a 1986 graduate of the North American Baptist Divinity School.

Mr. Ray Hammill became Associate Director of the International Christian Education Association, Detroit, Michigan, August 1. He has been Minister of Youth/Christian Education at Grosse Pointe Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, since 1981.

The Rev. Etan Pelzer accepted the pastorate of Apple Valley Baptist Church, Apple Valley, Minnesota, effective September 1. He served as pastor of Twin Pines Baptist Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, since 1977.

The Rev. Jim Yerke resigned as Minister of Youth and Families at Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Michigan, effective August 17 to study at Grand Rapids Seminary.

The Rev. Harry Friess resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, Saskatchewan, effective August 11 to become pastor of a non-N.A.B. church.

The Rev. Robert Cornwell resigned as pastor of Isabel Baptist Church, Isabel, South Dakota, effective August 10, to become pastor of a non-N.A.B. church.

The Rev. Dan O'Clair became pastor of Eagle Rock Baptist Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho, on September 1. He previously pastored Mowata Baptist Church, Eunice, Louisiana.

The Rev. Myrl Thiesies resigned as pastor of Odessa Baptist Church, Odessa, Washington, effective September 27. He has served this Church for four years. The family will be residing in Spokane, Washington, awaiting the Lord's leading.

Mr. Don Cantrell and his family were honored by Temple Baptist Church and Faith Baptist Fellowship, a church extension project, Medicine Hat, Alberta, for faithfully serving Faith as interim pastor of this church planting project. Mr. Cantrell continues studies at the North American Baptist Seminary this fall.

Mr. Loren Kopf was recognized for

his seven years of faithful service in the Christian Education and Youth Ministries of Temple Baptist Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta, on June 29, 1986. He is now the new Director of "New Day" and Youth for the North American Baptist Conference.

Dr. Arthur Brust has accepted the senior pastorate of Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, British Columbia, effective October 1, 1986. He has served as pastor of Willow Rancho Baptist Church, Sacramento, California, since 1969, and is the Moderator of the Northern California Association.

The new urban/ethnic ministry in West New York, New Jersey, with Jamie Maldonado as pastor is called New Life Baptist Church.

The Rev. David Priestley was granted the Doctor of Theology degree by the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Illinois, on June 8, 1986. Dr. Priestley has been promoted to Associate Professor of Historical Theology at the North American Baptist Divinity School, Edmonton, Alberta.

Ms. Vicki Biggerstaff began serving as Reference and Technical Services Librarian on July 1, 1986, at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She previously served a part-time library position while pursuing theological studies at N.A.B. Seminary. She is a 1984 Master of Arts graduate in Library Science from the University of Iowa.

Ms. Fran Hoogestraat has been promoted to Director of Public Relations and Housing at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For the past two years, she has served as Housing Director and Assistant in Public Relations. Hoogestraat is a 1979 graduate in Mass Communications from South Dakota State University. Prior to coming to N.A.B. Seminary, she served for five years as a staff assistant in the Washington, D.C. office of Senator James Abdnor.

Mr. Bernie Wollenberg, youth worker at Rowandale Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, completed his ministry there on July 6, 1986. He has returned to studies in music education.

The Rev. Tim Blackburn became Associate Pastor at Redeemer Baptist Church, Warren, Michigan, effective August 17, 1986. He previously served

as Director of Christian Education and Music at Apple Valley Baptist Church, Apple Valley, Minnesota.

The Rev. Henry Ramus becomes pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 1, 1986. He previously served as Associate Pastor of Church Ministries at Oak Street Baptist Church, Burlington, Iowa, since 1979.

Chaplain Herbert I. Freeman retires from hospital chaplaincy ministry at the end of October 1986. He and his family will move to Crestwood Village, Whiting, New Jersey. He has served for eight years as a chaplain with the Veterans Administration in Wilmington, Delaware.

Dr. Tom Johnson was promoted to Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology at the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, effective July 1, 1986. He began his teaching ministry at N.A.B. Seminary in July 1983 serving as Associate Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology.

Dr. Roy DeBrand was promoted to Professor of Homiletics and Director of Distance Learning at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, effective July 1, 1986. He recently served as associate professor in both areas.

The Rev. R.I. Thompson completed an appreciated interim pastoral ministry at Ripley Boulevard Baptist Church, Alpena, Michigan, and is now serving as interim pastor of Oak Street Baptist Church, Burlington, Iowa.

Mr. Loren Stark was ordained by Lakeview Heights Baptist Church, Kelowna, British Columbia, on June 12, 1986. He is Assistant Pastor at the Lakeview Heights Church, where he has served for two years.

Mr. Paul Keller resigned as Minister of Christian Education at Bethel Baptist Church, Missoula, Montana, where he has served since 1983. He has accepted a position with Youth for Christ in the Missoula area.

estate planning

How to Choose a Trustee for Your Trust

(This article is a continuation of the discussion on trusts printed in the September issue of the Baptist Herald. It focuses on who should be a trustee.)

The choice of a trustee for your trust is very important. If you establish the trust during your lifetime, and the purpose is purely for the avoidance of probate and management in case of disability, you might wish to serve as your own trustee while you are able. You can appoint a successor trustee to take over at the time of your death or incompetency.

The successor trustee can be a family member or trusted friend. However, it is important to consider the conflicts in interpersonal relationships that may arise when an individual who is a beneficiary of the estate is asked to make decisions which affect his or her inheritance, as well as the inheritance of others.

Therefore, a bank or trust company might be a good choice, as they are always there; they have experience; and they are usually not involved in the interpersonal relationships in which individuals, especially family members, may become involved. In short, they are a third party who does not have vested interest in the property.

If you are concerned that there be a personal touch in the management of your trust, nominating an individual to serve as co-trustee with a bank or trust company may be a very workable compromise.

Trusts and Charitable Giving

A trust can also be a very valuable tool in your giving program.

With a charitable trust, you may be able to

- 1) Avoid capital gains tax on appreciated property,
- 2) Receive a tax shelter in the form of a charitable deduction this year,

just by guaranteeing that the charity will receive the property at your death, and

3) Substantially increase your income from low or non-income producing property.

There are many other valuable advantages, such as professional management of property, gift and estate tax savings, and probate avoidance.

Is a Trust for You?

One of the most common questions asked is, "Do I need a trust?"

Naturally, that depends upon your circumstances, but to help you better answer this question, as it pertains to your own estate plan, we have prepared a Special Planning Report on **The Use of Trusts in Estate Planning and Charitable Giving**, which will be of interest and value to you.

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capital funds

A Letter from Allan Steier

"One of the most essential items on a missionary's list of needs is a house. Of course, like any house, it is a place to live, to sleep, to grow up, and to build memories. But for a missionary in a foreign land (and any Christian, for that matter), a house can become a tool to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

"The Capital Funds contributions that you, as North American Baptists, have given have made it possible for a house to be built in Nagoya, Japan. Thank you for your generous contributions. We trust that this house will be a place where guests are always welcome, a place where those seeking truth and meaning in life can meet the Lord Jesus Christ, a place where we can grow as a family, and a place where the Lord will be honored in and through our daily

"On July 16, 1986, this newest mission house was dedicated to the Lord. The Rev. Fred Folkerts, associate missions director, and his wife Nancy were able to participate in the dedication service during their visit to the Japan field in July.

"We again want to express our gratitude for your contributions to the Capital Funds Campaign and would ask for your continued prayers as the work in Japan grows."



mission news

Tayui Receives Medical Degree

Ebenezer Tayui received his M.D. degree from Northwestern School of Medicine in Chicago, IL, June 13, 1986. Ebenezer and his father, William Tayui, principal of Saker Baptist College, Limbe, Cameroon, are fruit of many years' labor by North American Baptist Conference missionaries. Both are committed Christians and were educated in the Baptist school system of Cameroon.

Cameroonian students presently located in Chicago and members of the N.A.B. Missions Department attended the graduation ceremony.

After completing his residency in internal medicine in Chicago, Ebenezer plans to return home to Cameroon to work. —Nancy Folkerts

MEK WI KOT PANABU: 200 Sweet Truths from Baba and Mami Africa

[African proverbs in Pidgin-English and English with comments and scriptural references.]

Edited by Gilbert D. Schneider
(former N.A.B. missionary to Cameroon)

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