

# BAPTIST HERALD

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1993



**"Lord Jesus,  
as it would please you,  
bring me someone today  
whom I can serve."**

*—Richard Foster*

## This Month

### NORTH AMERICA

#### Quail Lakes Church features AIDS education Sunday

On Sunday morning, December 27, Quail Lakes Baptist Church, Stockton, CA, gave the AIDS issue major exposure to its congregation according to Associate Pastor Wayne Bibelheimer. Doctors, social workers, and professionals from various sectors, seated at the front of the sanctuary, served as a panel. Video clips, called "The Tale of Two Churches" by Pastor Fred Jantz, opened and closed the discussion. The first clip featuring a pastor whose wife had contracted the virus through a medical related incident told the story of his church asking him to resign and leave because of her illness. The second clip featured a homosexual who through a loving church accepted Christ as Savior, married, had a family, and was instrumental in leading many others to the Lord before his death due to the virus.

Several months earlier, the staff of Quail Lakes Church had drawn up an AIDS response policy, so "our Church could be specific about our response to people with AIDS," says Bibelheimer. "In this way, we portrayed an attitude of leadership before the Church needed to make a response. As a result, we are now ministering to a person with AIDS and to another who has a son with AIDS."

#### Northern California Association welcomes Romanian church

This month, the Northern California Association voted and welcomed into its membership the Romanian Baptist Church of the San Francisco Bay area, which meets in San Leandro. The Church with more than 130 members currently does not have a pastor, but Pastor Josif Bote of Modesto is serving them

half-time. Constantin Cristea serves as Deacon Board chair.

This brings the number of Romanian Baptist churches affiliated with the N.A.B. Conference in California to four.

#### Unique study opportunities provided in January

Students, pastors, and laypersons took advantage of the excellent resources at North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, in January. Eighteen classes were offered by Seminary faculty and other well-known resource persons such as youth expert, Merton Strommen; writer and counselor, Jeff Van Vonderen; and Edmonton Baptist Seminary professor and vice president, Syd Page.

Off-campus courses included a wilderness theology course taught in the Black Hills of South Dakota and an urban ministry experience to the oppressed of Minneapolis.

Classes on "Small Group Dynamics" and "Dealing with the Demonic in a Pastoral Setting" drew about 45 persons to study in intersession classes at Edmonton (AB) Baptist Seminary in January.

#### Alberta pastors challenged to act about Give imperative

About 50 Northern Alberta pastors met on the Edmonton Baptist Seminary campus on January 14 to hear a panel discuss the Vision 2000 imperative: *Committed to Give*. The Rev. Ruben Herrmann, Rudy Dyck, and Dr. Gary Nelson served as panel members.

#### Jesus film to be seen in Mexico City

The Jesus film ministry of Campus Crusade will again target Mexico City in February 1993. This year's outreach is under the direction of former N.A.B. Missionary Ken Priebe. A number of film showings will be held in the ministry area of N.A.B. Missionary Juan Luna.

### WORLD

#### Wegner granted visa

Many prayers have been answered as Karen Wegner has been granted a visa to enter Nigeria to teach music at Hillcrest School in Jos. Karen, appointed as a short-term missionary, leaves her home in Whitemouth, MB, for Nigeria on January 20. Continue to pray that visas will be granted for Dr. Ken and Fran Jones and the Rev. Peter and Sue Aaldyk to enter as missionaries to serve in Nigeria.

#### State of emergency lifted in Cameroon

Word received January 4 from Dr. Oryn Meinerts indicates that the State of Emergency in North West Province in Cameroon has been lifted. This had been imposed due to civil unrest following the governmental elections in 1992. More than 170 detainees have been released. Traffic is running freely. Most of the road barriers within and in the outskirts of Bamenda placed by militants have been removed.

Meinerts, who is field secretary for the N.A.B. mission work in Cameroon, reports that the annual meeting of the Cameroon Missionary Fellowship during the Christmas holidays was delayed only one day.

#### New decisions made for Christ each week in Brazil

God continues to bless the new church in Novo Hamburgo, South Brazil, as each week new people make decisions for Christ. The intensive evangelistic outreach of a number of the men from this Church brings continual fruit.

A Christmas party for high-rise dwellers resulted in three couples from the Good News Church sharing their faith with a number of people who would otherwise have had no exposure to the Gospel message.



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# My Goals . . . Your Goals



by Neta Jackson

I don't know about you, but 20 years of marriage have taught me that the majority of problems can be traced back to some form of uncommunicated expectations. For instance, a typical interaction in our early years:

**Me** (coming home at the end of the day): "Boy, am I tired." (That's what I said, but what I meant was, "I sure would like to have some help making supper.")

**Dave:** "Yeah, know what you mean. I had a rough day, too. Why don't we just relax tonight in front of the TV?"

**Me** (now feeling a twinge of irritation that he didn't catch my hook): "Oh, I don't know. I had been planning to wash the kitchen floor tonight."

**Dave** (incredulous): "Tonight? You just said you were tired! We'll do it Saturday. Let's relax. There's a good movie on at eight."

**Me** (suddenly determined to wash the floor): "It can't wait until Saturday. We're having company Friday evening. Forget it. I've got to start supper."

I washed the floor, sighing now and then. He ignored me. That made me mad.

A little thing really, but a pattern of erratic communication took shape that began to have more serious overtones as time went by. Wishing Dave were different in this or that respect . . . blaming Dave when he failed to read my hidden messages . . . feeling unloved when Dave didn't respond according to my expectations . . . uncommunicated expectations about roles . . . These things left us both feeling bewildered and angry.

## Principles to help with uncommunicated expectations

But over the years I've learned a few principles that have helped me with those uncommunicated expectations:

- Make my needs or wishes known instead of expecting Dave to automatically sense what they are. "Could you peel these carrots for supper? I'm running late and

could use about ten minutes of help." (I was surprised how much pride is involved in this. I don't like to ask for help. I want someone to size up the situation and offer.)

- State my needs simply, not generalizing or adding blame to the situation. "Could you peel these carrots?" Not, "Why don't you ever help me with supper?"
- Things I'd like to have happen regularly should be agreed upon ahead of time. "Could we take turns in the morning—one of us make breakfast while the other makes lunches, and vice versa?"
- Don't have expectations for things not agreed on ahead of time. Last-minute requests are favors, and may not be convenient for the other person. "I can't peel those carrots right now, Neta. I just promised Julian I'd help him with his math."
- Vague comments that give hidden messages ("I sure wish people would pick up after themselves around here!") leave others feeling uncomfortable and defensive. If something is bothering me, I need to speak directly to the person, and be specific.
- Timing is important. Just as someone is going out the door or just before bed is not the time to try and solve problems. Also, right in the middle of an upsetting situation is usually not the time to unleash general feelings. Deal with the immediate problem simply: "Rachel, you're late. Get your hands washed and sit down at the table quickly." Later the general problem can be dealt with: "Rachel, you've been late

for breakfast three mornings this week. This can't continue, so . . ."

- Anticipate problematic situations, and agree ahead of time what the mutual expectations are going to be. Does leaving early for our family vacation mean 5 a.m. or 8 a.m.? Who shops for whose relatives at Christmas? Do we want to be with friends on our night out, or just the two of us?
- Don't test each other's love. ("If he does this or that without me having to ask, then I'll know I'm really important to him.") This is game playing at its worst and totally unfair to the other person. Back rubs or remembering the anniversary-of-the-day-we-met may not be what comes to his mind when he wants to express his undying love—although he may be perfectly willing to give a back rub (et al) upon request.
- Keep in mind that love is forgiveness. We rarely set out to hurt each other, even though we may do it unintentionally. Not jumping to conclusions or judging each other's motives or blaming each other, but rather sitting down to discover where misunderstandings occurred or communications broke down goes a long way to putting out small fires. After all, Christ's love for us is a forgiving love, accepting us with all our weaknesses and failures. We would extend the same forgiving love to each other. □

Neta Jackson and her husband Dave are writer-editors who live in Evanston, IL. They have two grown children. Reprinted by permission David C. Cook Publishing Company.

## Don't Tell Anyone!

### What to do when a teen wants you to promise not to tell anyone about his or her problem.

by Rich Van Pelt

**W**e need to be very careful in making this kind of commitment.

There are times when other people have to be involved. If a kid tells me that she's involved in an incestuous relationship, or if a kid tells me that he's going to kill himself, I have a moral responsibility to preserve life, not friendship. And I'd rather not be in the bind of having made a commitment to tell no one and then have to violate the commitment.

In my own ministry with kids, I've come to a point where I will never say yes to that kind of request. I say, "You've got to trust my commitment to you that I'm going to handle the information you give me in your best interest." I think that's a lot more honest. I've done this for years now, and I've never had a kid say, "Well, then, I'm not going to talk to you." What kids need is the assurance that we're not going to tell the world. □

Rich Van Pelt is a chaplain with the Colorado Department of Corrections—Division of Youth Services, and Director of Road Home Ministries in Denver, CO. Reprinted by permission of David C. Cook Publishing Co.



# To Tithe or Not to Tithe . . . (that *was* the question)

by Darrell W. McKay

**I**t was Saturday night, decision time, in our rented flat on the far west side of Chicago. The decision had to do with tithing and our circumstances.

It is not that we didn't believe in the practice of tithing, but there were questions regarding our current situation. Here we were, just recently transplanted from a small town in Northern Maine to the city of Chicago, newly enrolled at Moody Bible Institute, two young boys to support, full-time school, and only a part-time job.

We had enough funds of our own to stay in school about six months and were praying the Lord would somehow give us three years there.

Should we continue to tithe as had been our practice, or was it permissible to give less now that I was studying for the ministry, had a family, and only a part-time job? What was the right course of action?

I was not all that young in years, but I was a young Christian and naive in some ways regarding the faith. My wife Judy and I had joined our home church at the same time, having been baptized together. During the pastor's class for membership, our pastor taught us many things about the Christian life and spoke briefly about tithing. I didn't see how we could give one-tenth to the church on a regular basis, but that week we gave our tithe.

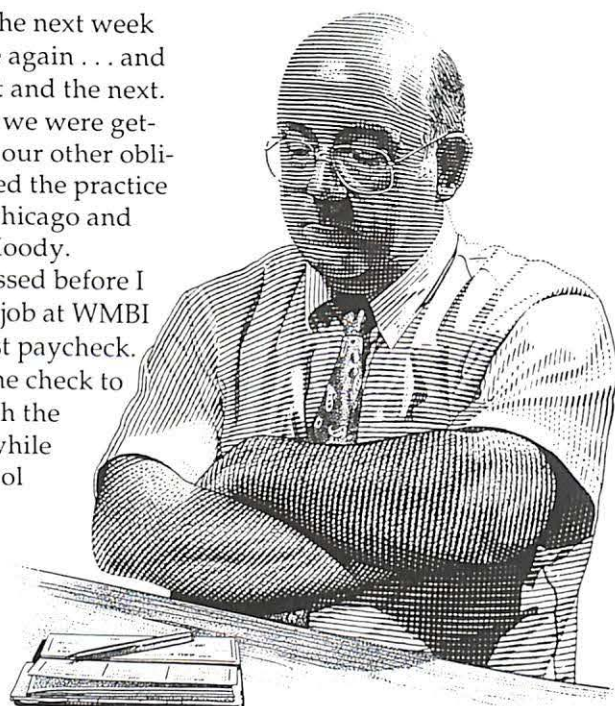
As it turned out, the next week we were able to tithe again . . . and the next and the next and the next. It was amazing how we were getting by and meeting our other obligations. We continued the practice until we moved to Chicago and began studying at Moody.

Several weeks passed before I began my part-time job at WMBI and received my first paycheck. While I waited for the check to come, I wrestled with the question of tithing while attending Bible school . . . and caring for a family . . . on part-time wages. Then the check came. It was decision time!

**T**he decision we made was to continue to trust God and to tithe as long as we could. We knew God had blessed greatly. We had always had sufficient money left over to meet all our needs, so we just could not stop tithing now. I made out the check that night and went to bed.

On Sunday, we went to church and gave the Lord His tithe—thankful for all He had done, for His unquestioned leading and bountiful provision.

After the service, we drove to our apartment. As we walked up the steps to the front porch, I saw a letter sticking out of the mailbox. This was Sunday. The mail is not delivered on Sunday. We knew the



letter was not there when we left for church, and it hadn't come Saturday either.

We took the letter inside and read the return address. It was from someone who was happy to know we were going into ministry. They had sent us a check for \$500 to help with expenses. This was in 1972, before the inflation spiral and energy crisis, when \$500 was a lot of money.

As the months went by, the Lord did provide for us in unexpected ways. The end result was that He gave us six years at Bible college and graduate school when all I had ever hoped for was three.

## COMMITTED TO GIVE



Darrell W. McKay, pastor

Getting back to the Sunday morning arrival of a Special Delivery letter. The lesson that came through to us so loud and clear was that we had made the right decision, that is, to give the Lord that which belongs to Him even though you cannot see the outcome of His ways.

We shall never forget that while we were in God's house making good on our commitment to tithe, He came to our house with a sum many times as great as what we gave Him.

Will you receive a check in the mail if you begin to tithe? Probably not. God is not confined to bless His people in only one way. But this I firmly believe, if His people will trust Him for the rest of today and all their tomorrows, He will show Himself gracious so that every need is met.

If we trust God with our eternal well-being, let's also learn to trust Him for our temporal needs as well. Remember that promise of Hebrews 13:5, which is given in the context of money, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." □

*The Rev. Darrell W. McKay is pastor of Redeemer Baptist Church, Parma, OH. Mr. McKay served as a Bible teacher and devotional leader at the Cameroon Baptist Convention General Council sessions in December and spoke in various churches in Cameroon.*

# Ministering with Women in Cameroon

by Marcy Hufnagel

**W**hat is women's ministry like in Cameroon? I have been memorizing verses such as Proverbs 31:22. If we were learning these in French, then we would at least have a common language since I studied French as a second language.

The women are very comfortable with their tribal language and reasonably comfortable in Pidgin English. Most of them don't understand my English any better than I understand theirs, so we don't communicate too well. All I have to do is miss a couple of weeks; then I can't even tell if they are speaking Pidgin or their vernacular language.

## "She makes coverage for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple" (Proverbs 31:22)

Women's groups visit homes when a new baby arrives or a death occurs in the family. Our group was visiting all the women's homes when we arrived in Bafoussam. My turn arrived shortly after that. The women arrived with a large plastic tub. Each one brought a three inch square block of soap as a gift. I received 19 blocks of soap and a nice laundry basket. The interesting thing is that by the time I take a block of soap for all the women, I've given away all my soap again. The woman hosting is responsible to supply supper for everyone. I made my food as African as I could and then served salads and cake, which the women enjoyed as well.

In our weekly meetings, we conduct business, which sometimes takes the whole meeting to accom-

plish. Bible lessons deal with such topics as "Personal Hygiene," "Family Planning," and "Loving Your Husband" even when he is not considerate. Some of the situations women face here are very similar to those we face in North America, but some are very different.

Having a large family is very important to these people. A Bamileke woman sat in our home Sunday evening and asked us to pray that she would have another child. She has five, all in school, but has only one daughter and wants another one. It is not uncommon for a man to marry a second wife if the first does not bear children or does not bear sons.

One of the Bamileke women did not come to the meetings for more than a month. We were concerned because we knew her husband opposed her reading the Bible. What a surprise when she visited us again. We saw that her faith is still strong in spite of her husband's opposition. She shared with us that she suspects him of being involved in Satanism but to expose him may mean risking her very life. Please pray for her and her growth in the Lord.

What am I telling you? Only that I am not leading the women's Bible studies, nor am I involved in discipleship. I'm attending meetings to be a friend to the women and to learn as much as I can. □



*Missionary Marcy Hufnagel and her husband, Dale, serve as church planters in Bafoussam, Cameroon, where they are beginning a French-speaking church.*

# HARDSHIPS FORESHADOW REWARDS

by Ramona C. Schroth

**S**omething happened to me last night. Something that was terrifying, shocking, maddening, and cruel. Yet, it was good. How is it that God can take a situation so terrible, and make it worthwhile? I stand in awe of Him.

Last night, I was robbed. I had just rolled down my car window as I came to a halt on the side of the road. I turned to speak with Esther. Not a second later, a hand reached in and grabbed my neck. His hand met mine as I salvaged my throat, salvaged my chain, and lost my precious pendant. Why precious? I'll answer that in a moment.

To continue . . . He ran. I screamed. He ran faster. I followed. His team grew. My defenses diminished. Or had they? What was my "shield?" I certainly felt more alone. Some of his partners in crime turned down a side street. I stopped. Now what?

A lady selling vegetables screamed, "Go no further. You and your friends are not safe!" Doubtless death row was ahead. She was panicked. I was mad. No . . . I was furious. I had been violated.

A crowd gathered, naturally; a crowd which included some of the criminals. Now I was confused. What was I to do? I was stuck. That

is, I was stuck if I wished to spare my life. Now, others might say, "Please, don't be so drastic." May it suffice to say, I WAS THERE.

All that was left to do was to gather up my senses and to drive away before the car was not to be had as well. I did just that. I clutched the steering wheel and sped off.

Why at this moment did the tear of sadness trickling down my cheek suddenly turn into a tear of joy? Why did a smile suddenly tickle my lips? Why did a chill suddenly shoot through my body when just seconds earlier I had broken into a sweat. Wow, the Holy Spirit feels incredible, I tell you!

I touched my neck. Pain! Nonetheless, thankfully only scratches and small bruises were to be had. A reminder that God had saved my life yet again! He still wants to use me. And I am overjoyed!

My lesson to be had is as follows:

A precious pendant had been dangling 'round my neck. I had not removed it in four or five years time, as it was truly a special memoir from dad. For this I am sad. As well, it was precious to the robber. As the night light caught the sparkle of the gold, he was driven to have this possession.

I have also been driven by my greediness and selfishness. I had been more fully attuned to my material desires here in Africa than to my unfailing God. I had chosen to spend my energies catering to my needs and desires instead of fulfilling God's desires for me.

Why have I come here? To share the love of God, to meet the needs of what people I can, and to be open and obedient to His plan for me.

Can I say that this incident happened just at the right time? By the saving grace of God's hand, my life was saved. The thief got gold, but I got a new glimpse of God. The thief holds a pendant. I hold God's hand. My insight is all the more rewarding because I have endured that which is hard. And won.

Repeatedly in my life, it appears that great hardships foreshadow some of the greatest rewards. My God is indeed an awesome God! Thank you, God. □

Ramona C. Schroth is a long-term volunteer in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

## Have You Had Your Annual Checkup?

by Ron Mayforth

**I**t is important to have an annual checkup, isn't it? Especially as we age, this is crucial. The doctor is able to spot early warning signs of disease as well as counsel us on how to live to cooperate with our wellness.

This is probably not only true for individuals but also for marriages, families, churches, associations, denominations, and other institutions.

Have you had your annual checkup? Do you need an outside person to help you get a clear and accurate evaluation?

In 1992 in N.A.B. Conference churches, we joined together to meet the challenge: "Compelled to Serve." The Great Physician from Nazareth counsels us to follow Him in service as a way to wellness as believers, churches, and a Conference. I wonder if He might check for some of the following vital signs as He lives and works among us:

- Am I, as a believer, asking Christ anew where He would like me to serve?
- Am I, as a believer, asking Christ to help me clarify and purify my motives for service?
- Are we, as a church, teaching about the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit and helping one another to discover ways to experience and release us in service?
- Are we, as a church, exegeting our neighborhood to discover mission opportunities to which Christ might call us?
- Are we, as a church, encouraging and equipping each other to serve Christ with joy and excel-



lence in the church, the home, the community, in our occupations, and in the world at large?

- Are we, as a church, helping each other discover new delight and creativity in "serving one another in love" (Galatians 5:13)?
- Are new volunteers signing up to serve Christ?
- In our church, are older Christians, discovering new joys, energy, and purpose in a new field of ministry?
- In our church, are we so intentionally seeking the will of God that part of our ranks are saying "yes" to the call of God to occupational Christian service . . . the pastorate, counselling, international missions, church planting, chaplaincy, youth work, Christian education, denominational leadership, or writing?
- Am I, as an individual, and is my church discovering and using better ways to support those in ministry to bring healing and renewal to those who may have been worn down by the task?
- Are we, as a church, developing new ways to celebrate God's servants and the resulting fruit?

□ Is our church considering the use of or presently using some of the ideas and resources suggested in the *Serve Imperative Resource Book* from the N.A.B. Conference?

**This annual checkup could be done in a variety of healthful settings as follows:**

- In your private or family devotions, using your calendars, your Bible, and your journals
- With a spiritual friend or mentor in a day long retreat
- In an annual leadership retreat
- In a corporate worship, testimony, prayer, and commitment service
- In a church board meeting or an association executive session
- In a Conference staff meeting or workshop

How have you or I grown in our service with Christ? Where do we hear Him calling or feel Him nudging?

"Compelled to Serve" is not a one year emphasis, 1992, and then, thank God, we move on to something new and fresh. "Compelled to Serve" is the daily direction and privilege for each of our lives the rest of our lives. Thank God!

May all of us find new consistency and joy in praying Richard Foster's prayer each day: "Lord Jesus, as it would please you, bring me someone today whom I can serve" (*Celebration of Discipline*, page 140).

Have you had your annual checkup? What did the doctor say? Did He give a prescription? What will you do now? □

Ron Mayforth is Church Ministries Director for the N.A.B. Conference.

*Is Christianity waning or growing dramatically?*

# Are We Losing the Battle?

by Rick Wood

**H**ave we entered the post-Christian age? Is the Christian church on the decline? Much is said in the news and on TV today about the decline of moral values and the decline of the church's influence in the world. The question then arises: Is it true that Christians are losing the battle to other faiths and other forces in the world?

The charts here show that just the opposite is true. Instead of declining, the number of evangelical Christians has been growing rapidly—at more than three times the rate of world population growth. Between 1950 and 1992, Bible-believing Christians went from just three percent of the world population to ten percent of the population. This is a jump from 80 million to 540 million.

While the West was busy fighting the Cold War, Bible-believing Christians were quietly but dramatically winning the battle of ideology all over the world.

Today in the Russian Republic, Biblical Christianity is being taught openly in every school of the land.

Many other areas of the world have seen spectacular growth of the Christian church. The number of African Christians has grown from just three percent of all Africans in 1900 to forty-six percent today. Asian Christianity has grown from 16 million to 75 million in just the last nine years. The evangelical movement in Latin America is currently growing at three times the general rate of population. When the Communists took over in 1949, there were only around one million Christians in the country. Under intense and severe persecution, the

number of Christians in China has grown to more than 50 million believers today.

This growth trend, while accelerating dramatically in recent years, has been continuing relentlessly for almost 2,000 years. In 100 AD, there were an estimated 360 non-Christians for every Christian. Today, there are only 6.8 non-Christians (those who do not claim to be Christian) for every evangelical Christian.

**The evangelical faith has the unique power of God behind its multiplication to make it the most vital force on earth since its appearance 2000 years ago.**

God's initiative since AD 100 displays determined and increasing activity to build His Church. **Note: It took 18 centuries for evangelicals to go from 0 percent of the world population to 2.5 percent in 1900, only 70 years to go from 2.5 percent to 5 percent in 1970, and just the last 22 years to go from 5 percent to 10 percent of the world population. What this means is that now, for the first time in history, there is one evangelical for every nine non-evangelicals world-wide.**

According to Dr. Ralph Winter of the U.S. Center for World Mission, "Despite the rapid increase in world population, the number of faithful Bible-believing Christians is in-

creasing faster than any other large movement or religion. It is doubling every ten and a half years."

This does not mean, however, that the missionary task of Christianity is over. The U.S. Center for World Mission in Pasadena, CA, estimates that there are still 11,000 ethnic or people groups, such as the Kurds, that are largely untouched by the Gospel.

In order to bring the Gospel to all 11,000 ethnic groups, 75 major mission agencies have endorsed the concept of churches adopting each group for prayer and sending of missionaries.

Thousands of Christian mission organizations have set aggressive goals to present the Christian message to every person on earth by the year 2000.

The latest trend in missions is for new Christians from the mission fields of the world to go as missionaries themselves to the remaining unreached people groups.

## Can the Job Be Finished by the Year 2000?

There is great excitement in the Christian community concerning what can be done by the year 2000. But what is realistic? If we look at the mass of humanity inhabiting our globe and the size of the task, it can give us ample opportunity for discouragement. The number of children to be put to bed tonight in your city is enough to make you tired, let alone all the needs of five and a half billion people. Yet understanding doesn't come merely from stretching our minds to comprehend mega-numbers. The children needing attention are only a problem if they grow out of proportion

to the number of families equipped to care for them.

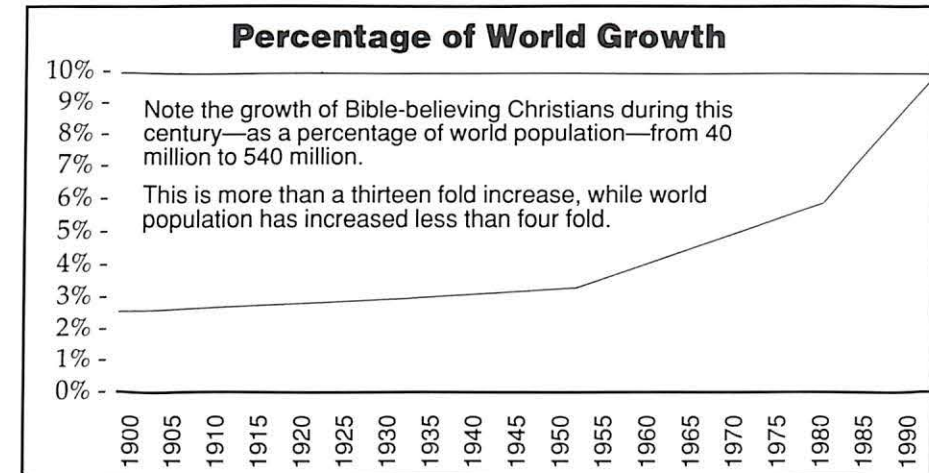
So it is with all world problems. Billions need to be evangelized, and they are growing at a tremendous rate, but two additional facts are essential to understanding the full picture:

- 1) How **big** is the work force relative to the harvest field? and
- 2) How **fast** is the work force growing relative to the harvest field?

## "A Church for Every People and the Gospel for Every Person by the Year 2000!"

The two charts show us that the potential work force has grown to 10 percent of world population, and it is growing at more than three times the rate of world population growth. This means that it is continually getting easier to evangelize the world and complete the Great Commission.

We also know from God's Word that there **will be** people in Heaven from every tribe, tongue, people,



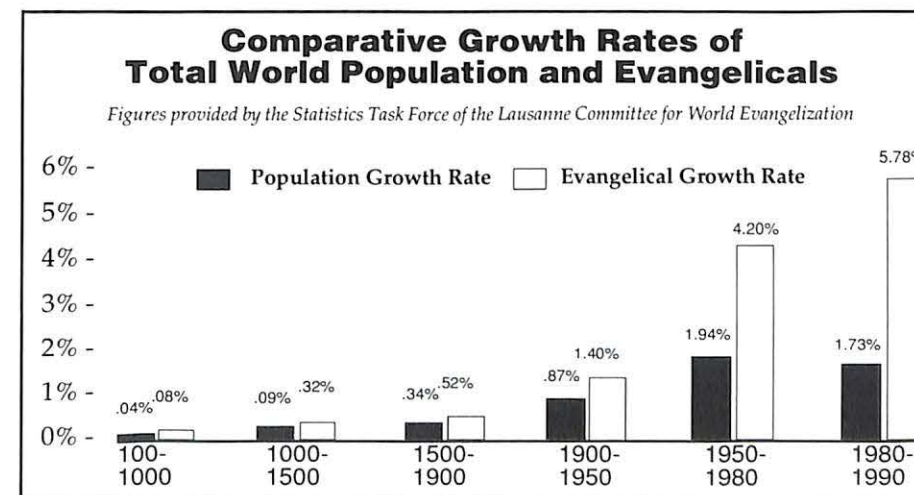
and nation standing before the throne of God as seen in Revelation 7:9. This is a certainty. The only doubt is how long it will take.

The statistics presented here dramatically demonstrate the truth that the *evangelical faith has the unique power of God behind its multiplication to make it the most vital force on earth since its appearance 2000 years ago.*

Only time will tell whether or not we will reach the goal of bringing the Gospel to every people by the year 2000, but the recent trends bode well for our success. □

Rick Wood is Editor of *Mission Frontiers*, the bulletin of the U.S. Center for World Missions. Reprinted by permission.

This chart shows, from the average annual growth rates during the six periods indicated, that evangelicals (light bars) have consistently grown from 1.5 to 3.5 times as fast as the world population (dark bars).



The figures in the charts are provided by the Statistics Task Force of the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization.

## What N.A.B. Conference Is Doing

• The North American Baptist Conference in cooperation with the national Baptist conventions is seeking to reach the following previously unreached people groups:

**In Cameroon** - Essimbi, Assumbo, Furu-awa, Fulbe people (*Clarks in Allat*) and Tanyang, Bamileke (*Hufnagels in Bafoussam*), and Baka (*survey done; Oryn Meinerts and the Cameroon Baptist Convention Medical Board are involved*).

**In Nigeria** - Ndoro, Tigon, and Fulbe on the Mambilla Plateau  
**In Brazil** - Fishing families of Campeche area; Igleses is being targeted for 1994

• National Baptist conventions with whom we work are supporting and sending missionaries to other countries:

**Brazilian Baptist Convention** to Canada, Mozambique, Azores, Macao, and Portugal as well as unreached people in Brazil, particularly the Amazon  
**Cameroon Baptist Convention** to Bioko and Equatorial Guinea  
**Japan Baptist Conference** to Philippines

# VALLEYVIEW YOUTH

## serve and witness

What's it like to work on projects overseas? Six youth from Valleyview, a small town of approximately 2,200 in Alberta, served Christ overseas last summer. Three of these teens give a glimpse into ministry overseas. Their Church, Emmanuel Baptist, provided prayer support and finances. Sixteen people committed themselves to pray daily for the youth. Allen Unger is their pastor.

### Serena



Uganda - Basketball / volleyball team in front of the medical building project site.



As we arrived in Newark, NJ, we found it very difficult to say goodbye to team members. We had developed a unity that seemed unbreakable.

I thank God for this opportunity to serve. I grew spiritually, and I awakened to the reality that the people in the third world coun-

tries need to know Christ. I wait now to see if it's God's will for me to return to share the free gift of salvation with them.

On August 9, we left Uganda for London, where we spent six days in debriefing . . . how to get back to reality and how to share our summer's work.

—Serena Steffensen (17)



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR CROSS-CULTURAL TEAM MINISTRY**

If you are interested in serving on a team or as a leader in Mexico City, Poland, or Philadelphia the summer of 1993, contact **Gateway**

N.A.B. Conference Missions  
21 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
Phone (708) 495-2000; Fax (708) 495-3301.

plished would not have been possible. On Fridays and Saturdays, our team traveled to various schools, where we taught the nationals how to play basketball and volleyball. Then we presented the gospel to the students through songs, puppets, personal testimonies, and drama. Through talking to the nationals one-to-one, many came to know Christ.

On Sundays, as we traveled to and gave presentations in different churches, we saw the various needs of the people. We became very thankful for what we have in North America.

On June 11, 1992, we left Valleyview. Four days and three nights later, we arrived at Merritt Island, FL, where we attended the Lord's Boot Camp.

During the two weeks of Boot Camp, we learned to lay block, tie steel, mix cement and lay-out, and put up trusses. Also, we learned how to present Christ through puppets, personal testimonies, and group presentations. On July 4, we were commissioned.

On July 7, we flew from Orlando to London . . . then on to Nairobi, Kenya . . . took a bus to Jinja, Uganda, and to our project site 20 minutes from Jinja.

Housed in traditional mud huts, we cooked over an open fire. Of the 27 days we were in Uganda, we worked 18 days on a medical center. We managed to get as far as laying the tiles on the roof. The nationals are to finish the project. Without prayer, what we accom-

### Kerena



Egypt - Orphanage team whose work project was painting a school



finishing our task, we thank the Lord that we completed our project in time.

Our ministry consisted of five presentations a week in the orphanage church. We shared through music, testimonies, puppets, and sometimes skits and in two services, a sermon. We were free to minister inside the orphanage, but not in any form to anyone outside of the orphanage. Team

members could be jailed for witnessing outside the orphanage. We heard that there was no law against killing Christians in Egypt.

Near the end of our stay, we traveled by train to Luscor, Egypt, for two days of sightseeing. Here we witnessed an answer to prayer. When we went to pay our hotel bill for two nights plus meals for 40 people, the bill came to 4,000 pounds. However,

we only had 2,500 pounds. The owner of the hotel happened to be a Christian. He said not to worry about it and to give the money we had to the orphanage. He would cover the cost!

We had a hard time leaving the orphans for we had grown very close to them. They have a special place in my heart.

We returned to Cairo . . . to Prague . . . and on to Sion, Switzerland. There we spent four days at an army camp trying to get used to "regular" life again.

My summer spent with Teen Missions was a growing experience both spiritually and in knowledge. It opened my eyes to the mission field and the awesome need for missionaries. Missions has now become a definite option.

—Kerena Steffensen (16)

Following Boot Camp, my team of 40 left for New York . . . Prague, Czechoslovakia . . . and on to Cairo, Egypt.

Arriving at 3:30 a.m.—extremely tired—it was quite a shock to leave the airport to the sound of Muslim chants and the stares of a large group of Egyptian men. A six-hour bus trip took us to As-siout, a city of three mil-

lion, where our work project, an orphanage, was located.

We worked eight hours a day (excluding Sundays) sanding, plastering, and painting stairways and windows of a three story school for the boys of Lillian Trasher Orphanage, a home for 600 orphans from two months to 20 years, plus elderly widows. Although we often had doubts about

### Janine



Janine Campion (far right) with team on work site in Jamaica



Boot Camp was difficult. Many times I didn't want to be there. But later, I discovered that without Boot Camp, we would never have made it through the rest of the summer.

On July 4, our team of 39 members left Florida for Montego Bay, Jamaica. There we built a maintenance building at the Caribbean Christ for Nations Bible Institute—a two year project. A typical day on the job went something like this: Up at 6 a.m. . . breakfast at 6:30 . . . a half

hour of devotions . . . begin work on the building at 8 a.m. . . lunch from noon until 2 p.m. . . workday ended at 4:45 . . .

supper at 6 . . . free time . . . 7:30 p.m. a rally.

My work, different every day, involved a pick and shovel a lot of the

time. Twice we took a brief break from the project . . . once to the beach to swim . . . and once to visit a craft market.

Several of our team ministered with puppet shows, singing, and testimonies to children in an orphanage. We visited a detention centre, where 30 children came to know Christ.

We flew back to Merritt Island, Florida, for debrief. This was definitely a summer of experiences that gave me a small look at missions.

—Janine Campion (16)



# Introducing our newest missionaries to Mexico

by Dale Fuchs

If someone were to tell you the story of Keith, a bright young lad from Northern Ireland and Evelyn, a delightful señorita from Mexico, who meet in beautiful British Columbia, and a lifetime relationship is born, it would sound like a good scenario for a romance novel. Not only is the above true, but they are our newest international missionaries to be appointed to Mexico.

Keith is one of two children born in Northern Ireland. He has a younger sister.

"My parents always attended church, even after we immigrated to Canada. I grew up knowing and believing that Jesus was God's Son. The time I believe the Lord spoke to me and saved me was when I was 16 years old. That's when I decided by the grace of God to follow Jesus." Keith's parents, William and Hazel Chapman, are members of Sunshine Ridge Baptist Church, Surrey, British Columbia.

As Keith reflects on his Christian growth, he says, "I have always known that the Lord was directing me into His service. When high school graduation came, I ended up in Bible College. Going through Bible College, I was privileged to be introduced to the works and theology of the great reformers and later the Puritans. It has been through reading such works that



Evelyn and Keith Chapman

my knowledge and love for the Scriptures has continued to grow. Yet I cannot remain in an office; I love people and enjoy sharing my faith."

An avid reader, Keith goes through between eight to twelve books a month. His favorite authors include Thomas Watson, John Calvin, and Martin Lloyd Jones.

His Christian service has been mostly within churches providing a ministry to young people. He served as interim pastor of Mary Hill Baptist Church, Port Coquit-

lam, BC, and trained young people for short-term missions exposure. He taught Sunday school, worked as a camp counselor, led missionary teams from college, and served in part-time missions in Mexico.

"I know that the Lord has used my experiences in Mexico to motivate me and plant a real desire within my heart for missions. I see such a need for missionary workers who will equip and train the nationals to plant churches and be pastors."

Evelyn, youngest of eight children born to Jacob and Nela Rempening, was born in Mexico. Brought up in a home where her father was a German Mennonite and her mother a Mexican Catholic, she says, "I came to know the Lord at age 11 and was baptized when I was 17 in the Mennonite Church." Evelyn and Keith are members of Mary Hill Baptist Church, and Evelyn was rebaptized there by immersion on Feb. 9, 1992.

During her growing-up years as a Christian, Evelyn served in a number of different capacities. She worked in camps and did social service at a center for handicapped people. She has helped train a group of young people to serve in Mexico cross-culturally.

# Crisis? What crisis?

by Ken and Jerilyn Bayer

Reading a biography of a missionary first sparked Evelyn's interest in missionary service. Seeing the spiritual need in Mexico further strengthened her interest in becoming a missionary. Because she wanted to work as a missionary among Mexicans, she went to Bible school.

"During my last year in Bible school, I met Keith who was planning to return to Mexico as a full-time missionary. We visited Sonora, where we visited the Cultural Center. There I met Elmer Fehr, who said, 'We have been praying for a national who has training to come to help us.' It has been amazing the way God has worked to send us to Mexico. Now we know where He wants us and are very grateful for that. I am very excited about the opportunity that the Lord has presented to us to serve here."

The Chapmans are serving in the San Carlos area in the State of Sonora. Their assignment: Work with existing new churches . . . train pastors . . . plant new churches . . . and consolidate 25 Baptist churches to form the Sonora Association of the N.A.B. The Chapmans' personal goals include opening a Bible School and starting an orphanage.

Once the Chapmans establish their ministry, they hope many N.A.B. Conference churches will send teams to assist them in ministry. They are located four hours south of Tucson, AZ.

Please pray that God may bless this ministry so that many Mexican people will come to know Jesus Christ personally and follow Him. □



In the midst of the impeachment of the Brazilian president, the helicopter death of Brazil's most influential politician, the increase of inflation, the inmate massacre in Sao Paulo's jail, the mass holdup and looting on Rio de Janeiro's beaches, we can truly remark, "Crisis? What crisis?" What is seen on the national level is even more tragic on a personal one. A people without a future, now without hope.

Contrary to the false doctrine of "health and wealth" in many churches, this bleak picture has tinged the lives of God's people. As those of the world suffer, those of God's body can truly ask, "Crisis? What crisis?" Are they fooling themselves? Are they lying to those around them? No. They just act in a different manner.

On the first Sunday of every month, people come to the evening service of the Good News Baptist Church with a minimum of one kilo of food items. This love offering is taken up and distributed among the most needy in the church during the month. If this is not sufficient, an appeal is made and more is brought in. Often several people will group together to collect food and take it to the needy. In one such instance, the recipient family had

been fairly well to do, but the husband could not land a job. Now that he has a job as second in command in one of the shoe factories, he is arranging jobs for those who do not have any, for those who previously helped him and his family through food donations.

One of our members could not pay his light bills. Several of his brothers in Christ passed the hat around and paid his bills for him.

One of our members opened a fruit stand to supplement his earnings. As many people as possible from the church buy from his stand.

One of our members took worm medicine to a family of new converts. She showed the mother how to administer it to the children.

Several men in the church saw the need of another brother, who could not pay his rent. Five of them split the cost, and the pastor (Ken) took the full amount and paid the rent.

A new couple recently arrived from the interior of the State and became members of the church. Soon after arriving, the wife lost her job, and the couple did not know how they were going to continue paying rent. A new couple in the church (new Christians just three months) saw their plight and hired the wife as a maid and promised to build them a small house on one of their vacant lots.

The list is long and continues to grow daily. There is a chorus known to us all. Some of the words are "And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love." Because of this, we can ask, "Crisis? What crisis?" □

Missionaries Ken and Jerilyn Bayer serve as N.A.B. church planters in Novo Hamburgo, RS, Brazil.



# THERE'S LIFE AFTER THE ARMY!

by Barbara Binder

"There's life after the Army," says Julie Stone, who left on December 6 for Cameroon to serve as an N.A.B. missionary to Cameroon.

After graduating from college, Julie entered medical school under a U.S. Army scholarship. "I repaid my scholarship debt by serving in the U.S. Army," says Julie, "and completed my residency in internal medicine in Texas.

"Because I was interested in missions—cross-cultural work—I requested an overseas assignment," continues Julie. "The Army sent me to South Korea to serve one year and to West Germany for three years."

In 1989, Julie returned to the U.S.A. "The prospect of serving in a medical center was attractive," recalls Julie. "I didn't really want to leave the military." She felt this would give her more time to investigate opportunities and to find out through prayer and interaction with others if this was where she should be.

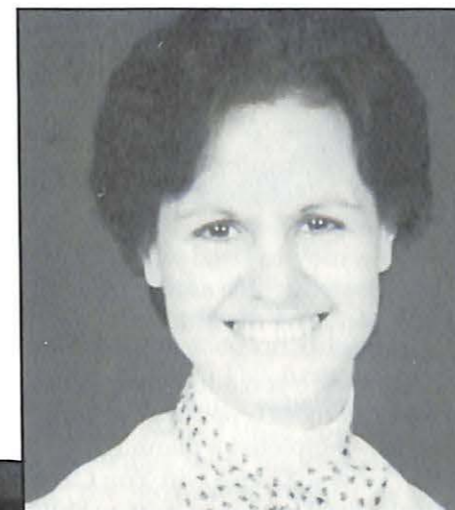
"I really had no peace, even though it was, I thought, the ideal job situation," says Julie. "I prayed: 'Where should I go? What should I do?' I looked into options. I was overwhelmed and scared. Because I

was convinced the Lord wanted me to move on, I left active military duty January 19, 1991.

Julie decided to study at Multnomah School of the Bible in Oregon. "As I studied Scripture, I sought the Lord's guidance as to what was next," says Julie. "Doubts began to creep in. Many people knew where they were going, but I doubted and struggled. I had trouble finding out what the Lord's will was for me. The irony was that in the midst of this struggle I was out of His will. That was the cause of my doubting. 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight' (Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV). I was not doing that at the time."

Raised in a Christian home, Julie accepted Jesus as her personal Savior at age 10. She says, "It was not until college that I acknowledged Jesus' authority to be my Lord and Savior. I now take great delight in the fact that I am not my own. The Lord has been truly gentle and merciful in His dealings with this sheep. My greatest desire is to follow the Shepherd wherever He leads."

Julie credits her mother's love and compassion for others as being instrumental in shaping her desire to consider missionary service. Other influences include writings by and about C.S. Lewis, Paul Brand, Francis Schaeffer, Amy Carmichael, and Ruth Graham.



Julie Stone

She says, "I see in Jesus' life the prototype example of meeting an individual's spiritual need by first ministering to his physical need."

As Julie reflects on how the Lord led in her life, she says, "The Lord's guidance came not in an unexpected and great revelation that I hoped I would receive, but through

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**"The irony was that in the midst of this struggle I was out of His will."**

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members of His body. I think this is the way He likes to work. That guidance started through my brother-in-law, Douglas Harsch, who serves as associate pastor at Northwest Fellowship Baptist Church in Chicago. He contacted me and put me in touch with the N.A.B. Conference Missions Department.

Advised to contact N.A.B. Conference missionaries in the Portland, Oregon, area, Julie started to think seriously that serving as a missionary is what the Lord may want her to do. "I interacted with Missionary Ron Stoller who, while on leave



Missionary doctor Julie Stone serves alongside Missionary doctor Helen Marie Schmidt (pictured) at Bansa Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.

of absence, was studying at Multnomah. I was very impressed with him. One of my housemates brought in the biography of Laura Reddig, *Love Them for Me Laura*, by Edward D. Hughes. "This book impacted my life more than any other book I had read previously."

While talking with the missions staff at the N.A.B. International Office, Julie came to realize, "I could have had peace earlier if I would have trusted. So I made the decision to become a career missionary medical doctor, and the Lord has given me peace."

"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord" (Proverbs 16:33, NIV). Julie says she has learned, "As we face the uncertainties of life, God is sovereign over where our lot is cast; we can simply rest. We don't have to fret, cry, or overeat because God is sovereign."

Appointed by the N.A.B. Missions Board in April, Julie now serves in Cameroon, West Africa, at Bansa Baptist Hospital, a 200-bed facility in need of additional physicians to alleviate existing staff shortages. Her duties exceed those typically ascribed to an internist in the U.S.A. She expects to be involved in surgery, also.

"Serving alongside nurses and hospital chaplains, my goal is to minister to the spiritual needs of Cameroonians. I hope also to become involved in the Life Abundant Program, a ministry in remote rural areas. Through this medical ministry, the Gospel is being introduced in areas which were previously unreached.

"There is indeed life after the Army," says Julie. "One might say, I've left one Army to join another. I look forward to keeping you posted on the progress of the battle—the advances as well as the reverses. May we delight in the knowledge that, with respect to His Army, we are in league with the One who has overcome." □

# Not All Charitable Giving Is Final

It is important that we give generously on a systematic basis for the support of those we believe are doing God's work here on earth.

But there are also ways you can give and reserve the right to have the asset returned in case of future financial need.

While some gifts benefit North American Baptist Conference now, others may not provide benefit until your potential need of the gift is terminated.

These are called revocable gifts.

## Revocable gifts described

- **Totten trust or payable on death accounts.** Used with your savings accounts, certificates of deposit, and other banking instruments.
- **Revocable trust.** Established with a charitable organization, or under your own control, in which most assets can be placed.
- **Interest free loans.** You can loan money to a charitable organization without interest. You have the right to receive it back, either upon demand or at the end of the loan period.
- **Beneficiary of life insurance.** You may not be ready to commit the entire policy irrevocably but wish to reserve the right to change the beneficiary, should your needs change.
- **Revocable life estate.** A way in which you can transfer your home or other real estate to North American Baptist Conference, reserving the right to use the property for the rest of your life.
- **Beneficiary arrangement on qualified retirement plan.** Most retirement plans include some guaranteed benefits in the event

of your premature death. You can name North American Baptist Conference as beneficiary.

## Revocable gifts have several things in common

- In each agreement, you can reserve the right to continue to receive the income for your lifetime. Or you can use the income to fulfill your lifetime charitable commitments.
- Each agreement avoids the probate process and is distributed to charity immediately at death. This provides a substantial savings and, in reality, can increase the gift.
- Each agreement can provide income to another beneficiary, such as a spouse, a brother, a sister, or a friend who is dependent upon you.
- In each agreement, you have the right to reflect changes in your charitable desires, receive the funds in case of financial need, or to simply withdraw the money for any reason.
- Because each agreement is revocable, there are no income tax advantages to these types of gifts. However, if your estate will be subject to estate tax, each of these



gifts is deductible as a charitable gift, reducing the estate tax payable.

To provide you additional information on these types of gifts, our staff has completed a planning report, "How to Give a Gift You Can Take Back." There is no cost or obligation, so please take time now to write for your free copy. □

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

**YES, I want to know more about revocable gifts. Please send me the special planning report, "How to Give a Gift You Can Take Back."**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: Daytime ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Dr. Constantino Salios, North American Baptist Conference  
 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994  
 Phone: (708) 495-2000; Fax: (708) 495-3301



# What Are the Sources of Authority?

by Lyle E. Schaller

One of the big questions that surfaced as a result of the tumultuous political changes in eastern Europe recently concerns the base or sources of authority. In several countries, the primary basis for the authority of the Communist government was the Marxist-Leninist ideology which declared the government spoke for the peasants and the working class. In other countries, the basis for authority was the power of the military dictatorship.

For thousands of years, rulers have been asked, "What is the basis of your authority?" Both the Pharaohs and hundreds of kings answered that they ruled in the name of God. The American and Canadian experiences have answered that government rules with the consent of the governed, which is tested by periodic elections.

Legend has it that when staff members challenged the late Henry Ford II about a particular decision, Mr. Ford occasionally would explain, "We'll do it that way because it's my name that's on the building."

## The Basis of Authority in History

This question about the basis for the authority of leaders in the churches has come up repeatedly in the history of the Christian churches. One answer has been apostolic succession. Another has been by vote of the people. A third has been by vote of the representatives of the members. A fourth has been by vote of the minister. A fifth has been seniority and tenure. A sixth has been "God's will." A seventh has been tradition. An eighth has been "I organized this church." A ninth has been bloodlines, and a



tenth has been "By default."

Most of the schisms in the Christian churches have followed a challenge to the authority of ecclesiastical leaders. Martin Luther and Roger Williams are but two names in a long list of those who have challenged the traditional sources of authority in the churches. Similar challenges are heard today in many parts of the Christian churches.

## The North American Spectrum

One frame of reference for reviewing the basis for authority on this continent is to think in terms of a spectrum. At one end of that spectrum are located the Roman Catholic Church, The United Methodist Church, and the Anglican and Episcopal churches. All four place an exceptionally high degree of authority

in the office of the bishop and in the office of the pastor. All four stand out from most of the rest of the Protestant churches on this continent by the authority granted the pastor by tradition and polity.

At the other end of this spectrum are those lay-led and lay-controlled congregations that do not have set apart paid clergy. They differ in several respects, but most of them grant tremendous authority to a handful of individual leaders. This may be on the basis of bloodlines or spiritual gifts or the drawing of lots or age or personality or religious commitment or gender or skill or communication skills or native intelligence or wisdom or wealth or social status or other criteria.

Near that end of the spectrum are those churches that place great authority in the volunteer lay elders and deacons and

turn to the Bible (*Titus 1:5-6 and Timothy 3:8-13*) as the sole authority for the criteria to qualify one to become an elder or a deacon. In some of these churches, the pastor is identified as a "teaching minister" or "teaching elder" and that office is not perceived as carrying great authority in matters of policy formulation.

The majority of Christian congregations on the North American continent, however, are scattered along the spectrum between these two extremes. Most of them share one common characteristic. The authority granted leaders by the constitution or polity or tradition or book of church order is shrinking in influence. Likewise neither ordination nor academic degrees carry the authority they once bestowed on the clergy. By contrast, personality and

vision continue to be crucial sources of authority in both congregational and denominational circles. While they are not as influential as they once were, friendship ties, wealth, gender, bloodlines, age, and tenure continue as important sources of authority in the churches.

#### From Given to Earned

The big change in recent decades in American Protestantism, however, is the shift from bestowed to earned authority. Once upon a time, a pastor acquired a significant degree of authority by ordination and/or by being called or installed as the pastor.

Today, few pastors can depend on ordination, title, and office as sources of authority. Today, authority must be earned. Today, it is not unusual for many of the volunteers to have more earned academic degrees than have been granted the pastor. A few may have greater mastery of the law of the church than is possessed by the pastor. Others may know more than the pastor does about church finances or real estate or pedagogical skills or group dynamics or planning.

The pastors who are the respected and influential leaders in their congregations today have earned their authority. It is not simply the product of theological training or ordination or a title or an office. The authority for their leadership has been earned by vision, competence, performance, skill, knowledge, creativity, hard work, wisdom, productivity, initiative, and verbal skills.

#### Four Key Sources

"In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king," declares an ancient adage. The contemporary translation is "Knowledge is the greatest single source of power in our world today." One of the most effective ways to undermine the authority that goes with the office of pastor is to reply to questions asked by parishioners with such answers as, "I really don't know," or "I have

no idea of how we should deal with that," or "Don't ask me."

Forgetting for the moment the textbook distinction between power and authority, one of the ways pastors earn the role of a respected leader is by being prepared to offer informed, credible, and relevant responses to questions church members raise about the life and ministry of that congregation.

**The pastors who are the respected and influential leaders in their congregations today have earned their authority. It is not simply the product of theological training or ordination or a title or an office. The authority for their leadership has been earned by vision, competence, performance, skill, knowledge, creativity, hard work, wisdom, productivity, initiative, and verbal skills.**

Overlapping that is a second source of authority that can be summarized in four words—hard and productive work. This does not necessarily mean long hours. It does mean hard work and making productive use of that time. That also is a source of knowledge.

Closely related to those two factors is a third which often is expressed in these words, "Pastor, I guess you were right after all." In other words, offering answers to complex questions is not sufficient in itself. These have to be answers that survive the test of time.

The fourth of these overlapping sources of authority is trust. If and when the people discover they can trust the word, the judgment, the knowledge, the integrity, and the Christian commitment of the pastor, they usually bestow on that minister a degree of power, which often exceeds the authority vested in the office of pastor.

#### Authority or Power?

Students of this subject often point out that authority is a product of a title or role or office while power can be acquired through other means. Thus the person who invades your home may not have a legitimate right or authority to order

you around, but that loaded gun gives the invader great power over you.

A parallel to that is a minister may serve in a church in which the polity and denominational traditions grant great authority to the pastor, but because of local variables, including the personality of that minister, most of the real power is exercised by volunteer leaders. In other churches, a pastor may have earned the respect of their congregation and thus be able to exercise far more power than is suggested by the words in the constitution of that congregation, which define the authority of the pastor, the governing board, and other components of the organizational structure.

#### Eight Key Variables

When a particular congregation becomes the focus for this discussion, eight variables usually have to be assessed in determining the authority and power of the pastor in that situation.

- **The size of the congregation.** As a general rule, the larger the size of the congregation, the greater the influence of the pastor or senior minister in formulating policy and making decisions.
- **Tenure.** The longer the tenure of the pastor, the more likely the passage of time has increased the influence of the pastor.
- **Seniority.** The founding pastor of a new mission normally has far greater power and influence than a subsequent successor who arrives to find every member has seniority over the new minister.
- **The combination of age and experience.** Patients often grant greater control over their lives to the 40-year-old physician who has performed a particular surgical procedure 700 times than they will to the 30-year-old who has always wanted to perform that operation, but never before had the chance.

*(continued on page 28)*

## IN MEMORIAM

■ **ESTHER BOSCHÉE (80)**, Bismarck, ND; born Sept. 20, 1912, to August and Juliana Sukut, near Wishek, ND; died Nov. 19, 1992; married Andrew Boschee, April 30, 1937, who predeceased her in 1975; active member, Women's Missionary Fellowship, Bismarck Baptist Church; survived by one daughter, Kathleen (James) Ruff, Lehr, ND; one son, Gene, Glendive, MT; three granddaughters; one great-granddaughter; the Reverends Gordon Huisinga and Bill Keple, pastors, funeral service.

■ **DORA FENSKE (94)**, Bismarck, ND; born March 15, 1898, to Gottlieb and Mary (Berg) Hauff in Romania; died Oct. 31, 1992; married Max Fenske in 1917, who predeceased her; member, Bismarck Baptist Church; survived by three daughters: Elsie (George) Vodall, Kevin, MT; Lorraine Severson and Eleanor Lahman, Bismarck; one son, Bill (Hildegard), Portland, OR; two sisters: Sophia Hauff and Caroline Henke; one brother, Herman Hauff; 12 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; five step-great-granddaughters; the Reverends Darwin Stahl and Lloyd Jorgenson, pastors, funeral service.

■ **RICHARD R. FISCHER (83)**, Bismarck, ND; born Oct. 9, 1909, to Johannes and Katherina (Weisenburger) Fischer, near Golden Valley, ND; married Ida Boehler in 1939; active member, served on several boards and committees, Bismarck Baptist Church; predeceased by his parents; daughter, Delores; four sisters; survived by his wife, Ida; three sons: Virgil, Butte, MT; Clyde, Ocean Shores, WA; Gaylen, Bettendorf, IA; nine grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; four brothers: John, Bill, Walter, and Ted; two sisters: Olga Renk and Rachel Kostenko; the Reverends Bill Keple and Wes Gerber, pastors, funeral service.

■ **JULIUS HELWING (78)**, Skokie, IL; born July 20, 1914, in Stanislawow, Poland; died Oct. 28, 1992; married Frieda Schmidt, Aug. 12, 1932; immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1952; charter member, Baptist Mission Church, Chicago, IL; active member, Mayfair

Park Baptist Church and Northwest Fellowship Baptist Church, Chicago, IL; survived by his wife, Frieda; son, Arthur (Eva); two daughters: Irmgard (Erwin) Klingenberg; Elli (Howard) Schoene; nine grandchildren; two great-grandsons; the Rev. Hero Ulrichs, pastor, funeral service.

■ **MARY KRETZ (98)**, Shattuck, OK; born Sept. 15, 1894, to Reinhart and Katherine Klein in Driespitz, Russia; died Oct. 5, 1992; married Fred Kretz, March 15, 1915; member, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck, OK; predeceased by her husband, Fred, in 1973; four sisters; three brothers; daughter-in-law, Lola Kretz; survived by one son, Roy; one daughter, Alice (George) Littau, Shattuck; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; the Rev. Curtis Weins, pastor, funeral service.

■ **MARTHA KROMBEIN (87)**, Bismarck, ND; born Jan. 28, 1905, to Rudolf and Lydia (Klann) Fenske, Springside, SK; died Oct. 20, 1992; married Albert Krombein in 1927, who predeceased her in 1984; served with her husband for 37 years in the Gospel ministry; survived by two daughters: Esther (George) Breitreuz, Kelowna, BC; Mabel (Clifford) Walters, Iowa City, IA; one son, Norman (Eddie), Phoenix, AZ; one brother, Gus Fenske; five sisters: Luella Richards, Irene McDonald, Eileen Effa, Marlene Breitreuz, Lilly Breitreuz; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; the Reverends Wes Gerber and George Breitreuz, pastors, funeral service.

■ **PAULINE F. SCHRENK (85)**, Bismarck, ND; born March 22, 1907, to John and Katherine (Lautermilch) Fuehrer, near Hague, ND; died Oct. 20, 1992; married Emanuel Schrenk in 1936, who predeceased her in 1984; active member, WMF, Bismarck Baptist Church; survived by one daughter, Nyla Graham, Vandalia, IL; one son, Alvin, and one stepson, Albert, of Bismarck; one sister, Christine MacMonagale; one granddaughter and one great-grandson; three step-grandchildren; four great-step-grandchildren; the Reverends Bill Keple and Wes Gerber, pastors, funeral service.

■ **REV. MANFRED TAUBENSEE (62)**, Westbank, BC; born March 23, 1930, in Germany; died April 29, 1992; immigrated to Canada in 1951; married Anita Frohlich, July 18, 1958; graduated from Theological Department of N.A.B. College, Edmonton, AB, in 1962; served Rowandale Baptist, Winnipeg, MB; Bethany Baptist, Lethbridge, AB; Mary Hill Baptist, Port Coquitlam, BC; Creston (BC) Baptist; managing director, Green Bay Baptist Camp, Westbank, BC, 1982-1992; survived by his wife, Anita; two sons, David (Kathy) and Dan (Cathy); two daughters: Marlene (Robert) and Mariann (Adrian); eight grandchildren; his parents, David and Tabea Taubensee; two sisters; the Reverends Marvin Rust, Ervin Strauss, Siegfried Hoppe, and Edmond Hohn, pastors, funeral service.

■ **HILDA WEISSER (81)**, Bismarck, ND; born Feb. 23, 1911, to Alex and Rosina (Albrecht) Frisch in Hilda, AB; married John Weisser, Oct. 10, 1929, in Ashley, ND, who predeceased her in 1984; active member, WMF, Bismarck Baptist Church; survived by one daughter, Sandy (Don) Eckholm, Mandan, ND; three sons: Marvin (Jeanette), Bloomington, MN; Lloyd (Darlene), San Leandro, CA; Delmar (Nona), Minnetonka, MN; one sister, Ella (Godfrey) Herr; one brother, Freddie (Helen) Frisch; 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

■ **AMELIA ZIMMERMAN (87)**, Ashley, ND; born Oct. 2, 1905, to John and Elizabeth (Ferchert) Dalke in Bessarabia, South Russia; died October 1992; immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1907; married Christ G. Zimmerman, Sept. 3, 1924, in Ashley; he predeceased her in 1965; member, Lehr Ebenezer Baptist Church; she was the last surviving member of a family of 13 children; survived by two sons: Walter, Fargo, ND; Melvin, Tucson, AZ; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; the Reverends Arnold M. Friez and Gordon Voegelé, pastors, funeral service.



# A Woman of the '90s

by Janis Gruber, St. Catharines, ON

The media tells me that I am a "Woman of the '90s!" The messages, with which I am bombarded, tell me how to look, how to use my time, how to be all things to everyone in my sphere of influence, how to advance in my "career," how to be a good citizen while protecting the environment, and even how I should be thinking. The central theme of all these messages, and you could add your own items to the list, is ME, ME, and, finally, ME.

The challenge for us, as followers of Christ, is twofold. First, we must understand who we are in Christ and, secondly, where we would be without that relationship. Based on that understanding, we then make a conscious choice to sift society's messages through the framework of God's Word in such a way that it becomes practical for daily living. Starting in 1993, we, as a Conference, will consider the Biblical Imperative, "Committed to Give." In the months to come, we will be challenged to sift the selfish media messages through what God's Word teaches us about giving.

Giving, from God's perspective, involves love, thankfulness, and obedience. As an example, let's look at the life of Abraham. We are familiar with his life story. Abraham loved Lot. He was willing to give Lot the best land and, ultimately, bargain with God for the safety of Lot and his family.

As women involved in relationships, we understand giving out of love. It's the reason I let my daughter wear my precious heirloom necklace, and why I care for an aging parent, no matter what it takes.

Later, Abraham defeated an alliance of desert kings in order to rescue Lot and his family. When he returned, we see him giving a tenth of all his goods to Melchizedek, a priest of God, in gratefulness to God for delivering him from his enemies.

I am God's child, redeemed from condemnation. To show my thanks to God, I want to please Him and allow my whole life-style to express that thanks and love. I see others doing it.

In my church, a lady with a thankful heart goes to a school every weekday morning to feed breakfast to 25 children who would otherwise have none. Another friend, motivated by a thankful heart, took six weeks off from work to be on a ministry team in Poland. Giving overflows from a thankful heart.

Abraham loved his son, Isaac, but he was willing to obey God. He followed God's directions to take his son with him to build an altar. When leaving his servants, he said, "We will worship, and then we will come back to you."

Through his actions, Abraham was saying, "I will worship You, God. Based on Your word alone, I'm willing to give whatever is dearest to me and still have confidence that we will return!" That kind of trust in God and giving, as a result of it, is difficult for me.

In my heart, I agree with Jim Elliot's affirmation, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." But do I live it? Can I, like Abraham, be on my way to give up the nearest and dearest thing to me, and still believe

that God is good and will work things out?

Looking toward a new year, I do want to be God's woman. The bottom line is choosing to give, because God gave His only Son, Jesus, for me. Each new day brings all of us unique opportunities to make the choice to give. May these choices in 1993 bring honor and glory to God. □

## God Is at Work through You!

by Linda Weber  
women's ministries director



God's kingdom is being advanced all over the world through the offerings you, as women, send to the WMF at the N.A.B. Conference International Office. These ministries take place because you give.

### Leadership Training

National leaders from the countries where our missionaries serve use curriculum resources and attend workshops developed to

meet their needs. A scholarship fund assists these national leaders as well. *Our goal: \$10,000.*

### Education

Part of your contributions provides education for missionaries' children right on the field. Part provides scholarships for students attending N.A.B. College and N.A.B. Seminary. *Our goal: \$10,000.*

### White Cross

In cooperation with the Missions Department, we provide the labor, materials, and cost of supplying hospital and medical supplies for Cameroon and Nigeria. *Our goal: \$55,000.*

### Church Planting

Planting new churches in growing areas reaches many people for Christ. We can contribute to this outreach effort by keeping a "New Churches . . . New Life" bank on our desk or kitchen counter as a reminder to contribute. *Our goal: \$5,000.*

### Youth Ministries

Your giving provides youth ministry training and program resources for youth workers as they guide and nurture our young people spiritually. *Our goal: \$5,000.*

### Baptist World Alliance Women's Department

As we unite in prayer with Baptist women around the world on the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer, the offering we take supports the Women's Department ministries of the BWA. *Our goal: \$8,000.*

### Subscriptions for Missionaries

Your contributions will pay for subscriptions and postage to send the *Baptist Herald* and *Moments With God* to our overseas missionaries. *Our goal: \$4,000.*

### Administration

Part of your contributions goes toward the women's ministries director's salary, expenses of the executive committee, office staff, production of program resources, and Triennial Conference expenses. *Our goal: \$34,000.*

Several special offerings are taken each year. For 1993, they are designated as follows:

• **Mother's Day Offering** goes toward support and housing for Florinda Serafin, our first Brazilian national missionary. *Our goal: \$10,000.*

• **Christmas Offering** provides funds for intercultural ministries that meet specific needs: A second-hand clothing ministry in Monte Vista, CO; an economic development project in Rio Grande City, TX; youth ministry in Waco, TX; outreach to recent immigrants in the Rio Grande Valley, TX; and youth basketball outreach in Southfield, MI. *Our goal: \$15,000.*

• **Blessing Box Offerings** go toward missionary housing, language study costs, and evangelism ministry in the Philippines. *Our goal: \$25,000.*

When you send in your contribution, make your checks payable to *Women's Missionary Fellowship*. Please designate for which area of ministry or special offering your contribution is.

In the U.S.A., send your contributions to: WMF, North American Baptist Conference, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. In Canada, send contributions to: WMF, North American Baptist Conference, Toronto Dominion Bank, 648 North Dame at Sherbrooke, Winnipeg, MB R3B 1S9. □



## Diamonds in the Rough

by Nancy Lennick, WMF president, Dickinson, ND

A feeling of sadness came over me last fall, as I watched all the beautifully colored leaves fall, one by one, off of our trees in the backyard. The whole yard looked barren, with leafless, black tree limbs and colorless brown grass. But then one morning I woke up, looked out of my window, and a whole new world appeared before me. As far as I could see, there lay beautiful, sparkling, pure, white snow. The lifeless, black trees became beautiful as they were covered with frost and snow that sparkled like diamonds.

This reminds me of our lives. Things in our day may make our life seem dull and foreboding. But when we let Jesus come in, He covers all of the painful things in our lives with a beautiful blanket of forgiveness. He fills us with peace and joy, as we let His love comfort us and dispel our anxieties and fears.

After David had committed adultery with Bathsheba, he cried out to



the Lord for forgiveness. He prayed, "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow" (*Psalms 51:7*). This same forgiveness is available to each of us, no matter what may be robbing us of peace and joy.

As we begin this new year, 1993, I am reminded of how thankful we need to be for the new beginnings Christ gives to us. He makes all things beautiful once again, as we allow him to mold and shape us into the person He desires us to be. □

## COMMISSIONED TO WITNESS

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

■ CHANCELLOR, SD. The Rev. James Derman baptized two adults and four youth at First Baptist Church.

■ VALLEYVIEW, AB. Pastor Allen Unger of Emmanuel Baptist Church baptized five young people (ages 8 to 12). —*Lavina Heppner*

■ MEDICINE HAT, AB. Eight people followed their Lord in baptism at a joint service in Temple Baptist Church. The Rev. Eric Spletzer of First Baptist Church, Golden Prairie, SK, baptized six young adults. Pastor Irwin Kujat baptized two teens. Seven others were baptized by Pastor Kujat in two previous baptismal services. —*Madeline Kern*

■ LODI, CA. Since January 1992, Temple Baptist Church has baptized 43 adults and children and welcomed 84 new members into the fellowship of the Church. The Rev. Leland Hamby is pastor. —*Pastor Matt Newby*

■ ONOWAY, AB. Onoway Baptist Church welcomed one couple by testimony and another couple by baptism into the fellowship of the Church. The Rev. Rick Foster is pastor. —*B. Guidinger*

■ MARION, KS. Strassburg Baptist Church held a baptismal service at the Marion Reservoir where eight people gave public witness to their faith. The Church also welcomed 14 new members. The Rev. Steve Vetter is pastor. —*LaNorma Kreutziger*

**Friendship Sundays draw new people**

■ ANAHEIM, CA. On Sept. 6, 1992, East West Community Church held its third Friendship Sunday with Dr. J. Victor Manogaram as guest speaker. Of the 87 people attending, 18 were first-timers. The Church praises God for the Friendship Sundays that provide opportunities to reach out into the community. This Church had held its first Friendship Sunday in March with Dr. Mahendra Singhal of Chicago as guest speaker. Of the 75 people who attended, 15 were first-timers.

Of the 72 attending the second Friendship Sunday in May, 18 were first-timers. The Rev. Dr. Martin Alphonse of India served as guest speaker. The Rev. N. Jawahar Gnaniah is pastor.

**Prayer breakfast used as outreach**

■ ANAHEIM, CA. The East West Community Church sent out 100 invitations to Christians and non-Christians for a prarthana (prayer) breakfast. Many types of Indian breakfast foods were brought for the 35 people, some of them non-Christians, who attended. New contacts for further follow-up in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ were made.

**Video ministry launched**

■ ANAHEIM, CA. Videos are very popular among the Asian Indians in southern California. Because video is a powerful medium of communication, the East West Com-

munity Church launched a video ministry on June 14. At present, the video library has more than 50 titles. The Church's most important title is the Jesus film in various Indian languages. For those who respond to the evangelism survey, this film is sent to them. It is a powerful outreach method. The Rev. N. Jawahar Gnaniah is pastor.

**Lodi church holds outreach dinner**

■ LODI, CA. Temple Baptist Church held an outreach dinner with Dr. Ken Poure as the keynote speaker. More than 350 people attended, and 30 responded to the message and requested more information. The Rev. Leland Hamby is pastor. —*Pastor Matt Newby*

## CHALLENGED TO GROW

**Benton Harbor youth attend Word of Life rally**

■ BENTON HARBOR, MI. The young people's group of Napier Parkview Baptist Church were among the 2,700 youth who attended the Word of Life Regional Super Bowl.

"There were 150 decisions for Jesus Christ, three of them from our own group," reports Millie Enders. Mr. Cal Alenderink is youth pastor.

**Golden Prairie church members discover their gifts**

■ GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK. First Baptist Church held a one day seminar, "The Spiritual Gifts Discovery Workshop." The seminar, based on material from the Charles E. Fuller Institute, was led by Pastor Eric Spletzer.

"It helped us in our search to discover how God has gifted each of us for effective service in our church," reports Leota Fritzke.

**Special events held at Temple, Calgary**

■ CALGARY, AB. Special weekend meetings were held at Temple Baptist Church with Dr. Lewis Petrie, Conference development director, bringing powerful messages according to Irene Wirzba. Many rededicated their lives to grow in Christ, to continue to build and work for God.

Retired Missionary Minnie Kuhn and Missionary Eileen

Priebe, Cameroon, served as guest speakers at the Church during the Missions Conference in Calgary Nov. 12-15, 1992.

The WMF donated the proceeds from a craft and bake sale for missions.

Paul and Margie Powers ministered at the Church with their puppet 'Andy.' The Rev. Dieter Gohl is pastor. —*Irene Wirzba*

**Children's program growing at Rowandale church**

■ WINNIPEG, MB. The Rowandale Baptist Church reaches 120 children and teens in their weekly program.

Not only are children important at Rowandale but also the German-speaking group. Some concerned couples and women organized an evening, "Gemutlichkeit," just for them recently. The Rev. Gordon Freiter is pastor. —*Helga Kahler*

**Hamilton church offers Bible study for young mothers**

■ HAMILTON, ON. "Take a Break" is a Bible study offered for young mothers at Mission Baptist Church. A nursery is provided for the mothers' children. "It's a time for the mothers to study the lives of women in the Bible and fellowship with one another," reports Irene Noack.

**Temple church conducts evangelism and spiritual warfare seminars**

■ MEDICINE HAT, AB. Associate Pastor Larry Dye conducted a series of seminars for the congregation on evangelism as a team effort and spiritual warfare stressing preparation, defenses, and

action. This series was repeated in the weekly youth studies.

Pastor Irwin Kujat's Sunday morning sermons from Acts featured the Church—its membership, privileges, responsibilities, and discipline. Classes on baptism and church membership are held weekly. —*Madeline Kern*

## COMPELLED TO SERVE

**Alpena church sponsors community concert**

■ ALPENNA, MI. Ripley Blvd. Baptist Church sponsored a community-wide Larnell Harris concert at the Alpena High School with approximately 700 in attendance.

Many individuals of the community were involved in a back-up choir during the concert. The Rev. Frederick Sweet is pastor. —*Judy Priest*

**Temple church participates in mission project**

■ LODI, CA. Fifteen youth and five adults from Temple Baptist Church spent a week in Rancho Agua Viva Camp in Encinada, Mexico, assisting in work projects and Vacation Bible School. Eight children accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. The Rev. Leland Hamby is pastor. —*Pastor Matt Newby*

**Bison church closes after 107 years of ministry**

■ BISON, KS. After 107 years of ministry, due to declining numbers and aging population, dissolution and closure of First Baptist Church took place Sept. 27, 1992. At the same time, Pastor William Effa retired from active ministry as a full-time pastor.

The Church properties were designated to the Southwestern Association and North American Baptist Conference. Hope Fellowship Church, Kansas City, MO, received a portion of the church furnishings and loose properties.

The final service of the Church was held with former pastor, the Rev. Chester Strobel, bringing the message. He and his wife Elaine provided special music. A number of former members were present, including a daughter of the Church, Helen Zimmerman, Creston, NE, pastor's wife of the late Rev. David Zimmerman.

The Church hosted a retirement open house reception for the Effas at the Community Center. —*Ruth Effa*

**Mission church hears mission team reports**

■ HAMILTON, ON. During a week of meetings, Mission Baptist Church heard testimonies and music and saw a puppet show from the Missionaries to America team, representing 11 different countries. The missionaries, dressed in their traditional clothes, held their country's flag. They also prepared a meal with various dishes typical of the national missionary's country. —*Irene Noack*

**Shattuck church holds Harvest Festival**

■ SHATTUCK, OK. Ebenezer Baptist Church held its annual Harvest Mission Festival with guest speaker, the Rev. Milton Zeeb, area minister. The Rev. Curtis Wiens is pastor. —*Martha Schoenhals*

**Fluths speak at Bethany**

■ HUNTER, KS. Dr. Jerry and Monie Fluth were the

guest speakers at Bethany Baptist Church for Harvest Mission Sunday. "They shared many experiences from their ministry in Cameroon," reports Katherine Loofbourrow. At the close of the service, the Church had a farewell reception for Pastor and Mrs. Anthony Dickerson and family.

**N.A.B. churches join for missions conference**

■ CHANCELLOR, SD. Three neighboring N.A.B. Conference churches joined with First Baptist Church in sponsoring a Round Robin Missions Conference, Nov. 18-22, 1992. Visiting missionaries were Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Fluth, Cameroon; the Rev. and Mrs. Richard Kaiser, Brazil; and the Rev. Juan Luna, Mexico City. Mr. Ingo Brockel, a student from Germany attending North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, also spoke. The Rev. James Derman is pastor. —*Raymond DeNeui*

**Valleyview church holds missions conference**

■ VALLEYVIEW, AB. Emmanuel Baptist Church held its missions conference, Oct. 25-26, 1992, with the Reverends Ken Priebe and Daryl Martin, missionaries to Cameroon. (The offering, designated for missions, totalled \$845.)

Ken Priebe challenged the congregation to become a part of helping to bring in the spiritual harvest in foreign nations. He helped us see how great the harvest really is and how few there are to do the harvesting. Daryl Martin, a volunteer in missions, shared his experiences of working with "Cameroon Sunrise" and his enthusiasm for his work in Cameroon.

Reports were also given about Dale and Marcy Hufnagel, who are members of Valleyview and new missionaries to Cameroon.

"As a congregation, we feel we are now better informed regarding our Conference mission efforts," says Pastor Allen Unger. "We praise God and believe that we will be praying and giving more for our missionaries."

**Silver Liners active in George**

■ GEORGE, IA. The Silver Liners ended a busy year with Ingo Brockel of Germany and a N.A.B. Seminary student speaking and playing his guitar at a luncheon.

During the year, many of the Silver Liners served on the Church Centennial Committees in preparation for the Church's Centennial celebration held in July.

The Silver Liners toured the King's Air Engineering plant where a plane was being built for mission field work. The Rev. Michael DeLong is pastor. —*Vera Arends*

**Golden Prairie WMF presents program**

■ GOLDEN PRAIRIE, SK. The Women's Missionary Fellowship of First Baptist Church heard Louanne (Weins) Spletzer tell of her missionary experiences at Saker Baptist College in Limbe, Cameroon. An overseas missions offering was given during this fall special program, "Popping with Joy." —*Leota Fritzke*

**Physician speaks at WMF**

■ HAMILTON, ON. Dr. Ressor was the guest speaker at the WMF meeting at Mission Baptist Church. She

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spoke about her experiences as a family physician and answered questions concerning health from a Christian perspective. —Irene Noack

## Grabkes honored for 40 years of ministry



■ SPRINGSIDE, SK. The Rev. Richard and Mrs. Lillian Grabke, were recently honored by Springside Baptist Church at a special Thanksgiving banquet for 40 years of faithful ministry.

Present was the Rev. Jake Leverette, area minister, who brought congratulations from the Association and the Conference.

Ordained in 1953 at Davin (SK) Baptist Church, Grabke has since started several churches: Faith Baptist, Regina (1954); Whyte Ridge Baptist, Winnipeg (1964); and Cypress Baptist, Seattle (1968).

"Church planting has always been in my blood," says Grabke. "Even while I was teaching school, I started four different Sunday schools and established these schools as preaching stations. My heart is still in church planting. If God opens that door, I would go."

Grabke presently serves as pastor of an established church in Saskatchewan, a church he has pastored for 10 years.

He has served as moderator of the Saskatchewan Bap-

tist Association for six years and in leadership of church planting committees in various associations. He has also served on many Conference committees and as chair of the Missions Board.

The Grabkes have also worked with First Nation groups, and he was responsible for starting a camp for First Nation children at Good Spirit Lake.

## WMF gives 'family night' program

■ CARRINGTON, ND. The WMF (Mary Martha Circle) of Calvary Baptist Church presented a program on "Family Night" and invited spouses and special guests. The devotion, "We All as Sheep," told of God's care for each one.

"A pretend television interview of Lenore Franchuck, the pastor's wife, was conducted, in which her abilities and ministry gifts were highlighted," reports Vi Pepple. The Rev. Loren D. Franchuck is pastor.

## Schmidt speaks at Tacoma church

■ TACOMA, WA. Dr. Helen Marie Schmidt, missionary to Cameroon, spoke at the Pacific Northwest Association meeting, the Women's Missionary Fellowship meeting, and to the Sunday School at Calvary Baptist Church. The Rev. Donald Burnett is pastor. —Earl Shadle

## Madison church provides service opportunities

■ MADISON, SD. Three special opportunities for service were provided recently at West Center Street Baptist Church.

The Church held its third Harvest Festival meal and shared it with many from

the city. Fellowship and a musical program followed the meal.

The membership participated in a seminar on church growth by Dr. Richard Houts, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

The Church held a Fall Clean-up Day, where lawns were raked, storm windows put on, or any other job the Church membership needed assistance with was provided. The Rev. Elton Kirstein is interim pastor. —Phyllis Frerichs

## Eastern Association

■ **Correction:** In the December Baptist Herald, it was erroneously reported that 20 delegates attended the Eastern Association sessions. It should have read "delegates from 20 churches attended."

"The Conference challenged us anew to give time, treasure, and talent in service to Christ," reports Karen Yahn. Central Baptist Church, Kitchener, ON, was filled to capacity. Our apologies for this error.

## CALLED TO WORSHIP

### Benton Harbor church holds special Thanksgiving service

■ BENTON HARBOR, MI. The Children's Choir of Napier Parkview Baptist Church presented the musical, "Colby the Computer and God Uses Kids," with the message: We have so much we must share with those who have less.

For the evening service, the congregation met in the William Hoover Fellowship Hall for an informal praise and thanksgiving program followed by refreshments.

Associate Pastor of Visita-

tion Frank Hooper was the guest speaker at the Thanksgiving N.A.B. Union service held at Woodland Shores Baptist Church, Bridgman, MI. The Rev. John Kaufield is pastor. —Millie Enders

### Hamilton church holds Thanksgiving celebration

■ HAMILTON, ON. On Oct. 11, 1992, Mission Baptist Church held a Thanksgiving celebration. The service included giving thanks for all the blessings during the year, the choirs singing, and fellowship. —Irene Noack

## COMMANDED TO CARE

### Mission church begins adopt-a-student program

■ HAMILTON, ON. Hamilton, ON, is a university town, and Mission Baptist Church is reaching out to the students to be their church-away-from-home. To accomplish this, the Church began an Adopt-a-Student program. On Oct. 18, 1992, the Church invited 30 students to a lunch provided by the Church families interested in adopting a student for a school term. This includes remembering their birthdays, making them feel welcome at church, helping them get around in the city,

and being available if they get homesick or need help.

### Temple church challenged by missionaries

■ MEDICINE HAT, AB. Temple Baptist Church was challenged to pray and give to missions as they heard the experiences of Elizabeth Gibson, who served for one month in Russia with Teen Mania; from Elaine Enslin called to serve with Wycliffe Translators; and Daryl Martin returning to Cameroon as a volunteer-in-missions and a N.A.B. short-term missionary. The Rev. Irwin Kujat is pastor. —Madeline Kern

## New Life church opposes pawn shop opening

■ WINNIPEG, MB. New Life Ministries actively opposed several attempts to open new pawn shops and second-hand dealerships in the West End (the inner-city community in which the Church ministers).

Pawn shops and second-hand dealerships promote poverty through exploitative interest rates and create an image of the community that discourages much-needed residential and commercial development believes Harry Lehotsky, pastor. Current municipal legislation is unhelpful

in that it is legal to open a pawn shop in the unstable inner-city and only illegal in the more stable, suburban communities of Winnipeg.

As a result of presentations made at Civic Centre Community Committee hearings and appeal hearings at City Hall, New Life and other local interest groups persuaded civic counselors to deny request for license in every case. "We ask you to show care for our community as if it were your own," pleaded the Rev. Harry Lehotsky before elected officials. It is expected that several of the license applicants will appeal the decisions.

## COMMITTED TO GIVE

### Bismarck WMF furnishes lounge at Baptist Home

■ BISMARCK, ND. The Women's Missionary Fellowship of Bismarck Baptist Church furnished one of the residents' lounges at the Baptist Home. This lounge was designated as the "Laura

Reddig Lounge and Library" in honor of Dr. Laura Reddig, former N.A.B. missionary and member of Bismarck Baptist.

"As a resident of the Baptist Home, Laura continues to be a witness and touch lives," reports Darleen Hoover. The Rev. Bill Keple is associate pastor.

## ANNIVERSARIES

### Creston celebrates 25 years

■ CRESTON, BC. Creston Baptist Church celebrated its 25th anniversary, June 12, 1992, with friends and former pastors. Also participating in the celebration was the Rev. Mark Morris, pastor of Century Meadows, Camrose, AB, who grew up at Creston Bap-

tist, and the Rev. Charles Littman, area minister.

In 1992, six received Christ as Savior, eight were baptized, six received into membership, and four babies dedicated to God. The Church's programs include two discipleship Bible study groups, two women's Bible study groups, Pioneer Clubs, men's prayer breakfast,



# 2000

Our Strategic Focus On The Biblical Imperatives

women's morning prayer group, and evening prayer meeting. The Church's average Sunday morning attendance is 90. The Rev. Percy Keith is pastor.

## Rabbit Hill celebrates centennial

■ EDMONTON, AB. Rabbit Hill Baptist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary, Aug. 14-16, 1992. The Church, established as Heimthal German Baptist Church under the guidance of the Rev. Petereit, became the first N.A.B. Conference church in Alberta and the fourth west of Winnipeg.

Highlights of the celebration included a banquet on Saturday night, a drama depicting the growth and ministries of the Church, and a male quartet: The Reverends Peter Schroeder, Ed Link (who also wrote the drama), Ed Krieser, and David Follack. All were former pastors of Rabbit Hill Baptist Church.

Sunday's services were held in a 50 by 150 foot archrib machine shed, which had been decorated and its floor covered with shavings. The Rev. Loren Stark, pastor of Rabbit Hill Baptist, spoke on Genesis 28:17 during the Sunday morning service. This passage was used at the dedication of the first church building on June 7, 1896, also.

At the Sunday afternoon service, 550-600 people enjoyed music by the Brass Band of Zion Baptist Community Church; a mass choir, directed by Ed Link; the Collegiates; and Mrs. Sigrid Stark. The guest speaker for the afternoon was Dr. Charles Littman, area minister, Alberta Baptist Association.

Two momentos are available for purchase: An anniversary book, "Find Us Faith-

ful," (\$60) by Ed Link, and a video of the weekend's activities, edited by Mrs. John Hazenbank. We thank those who supported us in this celebration and the N.A.B. International Conference Office for the beautiful plaque acknowledging this milestone. —Rev. Loren Stark

■ **Mr. and Mrs. Emil Guddat**, Woodside Baptist Church, Long Island, NY, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family, Dec. 26, 1992.

■ **Dr. and Mrs. Richard Schilke** of Oak Park, IL, were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 28,



1992, at Forest Park (IL) Baptist Church. The celebration was hosted by their children, Dr. Clifford Schilke of Pennsylvania, Dr. Donald Schilke of Arizona, Dianne Davis of Connecticut, and Linda Kinnier of Oregon, and their families.

The 110 guests included the Forest Park Baptist Church members, former co-workers from the N.A.B. Conference International Office, and Mrs. Schilke's two sisters from South Dakota.

Dr. Schilke served as N.A.B. Conference Missions Secretary from 1952-79 and as an associate missions director in 1980, until his retirement.

# Lost Pictures?

## The N.A.B. Heritage Commission is in search of pictures.

Are you a relative or a friend of any early student of the *North American Baptist Seminary*? It was formerly known as the *German Baptist Seminary*. If you have in your possession any class or graduation photographs, we would be most happy to have you help us fill in the gaps of our photographic history. If you have a picture but do not want to part with it, please write to tell us that there actually is one so we can continue our search. If you know that no picture was taken, tell us that, too.

Mrs. Doris Ferguson of Oklahoma has supplied us with the one for 1917, which has her father's picture on it.

These are the years that are still missing: 1857, 1858, 1861, 1863-69, 1871, 1872, 1874, 1875, 1877, 1879, 1880, 1882, 1883, 1886, 1887, 1889, 1890, 1892, 1893, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1906, 1909, 1911-16, 1918-22, 1927-29, 1935, and 1937. Our records are complete from 1937 on.

For protection in the mail, please put the photograph between two pieces of corrugated cardboard or something similar, and send it to us with a statement that it can be the property of N.A.B. Heritage Commission. Please supply us with the names of as many of the graduates as you know on a separate piece of paper.

Mail to  
B. Westerman  
North American Baptist  
Heritage Commission  
1605 S. Euclid Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

### Sources of Authority (from page 20)

- **Polity.** Some denominations and congregations vest great authority in the office of pastor. Others place most of the authority in volunteer leaders.

The combination of four factors described earlier (knowledge, hard and productive work, trustworthiness, and offering advice that can stand the test of time). Together these may be more significant than polity, tenure, seniority, and size.

- **The predecessor.** If the predecessor earned the respect, trust, and confidence of the parishioner and thus was granted great authority as a leader, the successor may find it easy to move into the role of an influential leader in that congregation, if he or she is able and willing to do so. Likewise, if widespread distrust of the predecessor's competence, integrity, leadership, character, or religious commitment led to the departure of that predecessor, it usually will be necessary for the successor to restore the people's confidence and respect for the office of pastor before assuming an influential leadership role.
- **The combination of personality, leadership skills, spiritual gifts, and vision.** While these are all subjective factors, they are most conspicuous by their absence. The pastor who scores very high on all four of these characteristics usually is granted authority as a leader far beyond what is called for by polity, seniority, tenure, size, age, experience, and other variables.

#### Questions?

- 1) What are the most important sources of authority for your pastor?
- 2) How many of these are dependent on the gifts of the minister and which ones are the product of your polity or system of governance?
- 3) Does your present pastor have more or less authority and power than that held by the predecessor? Why? □

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## COME TO PHILADELPHIA!

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### Create a Scripture banner to represent your church at the celebration

Obtain banner instructions from your local W.M.F. president or from Linda Weber, W.M.F., 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181.

August 4-15, 1993

### Participate in an urban service opportunity in Philadelphia

To serve, contact Gateway Ministries of the N.A.B. Conference Missions Department, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994.

### Ministerial Changes

■ **Mr. Tim Armstrong** to part-time associate pastor of youth and worship, Shakopee Baptist Church, Shakopee, MN, effective Jan. 10, 1993.

■ **The Rev. Allan Effa** to part-time associate pastor of family life ministries and missions, Central Baptist Church, Edmonton, AB.

■ **The Rev. Gordon Stork** from pastor, South Austin Fellowship Church, Austin, TX, to pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, SD, effective Feb. 1, 1993.

■ **The Rev. Werner Lemke** from pastor, Summit Drive Baptist Church, Kamloops, BC, to associate pastor of adult ministries, Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna, BC, effective January 1993.

■ **Mr. Kevin Eshleman** from director of youth and Christian education, Redeemer Baptist Church, Parma, OH.

■ **The Rev. George Pontius** from pastor, Terrace Heights Baptist Church, Spokane, WA, effective Nov. 30, 1992.

■ **Miss Lyndell Camble**, assistant to the dean of women at N.A.B. College, Edmonton, AB, has also joined the staff of Temple Baptist Church, Leduc, AB, to direct the children's program.

■ **Mr. Lloyd Grant** to part-time youth pastor, Hollyview Baptist Church, Boring, OR.

■ **Mr. James Regehr** to pastor, Elim Baptist Church, Beausejour, MB.

■ **Mr. Morgan Kelly** from pastor, Stewart Christian Fellowship, Stewart, BC.

■ **The Rev. Michael Colladay** from pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Vancouver, BC.

■ **Mr. Bill Lawrance** to pastor, Grace Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI, effective Dec. 13, 1992.

■ **The Rev. Art Brust** to interim pastor, Bethel Baptist Church, Missoula, MT.

■ **The Rev. Harry Edenhofer** from assistant pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Bethlehem, PA.

### Installed

■ The installation service for the **Rev. and Mrs. Curtis Wiens** at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Shattuck, OK, was held on Oct. 4, 1992. Mr. Wiens had

served as U.S. Army chaplain in Germany and retired from the Army in August 1992. The churches of the Oklahoma Fellowship were invited for the occasion. Various members of the church along with the Rev. Milton Zeeb, area minister; Rev. Bob Burkle; Rev. Roger Freeland; and the President of the Ministerial Alliance, Rev. Bridgewater welcomed the Wiens. —Martha Schoenhals

■ **The Rev. Don and Mrs. Barb Schmid** began their ministry at Bethel Baptist Church, Harvey, ND, Sept. 13, 1992. The Rev. Jake Leverette, area minister, spoke at the installation of Pastor Schmid. —Gordon Mayer

■ **The Rev. Jim Black** was inducted into Pilgrim Baptist Church as senior pastor on Oct. 25, 1992. Honoring Pastor Black on this occasion were the Rev. Siegbert Zukowski, pastor of German ministries, who spoke on "labouring together with the Lord"; the Rev. Helmut Strauss of Rose of Sharon Baptist Church in Richmond, who welcomed Mr. Black into the Ministers' Fellowship; Mr. Guenther Kohlase, chair, Board of Elders; Mr. Andre Deepwell, church moderator; Mr. Harold Menzel, Christian education director; and the Rev. Ed Hohn, area minister, who presented a stirring challenge to both pastor and congregation. Pastors and representatives from area churches also welcomed the Blacks. —Shari Menzel

■ Faith Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, said farewell to the **Rev. Harry Anderson**, pastor of youth and Christian education, and his wife, Sharon, who was active in children's work. Pastor Anderson was installed as associate pastor at Ridgewood Baptist Church, Brookfield, WI, Nov. 15, 1992. His father-in-law, the Rev. Eldon Schroeder, Illinois-Wisconsin area minister, served as guest speaker.

### Retirements



■ **The Rev. William Taft** retired as Great Lakes area minister effective Dec. 31, 1992. He was ordained by First Baptist Church, Muncie, IN, Oct.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

29, 1964. After serving as student pastor at a Baptist Church in St. Paul, MN, 1961-64; he served as Christian education director, First Baptist, Muncie, IN, 1964; membership minister, Covenant Baptist, Detroit, MI, 1965-70; public relations director, Judson College, Elgin, IL, 1970-71; pastor, First Baptist, Cadillac, MI, 1971-77; and Grosse Pointe Baptist, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, 1977-84. He served as Great Lakes Area Minister from 1984-92 and was recognized for his service at the Great Lakes Association meeting this fall.

■ **The Rev. Walter Schroedter** retired from the pastoral ministry at Mission Baptist Church, Oct. 25, 1992. Members from neighboring N.A.B. Conference churches attended the farewell service for Rev. Schroedter and his wife, Dorothea. The Rev. John Zeigler, Eastern Association area minister and personal friend of the Schroedters, was the guest speaker. Mr. Schroedter served the following churches as pastor: Bethel Baptist, Prince George, BC, 1960-65; Faith Baptist, Vernon, BC, 1965-66; Heeren-Kamen, Germany, 1966-70; Pilgrim Baptist, Vancouver, BC, 1970-85; Mission Baptist, Hamilton, ON, 1985-92. —Irene Noack

### North American Baptist Seminary receives grant

The Arthur Vining Davis Foundation has awarded North American Baptist Seminary a \$100,000 grant to go toward the Foundations for the Future campaign. This campaign will increase the Seminary's facilities and resources to train leaders for ministry.

N.A.B.S. President Charles Hiatt states, "We are delighted that the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation has made a large investment in a building program of N.A.B. Seminary. This \$100,000 grant is the largest foundation grant ever received by N.A.B. Seminary. This gift brings the campaign to 91 percent of the goal."

The Arthur Vining Davis Foundation is dedicated to providing long-range financial stability for graduate theological education.

WORLD (continued from page 2)

**N.A.B.s give \$54,836 for Somalian relief**

North American Baptist Conference churches and individuals gave \$54,836 to feed the hungry in Somalia in the past several months. "The generous donations of your people will enable many more starving people in Somalia to be fed," says Paul Montacute, Baptist World Aid director. "Thank you for your assistance with this program."

Additional giving by N.A.B.s, designated for Hurricane Andrew relief, totalled \$5,570. Thank you for your caring spirit.

NORTH AMERICA

**Fann appointed church planting director**



The Rev. James C. Fann, Jr., of Hoffman Estates, IL, received appointment by the General Council of the North American Baptist Conference upon recommendation

of the Church Planting Board to the position of Church Planting Director. The appointment took effect January 1, 1993.

Fann has served as Associate Director for Church Relations in the Development Department of the N.A.B. Conference since 1990. He was instrumental in organizing and leading the Every Church Visits in 1991-92 and the cluster meetings with pastors in 1992-93.

In accepting the position, Fann states, "We acknowledge our debt to all who have preceded us—not only administrators but also church planters and volunteers. At the same time, we believe it is necessary to explore some new strategies for planting churches and for funding new church plants."

Fann also adds, "The time is ripe for us to take seriously a new thrust in intercultural ministries."

Asked about his feelings about


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his new position, Fann remarks, "In some ways, the job looks overwhelming, but the goal is to build not a team of equals but a team of specialists—each focused on a specific task to accomplish what God has called us to do. The newly created Church Planting Department has also been mandated the task of exploring the adoption of existing churches into the N.A.B. Conference family. "We are excited about the possibilities in that area," says Fann. "Our major activity in 1993 will be building lines of communication and casting our team vision throughout the Conference."

Fann is known for his pastor's heart and gracious and compassionate spirit. In addition to pastoring for more than a dozen years, Fann has had management experience in the private sector and also worked as an editor for a major evangelical publisher.

**Looking for Church Humor**

We are looking for Church Humor anecdotes to be published in a column in the **Baptist Herald**. If you see or experience humorous incidents in church life or see humorous "mistakes" in your church bulletin or church newsletters, you are invited to write it in 100 words or less and mail it to the Editor, **Baptist Herald**, 1 So. 210 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-3994.

**Looking for . . . accounts of your pilgrimage**

We are looking for first person accounts of how being involved in *Vision 2000* and one or more of the Biblical Imperatives: Worship, grow, give, care, witness, or serve has changed or affected your life in 200 to 500 words. Please send your photo to accompany the item.

**QUOTES . . .**

**On the Church's Mission**

"A truly 'healthy' church, one with whom God is pleased, takes its mission and responsibility seriously; it obediently takes the gospel to its own community and, ultimately, to the 'utmost parts of the earth.'

"In the last 30 years, many conversions were experienced by people of the mainline denominations and Catholics. They knew about God; they basically gave lip allegiance to the Scriptures and lacked a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Our witness drew many into that personal walk with the Lord.

"However, as this century comes to a conclusion, we are finding ourselves increasingly in a secular culture that has no awareness, respect, or understanding of God and His Word. Therefore, we need to redouble our efforts, be more culturally sensitive and be willing to 'risk' more so that the world may know that Jesus Christ is the answer to the age-old needs of the human heart!"—*Fred Jantz writing to his Church, Quail Lakes Baptist, Stockton, CA, February 1992.*

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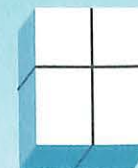
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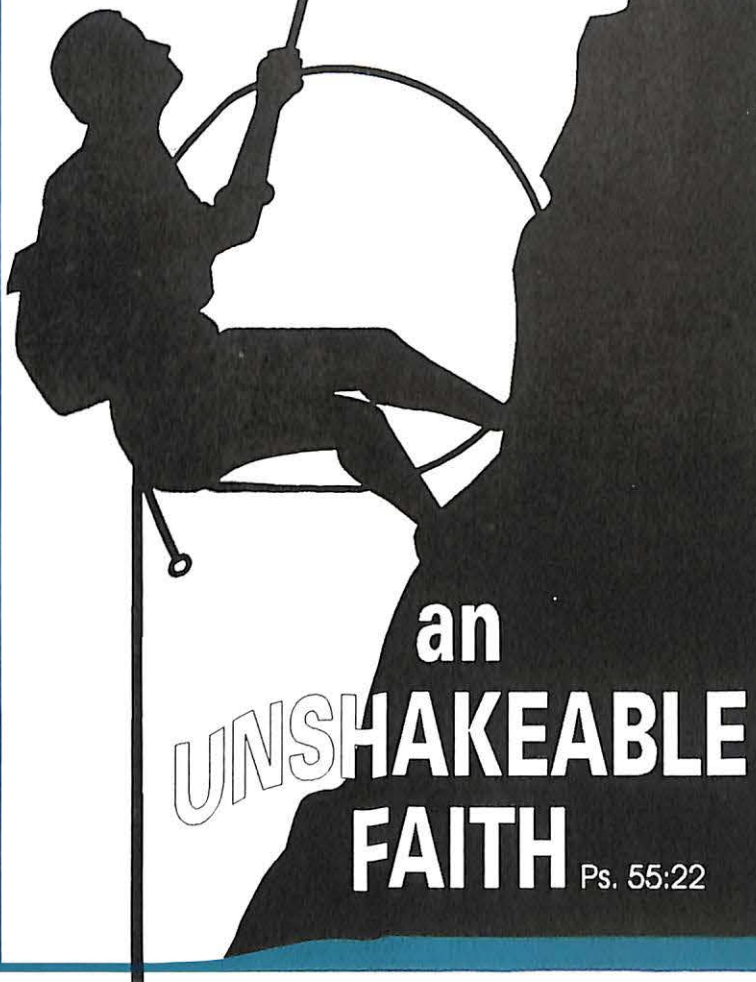
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