A LONELY MAN sat alone in a small-town restaurant at breakfast. It was one of those special days when most people would prefer to be home with their families. It would be easy to guess that he was thinking of the weeks and months of heavy travel he was experiencing and the many special events he had missed with his family because of the travel requirements in connection with his profession.

A friend entered the restaurant and placed a special greeting card at his plate. The card read: “For someone special.” It was signed, “We love you.” The exhilarating power of that card and the genuine friendship it represented lifted the lonely man’s spirit and sent him into a day of useful service.

As I observed this scene, I thought of the thousands of lonely people in this age, surrounded by the masses and yet quite alone. Even though they carry heavy responsibilities, they often feel used and unappreciated. They are often forgotten by loved ones and friends and spend many isolated hours in the performance of their duties. There are many husbands and fathers whose duties take them for considerable periods of time from home and family. A great host serve in lonely isolated military outposts. Increasing numbers face the loneliness created by broken home relationships caused by divorce or the death of a companion. Senior citizens spend their days in nursing homes quietly awaiting the approach of death. Others spend lonely days in hospitals in slow recovery from accidents and illness.

As I observed the reaction of the lonely man in the restaurant to a simple greeting, I realized there is a ministry of encouragement. There is power in a simple greeting. There is inspiration in a simple affirmation that someone cares. The prophet Isaiah comforted Israel in a troubled day with these words: “For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee” (Isaiah 41:13).

I will join this ministry of encouragement. I will say a word to the distressed and to the lonely. I will seek out the discouraged. I will seek to live in Christian simplicity in order to share what I have with those less fortunate. I will join the sentiments of the poet who long ago penned these words:

*Let me live in a house by the side of the road,*
*And be a friend to man.*
The Honor of a Certain Aim

THE WORDS placed on the lips of Hudson by Henry Van Dyke in “Hudson’s Last Voyage” serve to focus the intent and spirit of us who serve the kingdom of God and the Church of the Nazarene at Nazarene Bible College.

Cut adrift in the longboat by mutineers, Hudson and his little group watched the mother ship slip from view over the skyline. Hudson then addressed the loyal helmsman:

“So point her up, John King,
Nor’west by North.
We’ll keep the honor of a certain aim
Amid the perils of uncertain ways,
and sail ahead, and leave the rest to God.”

Nazarene Bible College is endeavoring to “keep the honor of a certain aim.” That aim, as expressed by G. B. Williamson, NBC’s earliest and foremost protagonist, is two-pronged:

1. To keep our smaller churches supplied with pastors, and to organize new churches.
2. To help the denomination keep an active ministry that will hold our churches to the line of evangelical faith and vital experience of the new birth and entire sanctification.

In achieving this aim, G. B. saw the graduates of NBC as being “an anchor to windward for intense revival evangelism,” which he believed would be more needed in 1984 than in 1964.

Two decades have passed since the General Assembly voted to establish NBC. Has the college kept the honor of its certain aim? After nine years on its faculty, I answer with an uninhibited “Yes!”

The facts speak for themselves. NBC graduates are serving as pastors of many of our smaller churches and some of our larger churches. Others serve as ministers of music and ministers of education. Some are full-time evangelists, strengthening the “anchors to windward.” NBC graduates minister to minority groups in the United States, and other alumni are working for Christ and the church in Canada, the Bahamas, South Africa, Uruguay, and Paraguay. The lay ministry program at NBC has provided workers for various local church ministries, including Sunday School, senior adult, small-group Bible study, etc. The faculty of NBC has been in constant demand for writing, preaching, teaching, and committee and research assignments throughout the church. All of this argues eloquently that NBC has honored its aim.

Many NBC graduates have gone on to complete degree programs at other Nazarene colleges and at our seminary. NBC is not in conflict with these schools, but complements them. It is part of a movement that arose from 19th-century evangelical revivals. These revivals created a thirst for the knowledge of the Bible and a demand for trained leaders who could serve small communities, inner cities, churches, and missions with knowledgeable efficiency. The Bible college movement emerged to encourage direct study and experience of God’s Word in the English Bible. At NBC, the Bible is the integrating principle for the entire curriculum. NBC’s whole purpose is to prepare its students for Christian ministry or a church vocation through a program of biblical and practical church-related education.

NBC leadership rejoices in the biblical fidelity, educational excellence, and evangelistic spirit of Nazarene Theological Seminary. We serve the same end at a different educational level. We hold with A. B. Simpson’s opinion, which I adapt to read,

“We want our best scholarship and talent in the mission field [wherever that mission field may be in our day], but we want all who can go; and with a destitution [need] so imperative, the Church [of the Nazarene] should be willing to welcome the humblest “prentice hand,” and dispense with full technical preparation wherever she finds other qualifications for humble usefulness.”

This was the intention of the General Assembly that called NBC into being, and of those who founded its work.

We will continue to honor our certain aim as “amid the perils of uncertain ways” we “sail ahead,” confident that we are in the hands of God.

T CRICHTON MITCHELL is professor of church history at NBC.

THRILLED READER

The March 15 issue of the Herald just thrilled me. It seems as though we Nazarenes, especially those in leadership, are finally starting to get involved and active in the issues and problems that face us as a church and a nation today. The articles by Leslie Wooten, Morris Chalfant, Ivan Beals, and others encourage me. Our fundamentalist brothers and sisters have been addressing these problems almost single-handedly for several years. We evangelicals, involved and active in the issues and problems that face us, may lose some battles, but how can that task be accomplished in a Communistic or humanistic society where the church is controlled?

Let's encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to fight with them against Satan. If our hope is in Jesus Christ as it should be, be encouraged, we may lose some battles, such as the school prayer amendment, but we have already won the war Jesus won it for us. 2,000 years ago.

Thank you, Herald of Holiness, and keep up the good work. And remember, brothers and sisters, a pacifist has never won anybody to Christ as far as I know.*

Michael L. Stilfield
Lawson, Missouri

*Editor's note: Pacifists have won thousands to Christ in the history of Christianity.

GOD OUR SECURITY

Referring to articles in the March 15 issue, I believe that the essence of Christ's teachings can be found in the Sermon on the Mount. Although

(Continued on page 20)
ON OCTOBER 13, 1983, over 5,000 men, women, boys, and girls met together at Pilot Point, Tex., for the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of the Church of the Nazarene. It was a time of celebrating the Spirit-anointed heritage of the past 75 years. It was also a time of commitment. It is right that we should review the past. It is right also that we should commit ourselves to scriptural holiness today and always. Celebration and commitment belong together.

At Pilot Point, Dr. Charles H. Strickland prayed: “We have not come just to take a backward look; but O Lord, grant that a double portion of the spirit of our founders may fall upon us and that the mighty Holy Ghost that came in pentecostal glory on that day, 75 years ago, will touch this campus today and touch every heart, and every preacher, and every worker, and every layman, and give to all of us a total new incentive for the great cause of holiness.”

In concluding his anniversary message, Dr. V. H. Lewis challenged those present with the “Pilot Point Commitment.” To Nazarenes present, and to all our people around the world, a charge was given to recommit ourselves to the promotion of holiness in doctrine and deed. Thus, at the Pilot Point occasion, there was the significant combination of the celebration of the past and a commitment to the future.

There is always the danger of living on our heritage. No matter how rich the past has been, the real challenge is to live up to it. Of one religious group it was said, “The people talked their fathers’ language after they had lost their fathers’ faith.” That will not happen to us if we keep celebration and commitment together. Every generation must have its own spiritual experience. So every generation must hear and experience holiness of heart and life.

At Mount Carmel, Elijah reminded the people of Israel of their glorious past. Then he prayed that the God of their fathers would be their God. Years of apostasy and compromise had dulled Israel’s vision of the true God. They needed to repent and experience Him anew. They could not live on their past. Elijah challenged them to live up to it. So he prayed, “O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God ... and that you are turning their hearts back again” (1 Kings 18:36-37, NIV).

Our history has indeed been glorious. Our church has grown from a few thousand members in 1908 to more than a million persons in 70 areas of the world who now call themselves Nazarenes. The progress and victory of the last 75 years did not just happen. And the future will be filled also with progress and victory—if in belief and practice we live up to our heritage.

EARL C. WOLF is a retired Nazarene elder and a free-lance writer residing in Kansas City, Missouri.
The preacher rejoices and praises God for every person who is saved and sanctified under his ministry. Scenes of victory around the altar of his church carry the man of God across many a trial and tribulation the rest of the week.

However, if possible, the God-called servant has an even happier experience—to witness Christ calling men and women from the body of believers to prepare themselves for ministry. Literally they are following in the pastor’s servant-footsteps.

The apostle Paul is a faithful model to all of us, as we see him disciple young Timothy, his son in the Lord:

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others (2 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV).

Paul then charges Timothy to make himself accountable to the knowledge and obedience of the Word of God. He says:

... continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word... (2 Timothy 3:14—4:2, NIV).

However, not every pastor is able to disciple newly called preachers to the depths that Paul could. Nazarene Bible College is an extension of the discipling ministry of every preacher in the Church of the Nazarene. Our goal is to reproduce the high level of commitment to the Word of God and first-century discipleship in the lives of men and women preparing for ministry, lay or ordained.

For 17 years, the new believers and freshly called servants of God from all walks of life have journeyed to the eastern slopes of the beautiful Rocky Mountains to learn discipleship from some choice followers of the Lord Jesus. Over 1,000 of them are now laboring as pastors, evangelists, missionaries, teachers, and lay...
leaders to the far reaches of the earth. We thank God for all of them. We are grateful for faithful pastors, district superintendents, and Nazarene Bible College professors who have discipled them and made their lives and ministries accountable to God’s Word.

As the new president of Nazarene Bible College, I stand on the shoulders of two faithful leaders, the former presidents of NBC, Dr. Charles H. Strickland and Dr. L. S. Oliver.

Most Nazarenes are aware of the heroic faith that motivated Dr. Strickland, the Board of Trustees, and faculty of the early days. They shaped and molded this institution, setting its course as a holiness college specializing as an adult educational institution, graduating students ready for ministry.

We express appreciation for Dr. L. S. Oliver and his 12 years as president of the college. The college is on solid footing with several outstanding credits to his leadership.

During his tenure the Hardy C. Powers Hall, a classroom building, and the Music and Speech Buildings were constructed. The unique and attractive Apostles Court was built, where many outdoor services and events are held each year. Within the past year, a new entrance onto the college property was constructed. It is built of native stone, beautifully landscaped, with the American and the Christian flags flying high over the drive.

There is today an excellent college community made up of administrators, faculty members, staff, and student body dedicated to holiness ministry in the Church of the Nazarene.

In order to reach our goal to prepare servants for the 1990s and beyond, we plan to graduate students who are:

- Effectively trained for ministry with a clear understanding of the Bible and the holiness life-style;
- Highly motivated in fulfilling the Great Commission to reach the lost of this generation;
- Properly skilled so that they are able to minister as preachers and lay leaders in spiritually dynamic, growing congregations in our changing society.
Militant Peacemakers

by C. B. STRANG

"Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"
(2 Timothy 2:3).

"Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9).

The Bible in many places describes the individual as a soldier, and it also pictures the whole body of believers, the Church, as a militant body. Paul, writing to the Ephesians, describes minutely the fighting equipment of the Christian soldier. The Book of Revelation pictures the end of Christian activity in the great battle of Armageddon. Gospel songs by the thousands exhort us to warfare. We are urged by the Bible, hymns, and ministers to emulate the example of good soldiers.

It becomes increasingly necessary for us to be warlike in our relationship to this world. The forces of evil challenge us on every hand. Sin is rampant. Satan is cunning, powerful, and resourceful. If we are to defeat him and his cohorts, we must be not only equipped but also trained for the battle.

Liquor, nicotine, dope, and lust are enemies that offer us no quarter, and we should offer none to them. Our traditional enemy, formality, and our modern foe, indifference, need to be warred against. Instead of settling down into a smug complacency, the Christian should be not only sharpening his sword and tightening his armor but also actually wielding his weapon and testing his equipment in combat.

People always want to believe that the age in which they live is the worst that has ever been. And often, because they believe it to be the most sinful ever, they despair of improving it. But, sure enough, this is the worst age in which we will ever live, and unless we fight the battles of it, and win them, the next generation will be a worse one.

Our advance should be made along two lines. First, by getting men saved and sanctified, and second, by reform propaganda and legislation. Our work should be both internal and external. We ought to run the present saloon out of existence through our concentrated legislation, and at the same time we ought to be doing our best to get men and women, boys and girls sanctified so that they will not want the stuff. It will take real militancy to do this!

But while it is true that we should be militants, it is equally true that we should be peacemakers. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." The world is full of strife. Individuals are at variance, and nations rise up against nations. The darkness of hate and the corruption of sinful striving are obvious everywhere. The Christian with his "light" and "salt" is needed to show the right way and to counteract an unsavory condition. We are entrusted by our Master with the great commission of bringing peace to the earth. For 1,900 years men have scoffed at His teaching of "Blessed are the peacemakers."

We Wound Afresh

We wound afresh
what Christ himself has healed,
And desecrate the tombs,
in mercy sealed.
While trampling flowers
that cover graves of pain,
Some long-repentent sins
dig up again...
Sharp tongues, blunt words,
and probing minds which tear
Into the half-healed scars
some hearts must bear.

We are the pure,
the righteous and self-driven,
Forgetting not
what Christ has long forgiven!

—VERLA A. MOOTH
Evergreen Park, Illinois
They have desired war instead. But war has brought only suffering, increased hatefulness, broken hearts, and augmented financial depression.

But Christians have the antidote, the solution, the cure. The gospel of Christ brings peace. His Spirit imparts it. His followers are examples of it. By application of His principles through the lives of His followers, peace may be brought to individual hearts. Whole nations may be changed by the gospel. “This treasure we have in earthen vessels.” But let us tell about it and share it with others. We are not only peace-receivers but also peacemakers. This suggests activity. We are the makers of peace.

In our dual role of militant peacemakers we are to war against all evil, and in place of it, we are to substitute that “peace... which passeth all understanding.”

We are militant peacemakers! □

Editor’s Note: C. B. Strang pastored some of the strongest churches in our movement. He broadened his ministry through writing as well as preaching. This message is one of a series of “Biblical Paradoxes” he shared with early readers of this magazine.

O. J. Copeland visiting the congregation at Providence, R.I., in 1899. H. F. Reynolds is seen second from the lower left.

“MY DEAR BROTHER COPELAND”

Upon returning from the Douglas Camp Meeting in 1887, O. J. Copeland, a Methodist layman, and his newly sanctified wife began holding holiness meetings in their Montpelier, Vt., home. This lay businessman was faithful to open his home and was blessed with a witness and influence far beyond what anyone would have imagined. These meetings attracted students from the Vermont Methodist Seminary and soon developed into the Vermont Holiness Association. O. J. Copeland served as treasurer and lent financial assistance to the association. This allowed them to purchase tents and hold meetings across the conference.

When Copeland moved to open a granite business in Brooklyn, he provided a personal link between the Vermont group and the young New York church of William Howard Hoople. Several of Copeland’s Vermont friends would follow him into Hoople’s church, including H. F. Reynolds, Susan N. Fitkin, E. E. Angell, A. B. Riggs, and H. N. Brown. These Vermonters all played central roles in the founding of our church and in establishing Nazarene schools and missions. H. F. Reynolds became one of our founding general superintendents.

A few months before passing on to his reward in 1938, Dr. H. F. Reynolds wrote Mr. Copeland a very reminiscent letter:

Yes, both Mrs. Reynolds and I often think of your work to encourage a handful of holiness preachers to get the holiness movement started in the green mountains and rich valleys of Vermont. Your personal business and financial assistance helped us boys in our zealous but inexperienced efforts in the Lord. . . . Yes, my dear Brother Copeland, your labors. . . . had and are still having much to do with our present Nazarene church movement in the foreign fields, as well as among the nations of the world. Amen. Our prayer is that the preaching of second-blessing holiness shall never diminish, but be on the increase ’til Jesus shall come again (O. J. Copeland collection and Smith, “Called unto Holiness,” pp. 60 and 68).

STEVE COOLEY, Director of Archives

Ο. Ι. Κοπέλαντι κατά την επίσκεψη του συνέδριου της Προβούλεια, Ρ.Ι., το 1899. Ο. Π. Ρέινολντς είδε τον δεύτερο από τη χαμηλή δεξιά.

ΩΜΕΪΝΣΣΗ ΟΡΙΖΟΝΤΟΥ

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“ΟΜΕΪΝΣΣΗ ΟΡΙΖΟΝΤΟΥ”

Πληττόμενος από τη συνεδρία της Δούνας Καμπ Μετέριο, ο Ο. Ι. Κοπέλαντι, ένας Μεθοδιστής βουλευτής, και η νεοσιαρατισμένη της κυρία του άρχισαν να πραγματοποιούν συναξώσεις χριστιανικής ενότητας στο Μονπέλιερ, Β.τ., σπίτι. Ο οικονομολόγος αυτός ήταν ενθαρρυντικός προς να ανοίξει το σπίτι και ήταν συγκεκριμένης με αυτόν και επαναλήψη το αισθηματικό του πέραν τα προβλήματα της ανθρώπινης είδης. Οι συναξώσεις αυτές ανακατάλειψαν μαθητές της Βερμοντικής Καθολικής Βυθικής Εταιρείας και έγιναν για πρώτη φορά στη Βερμοντική Καθολική Εταιρεία. O. Ι. Κοπέλαντι έδινε χρήματα ως επιχειρηματία και εποικίζοντας στη συνεργασία. Αυτό του επέτρεπε να αγοράσει δωμάτια και να διοργανώσει συνεδριάδες στη συνεργασία. Όταν ο Κοπέλαντι μεταφέρθηκε για να ανοίξει μια γκρεμίνη επιχείρηση στη Βροικιλάντη, προσέφωσε ένα προσωπικό σύνολο μεταξύ του Βερμόντικου Κοινοτικού και του νέου Βορειοαμερικανικού Ερασιμού του Φίλιππου Χίλιου. Μερικοί από τους Βερμόντικους ευημερότητας του Κοπέλαντι έφτασαν στο νέο Βορειοαμερικανικό Ερασιμού του Φίλιππου Χίλιου, συμπεριλαμβανομένων του Η. Φ. Ρέινολντς, της Σανζί Νιτκίν, της Μαρία Έ. Ανγκόλ, του Α. Μ. Ρίγκος και της Η. Ν. Μπρόου. Οι Βερμόντικοι αυτοί έπαιζαν κεντρικούς ρόλους στην ιδρύση της Ρέινολντς και στην ιδρύση Ναζαρέτ φυλακιοποιημένων και μετανάστευσης. H. F. Ρέινολντς έγινε ένας από τους δημιουργικούς βασικούς σταθερούς στην εκκλησία και στην ιδρύση Ναζαρέτ φυλακιοποιημένων και μετανάστευσης.
YOUR PASTOR has just announced that the annual offering for Nazarene Bible College will be taken in the Sunday School classes next Sunday. The thought crosses your mind that maybe you should put in a few extra dollars. "It must be a worthy cause," you say to yourself. You’ve seen an occasional picture in various church periodicals. Maybe you saw the college booth at the last General Assembly and picked up a souvenir brochure. Perhaps your nephew attended some years ago. Are you on the outside, looking in?

You might have a better understanding of Nazarene Bible College if you were the person who visited the beautiful campus on your vacation. You heard the carillon bells, met a few students and staff on the sidewalk, and stood in amazement as you beheld the marvelous backdrop of snowcapped Pikes Peak.

Your pastor, an alumnus, stood before you last Sunday and opened the Word; he prayed with you before your recent surgery; he absorbed a measure of your heartache when you lost that loved one; he led your congregation through that building program. Your heart beats for the college because you’ve been on the receiving end of its mission.

Perhaps you stood at the U-Haul and kissed your daughter good-bye as she resolutely gathered her little ones for the long journey. She and her husband were joining in the pursuit of a divine call. You have seen more than a glimpse of the outside. Your “investment” has increased your concern.

The “outside” story reveals a freckle-faced globe, marked by leadership supplied through NBC alumni. As a professor at your college for the past 11 years, I have been fortunate to experience the “inside” story . . . the very pulse of the school. This story is composed of real people, experiencing unpredictable and cherished moments.

Let me expose you to some of the inside story.

Stand in front of my class and identify the personalities that contribute to the learning experience of the quarter. There sits a widow, the oldest in the class, who has 39 great-grandchildren. Her desire to follow the Holy Spirit’s direction for her life is just as keen as the single young adult sitting to the side of her. Down the row is Clint, a father of seven precious children.

Gary is changing roles. He is a veteran elementary school teacher but is now preparing for the ministry. His receptive learning spirit is mirrored in the man sitting in front of him who left his profession as an accountant to follow the Lord’s command.

Kneel with me at the chapel altar and share that moment of indescribable joy as tear-filled eyes meet. This husband and wife have recommitted their lives and mar-
riage to a God who has changed them completely.

Answer my office phone and respond to the request for prayer. John will not be in class today. He awakened this morning to find his 10-month-old darling lifeless in her crib.

Sit at the kitchen table typing into the morning hours. This assignment is due next class session. Typing was not your favorite course in high school. You have switched from Sanka brand to keep your apartment door. God's messenger of mercy was tuned in to your need.

It's conducting a class after a restless night or jaded day of attending your spouse who has terminal cancer.

It's signing a petition to have your excessive absences excused because you were serving on jury duty, or in the delivery room witnessing the birth of your third child.

It's weaving the threads of enduring friendship through multiple circumstances like working for the same employer, running downstairs to borrow a cup of sugar, or fixing your classmate's brakes to save him a few dollars.

This is Nazarene Bible College. The inside story is laced with adventure, mystery, heartache, romance, discovery, frustration, endurance, and sacrifice.

As you accept the challenge of financial support, place yourself on the inside and breathe a prayer for its continued success and mission in our beloved Zion.
RECENTLY a national newspaper published an estimate that a child born in 1980 will cost the parents well over $150,000 before he graduates from college and becomes self-supporting.

The article caused a lot of amused speculation, but there was no big rush of babies being returned to the hospital.

Three boys have blessed our home. I remember the wee small hours of the morning when each one made his appearance. Now that they are teenagers they tend to sleep later, but for their debut they were early risers.

In the dim light of a hushed hospital, the nurse brought each one to their mother and to me. They were so small, so seemingly fragile. You wanted to hold them tight so they wouldn't drop, but you were afraid to squeeze too hard. There could be no doubt but that they were among God's most special people.

Johnny was the first; that was 18 short years ago; then Jeffrey made his appearance 15 years ago; and Joel completed the family picture just yesterday—I mean 13 years ago; can it be possible?

Once, when he was a baby, a glass container of boiling water exploded over Johnny's bare back. With bated breath and reckless courage we careened over Nebraska backroads to the doctor's office. We didn't count the danger or the cost. We loved him. We wanted to ease the pain and get the help he needed.

When Jeffrey developed severe tonsil problems, he was hospitalized in Kansas City for surgery. He was so small to be in such a big hospital. We stood by his bed. We didn't count the cost. We loved him. We wanted to be strong and well.

When Joel was but an infant, he clambered over the balcony rail at the Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City and plummeted to an ice-skating rink 15 feet below. Time absolutely stopped as I rushed to the spot where he lay. Security police helped us get him to an emergency room fast. After an overnight stay, he was released. No damage. We hadn't counted the cost. We loved him.

Since those times of trauma there have been many bills to pay . . . school bills, clothing bills, food bills, fun bills. . . . Sometimes we had to count the cost . . . but always love led us to do what we could for our family.

God has also found His family to be expensive at times. This was especially true one time on Calvary when it cost Him the agony and death of His only Son. Before time began, God had counted the cost, but He counted it as naught compared to His love for us.

Matthew 6:21 tells us, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” It is just as true that where our heart is, there will our treasure be also.

When we love someone, we do not stop with percentages. Love has a way of leading us to lay everything at the feet of our beloved. To our God we say, “Here am I. Use me and what is mine, because I love You.”

A famous sales organization motivates its salesmen by saying, “You are not working for money alone; money is the by-product of the number of people you have helped.” In this same vein of thought, Christians do not give of their finances to the church because of the value of the money alone, but as a by-product of their own involvement in the ministries of love carried on by that church. Our treasure naturally follows our heart.

Adam loved God out of a pure heart, and God blessed him by giving him charge over all the earth. Adam served God well in this task of administration so long as his heart was undivided. When Adam lost his undivided heart through sin, his stewardship crumbled and he was driven from Eden.

Although a slave and often a prisoner, Joseph never ceased to serve Pharaoh well. As a reward for this service he was given great responsibility and he responded by giving even greater service to Egypt, to his family, and to God.

Stephen is known to history as the first martyr. He gave his life for his love of Christ; no greater stewardship could be imagined. Yet Stephen was first men-
tioned in the Bible as one of the men chosen to supervise the daily distribution of food to widows. His involvement in service to others is what led him into greater service to God and to all Christendom.

While Adam, Joseph, and Stephen are examples of men whose hearts led them to service and total consecration to God, the Bible has other examples of men whose hearts were in the wrong place, and their stewardship failed.

God questioned Eli and said, “Why did you put your sons before me?” These sons became infamous for their wickedness. Eli failed in the stewardship of his family because his heart was in the wrong place.

Esau was willing to sell his birthright in order to fill his stomach with just one meal. This twisted sense of value came back to haunt him later. His heart was wrong, and so his deed was wrong. He was not a steward of his birthright.

Samson forgot which were his friends and which were his enemies when he told the Philistines the secret of his great strength. His heart was given to a woman of deceit and this moral failure ruined his ability to serve.

God’s claim has always been upon the heart. Men are, and always will be, moved by their emotions. When God has my love, He has me. Period.

Johnny, Jeffrey, and Joel will soon be men. Don’t ask me to count the cost of rearing three young men for Christ and His kingdom. Their worth is far above counting.

My Lord has invested himself in me. Shall I do less by Him?

As golden autumn days
Grow short and few,
The leaves
Take on a rainbow radiance;
A gloried splendor,
Not as yet achieved
By flowering spring
Or all of summer’s green.
And so may we,
As earthly days decrease,
By special touch
Show forth Thy beauty;
Demonstrate Thy love.
Dear God,
Let all our autumn days
Be wholly Thine.

—ClesSen K. Scoles
Pueblo, Colorado

MY HEART IS SINGING

by DELLORA WEST

TODAY MY HEART IS SINGING! My walking cane is in high gear, scarcely allowing my feet to touch the ground! Pain and near-blindness are totally forgotten! Why all this excitement? A wayward 16-year-old found Jesus and I had a part!

This particular young man probably suffered more rejection, heartache, loneliness, and lack of love than many people far older than he. His parents divorced when he was only three, and he went to live in another state. Shortly thereafter he was permitted to begin sniffing what he described as “white stuff,” which turned out to be cocaine. At times he was locked in his room while his guardians frequented nightclubs.

When he was six, he came to live with his grandparents, who welcomed him warmly. But despite love and care, the desire for drugs was already there. So within a few years he was deeply involved. Schoolwork was impossible. On one occasion the police found him unconscious on a driveway at three in the morning. They took him to a hospital where he spent 15 days in the lockup section. This helped for a time, but peer pressure was such that soon he was again heavily involved. To support his habit, he sold many valuable items from the home.

Being brokenhearted, and only as a last resort, the family committed him to an institution for five months to be dried out and rehabilitated. Upon release he stayed clear of drugs, but the strong influence of unwholesome friends soon caused him to turn to alcohol. This, too, was a very unhappy, heartbreaking situation.

Two days ago a newspaper article portending the possible rise of the Antichrist made him realize that he needed to get his act together. To everyone’s surprise, he expressed a desire to talk to the pastor, who is not only a godly man, but an excellent counselor. After a brief visit, Pastor Jerry Baker gently and skillfully led him to Jesus.

Does it pay to fast and pray and “hang in there”? A thousand times yes! Why? Because this young man is my own grandson!
CHURCH FILLS MEMBERS' DENTAL AS WELL AS SPIRITUAL NEEDS

by PAUL R. JEFFERSON

Churches have historically been places of worship or a refuge from suffering, of solace and spiritual guidance for people of every age, denomination, or ilk.

Members of the Monroe Church of the Nazarene, 1515 Monroe, will now be going to church for purposes of dental hygiene as well as worshiping the Deity.

With the opening of a weekly dental clinic at the Hope Christian Center area of the central Topeka church, its members and others can take advantage of the skills provided by a professional dentist-in-residence, Dr. Barney Graham.

Graham, a Lawrence resident, opened the clinic in the church center on January 15, about a year after he approached the Monroe church pastor, the Rev. Sylvester Ballard, with his proposal to lend his medical training for modern-day missionary work.

"Everything just fell into place, although it took about a year to get it off the ground," the dentist said.

Graham operates his regular dental office during the week in Olathe, about 35 miles east of Lawrence. On Fridays, he heads west to Topeka to spend all day "ministering" through dentistry to the residents of the Monroe area.

A member of First Church of the Nazarene in Lawrence, Graham said he first heard of the Monroe church center, classed as a mission church in the denomination, through a church magazine publication.

"I had done some mission work in different places for a long time and had been looking for a place to do some mission work in dentistry. I could never find a place that was receptive," Graham said.

The Topeka church dental clinic fit into the design of both the pastor and the professional as the Christian center underwent extensive remodeling through a Community Development grant of $20,150.

The grant request for the clinic was the top priority of the Monroe Neighborhood Improvement Association in March 1983, and funding was provided so the NIA could complete the clinic in February. The Community Development department did blueprints for the dental clinic, room for which was donated by the Hope Nazarene Church, Ballard said. All of the dental equipment was supplied by Graham himself.

"I've had a good reception from the community," the dentist said, adding that he was booked solid for three Fridays hence. "There are a lot of people who just can't afford good dental care."

Though he is in the office only on Fridays, the dental clinic phones are answered daily for appointments by Graham's dental assistant-in-training, Sandra Kelley.

While in the office, Graham performs normal duties in examining, filling, and yes, pulling the teeth of church members and others on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The dentist said he has hopes of the clinic becoming the cornerstone for further growth at the mission church.

"I've got some real dreams for the future" of Monroe church, said Graham, with plans for a continuing General Educational Development (GED) program, a sum-

Paul R. Jefferson is the religion writer for The Topeka Capital-Journal, in Topeka, Kansas.
mer school, and an intramural sports program in the prospective future of the fledgling congregation.

Ballard, pastor of the church located in the renovated Monroe Elementary School, said the fully operational dental clinic is one of the church’s methods of outreach and service to families and residents of the community. Many of the residents are low-income and unable to budget for professional dental care on a regular basis, he said. An average of 20 to 25 patients visit the clinic weekly.

“It’s something positive happening for the community,” he said.

Graham, as the church’s sole dental practitioner, said he challenges the dental community to lend time and skills to the clinic.

“I welcome them to come down and look it over. There’s a lot of need there,” Graham said.

Persons wanting a dental checkup may make an appointment by calling the church office, 234-3131, between 9 a.m. and noon Monday through Friday.

Another Look at GIVING
by C. NEIL STRAIT

A KING once invited his subjects to come to his palace. And his invitation was a strange one. He had a moat around the palace that had dried up—there was no water. So, he asked that each one bring a vessel filled with water for his moat. Some brought baskets full, some small containers—and some even brought thimbles full and spoons full of water for the king.

When they had gathered, he opened the gate to his palace in which there were all kinds of gifts. Now, he said, the vessel in which you brought water you can load with gifts.

The king’s procedure is a reminder of the biblical principle given by Jesus—“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you” (Luke 6:38, NIV).

We are sometimes slow to figure out the math of God. We learn, slowly, that there is built into the fabric of things a reaction to withholding and a response to giving.

My first pastorate was located on the Mississippi River. On occasion I had to cross that river into St. Louis to do hospital visiting. That river fascinated me. For years and years it had been giving all its energy to pour its waters into the big Gulf of Mexico. But I never drove across a bridge of the Mississippi River to find it dry.

God takes care of the river. Charles Allen has given us this summary about the Mississippi River. “God causes the sun to draw the water out of the gulf into clouds, the winds carry the clouds back up the river, and the clouds pour the water back. What the river gives, it gets back.”

We need to write one giving principle deep on our hearts—that what we give we get back. Oh, not always in money or material gain. And herein is our problem. We look for the return in material ways, or in ways that we prescribe. But God often does a different calculation. Sometimes He chooses another avenue of return, another method, another way. But what we need to settle in our hearts is, whatever way God chooses to reward our giving is right, and, hence, all right with us.

To come to such a place of understanding in our stewardship means that love must be at the center. Love must prompt our giving before it has God’s response. Someone has said this about tithing, “Tithing is not a legalism to be taught, it is a love to be learned.”

When love is the motivation for giving, three things happen to the gift: (1) It is given from a love-base that views not what it gives, but what it keeps. (2) It is given without expectation of return. Love views it as an investment, a response that love needs to make, not because it must, but because it wants to. (3) It is given because one realizes God has already, in love, given life so much.

It is good, then, to occasionally evaluate our giving. Why do we give? What are the motivations? Such evaluations keep selfishness from invading our giving principles and open the heart to the response God wants to make to each of His followers who give out of love.
SPIRITUAL RAMIFICATIONS OF POLITICAL ELECTIONS

by DONALD A. YERXA

Amidst the excitement of a presidential election campaign, it is natural that Christians tend to examine closely the nature of their political involvement. Thousands of Christians inevitably approach this electoral process with little or no direct experience in politics. And for many, the relationship of political activity to the Christian faith remains uncertain. Questions abound. Should the Christian be very concerned with the “dirty business” of politics and its alleged sub-Christian morality? Should born-again Christians band together into voting blocs or political action committees to generate clout during elections? How important is the personal morality of a candidate for the Christian voter? These and numerous other tough questions await Christian voters as they venture into the political process.

Before making some observations on the relationship of Christianity and the voting process, it is necessary to be clear on the meaning of the word politics. While there are many good definitions, politics is perhaps best understood as collective decision-making through negotiation and compromise. From this brief definition, it is clear that politics involves more than just governance over the approximately 88,000 elective governmental units in the United States today. While churches, schools, youth groups, businesses, etc., are all involved in political activities, I will confine my observations to the standard governmental aspects of politics.

Definitions aside, the starting point for all matters of life for the Christian is the Bible. What guidance does the Scripture give to the Christian voter?

The New Testament has numerous references pertaining to political matters. Mark 12:13-17, Romans 13:1-7, and 1 Peter 2:13-17 are probably the most familiar passages. Both Paul and Peter certainly regarded obedience to governmental authorities as a Christian obligation and a civic duty. Yet the whole body of Scriptures in both Testaments points us to a much higher, ultimate authority and allegiance, the almighty God.

Our Savior, in a masterful response to those who tried to trap Him, noted that we should “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s” (Mark 12:17, NIV). Here we see that there is a legitimate sphere for political governance in this fallen world, but there is most definitely an overarching duty to obey God first. And Christ makes no specific list of guidelines for political action. The Christian, then, is left with considerable latitude in these matters of overlap between faith and politics.

What can we say as we approach the voting booth desiring to be both good citizens and obedient Christians? Let me offer a few observations:

1. Modern Christians living in democracies have both a right and a duty to vote.

In modern Western democracies, as Richard Mouw of Calvin College has noted, the God-given governmental authority is vested in a voting populace. Debate, persuasion, election, and defeat are part of that decision-making process. Christians must not remove themselves from the political arena, though some have done so to avoid the contamination of the world. We have an obligation to vote so as to “shake some of our spiritual salt into political campaign activity.”

2. Contemporary society desperately needs a clear witness to the historic values of Christianity.

Our modern society is dying. In an age where consumerism, the pursuit of pleasure, and self-preoccupation dominate the moral horizons, most of our pressing national problems are at root problems of the spirit. So Christians simply cannot confine their faith to matters related to their private walk with Christ. When Christ becomes the Lord of our lives, there can be no compartments of life held in reserve outside of His control. Consequently, when we take our Christianity seriously, we begin to capture the divine vision of changing our society for the better, not simply fitting into the world’s suffocating mold.

Donald A. Yerxa is an associate professor of history at Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts.
Christians have differed and will continue to differ on political questions and candidates.

Given the fact that Scriptures do not provide detailed political platforms for Christians to implement, the citizen must recognize and respect the different positions that emerge from serious efforts to integrate faith and political activity. Christians draw different political lessons from the Bible. For example, those Christians who emphasize 1 John 2:15 tend to separate from the world and its problems since it is riddled with evil. Other Christians, however, see Christ's directive to go into the world as justification for heavy involvement in politics, even to the point of using political power to enforce a Christian pattern of morality. And yet other Christians, of which I am one, see as their mission an effort to transform society through the application of gospel principles of love, compassion, and justice. How best to accomplish these worthy goals, however, involves Christians in differing political agendas.

Christians should not permit party or ideological loyalties by themselves to shape their decisions.

Too often we approach Scriptures with preconceived notions. These ideas then serve to screen out parts of God's total message. Only the blips that fit into our already established political viewpoint capture our attention. Christ and His ethic cannot be pigeonholed by the conventional labels of Republican and Democrat or of liberal and conservative. Certainly, we will develop tendencies toward some of these political philosophies, but these should not dominate our political behavior to the point that they become substitutes for divine leading. Our loyalty is always to Christ first, and His values must always be our yardstick of political measurement.

Christians must view political solutions and agendas as temporary, though necessary, activities.

We must never be tempted to think that political solutions to mankind's problems will be anything other than temporary. While we need to become involved in the political process, we need not let it dominate our perceptions. The only ultimate solutions come from God. He and only He is the Lord of history.

While politics can be perplexing, exciting, corrupt, and unpredictable—all of these things—the Christian's approach to political activity and voting is different from that of the non-Christian. For the born-again believer, politics provides an avenue of service to our fellow men and women. It gives us the opportunity to "get out of the salt shaker" and to influence society with values consistent with our precious Christian faith. We discharge this civic duty as "living ballots," since we are all elected to serve our Lord as He leads us.


Book Brief

NEVER ALONE

Dr. SUNG MING and MIN TSU, authors

edited by A. F. HARPER

PICTURE a peaceful Christian family: the father a scientist; his children, doctors and lawyers—law-abiding, upper-class citizens. The whole household has gone to bed early. Suddenly loud, rough pounding on the door shocks them awake. Stones, bricks, and mud are flung at the house. Windows shatter. From the street angry voices demand entrance, and finally a mob smashes the door to surge in screaming, "Surrender!"

It happened on mainland China, August 24, 1966, during the Cultural Revolution. Dr. Sung Ming recounts the experiences of his dreadful years of humiliation and suffering. It's a spellbinder, a horror story you can't lay down.

In a crowded prison cell, the doctor sat on the cold floor for three years, ragged and starving. His bride, too, was eventually captured and imprisoned, but not until she had fled to the wilderness alone, with mosquitoes, starvation, thirst, and fear plaguing her every step of the way.

One lesson stands above others: In our trials God moves in close to sustain our thought life, not allowing depression to overwhelm and defeat us. When his own endurance ran out, the doctor was given a vision of Jesus. From then on, he recalled Bible teachings and hummed to himself hymns with encouraging words.

Paul Skiles, in the Introduction, asks, "Do only those Christians who undergo such severe persecution achieve their level of faith, or is it open to anyone else? If so, what are the terms?" I suspect the answer is found in the conclusion.

If any book is a must, this one is! Absolutely a selection for the church library! Please buy, beg, or borrow a copy.

—Evelyn Stenbock

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
149 pages. Paper.
To order see page 22.
MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY

Included in the calendar of many churches is World Day of Prayer. On this day people unite, often with members of neighboring congregations, to intercede before God for the political and moral health of nations.

For some this is a perfunctory ritual, and they would be genuinely surprised if anything came of their praying. But others are serious and sincere, for they honestly believe that prayer can make a difference in the process and outcome of history.

Certainly the Bible offers convincing evidence that prayer results in changes, sometimes drastic changes. Moses prayed, and a people were redeemed from slavery, preserved through 40 years of nomadic existence in a hostile environment, and brought at last into a promised homeland. There they gave to the world the Bible and the Savior.

Elijah prayed, and dramatic changes occurred in the physical and moral climate of his country.

Daniel prayed, and he and others managed to preserve a precious ethical and cultural identity under the heavy pressure of captivity.

Jesus prayed and a weak-kneed disciple was restored to become a rock of strength. Jesus prayed and received strength to embrace the Cross and purchase redemption for the world.

The person who believes the Bible will believe in the necessity and value of intercessory prayer. The God in whom he trusts is not an unseeing, unhearing, un-moving idol. He is "the living God" who acts on behalf of His petitioning people. He gets involved.

Unquestionably, His wisdom and ways are beyond our grasp. He does not surrender His purposes to ours, and He keeps His own schedule, but He is the God who invites prayer, listens when we call, and changes people and situations in response.

Our world needs a day of prayer, and honest prayer is never a waste of time and breath. Let us make prayer a priority.

A HIGH DAY

One Sunday in August, I attended a dedication service at Chanute, Kans. Our church there was burning a mortgage on their sanctuary and educational building, and they were dedicating, debt free, a new family life center. They were also dedicating a new parsonage.

It made for an exciting, wonderful day. General Superintendent V. H. Lewis preached, Mrs. Lewis said "Amen," and Doris said, "I really like Esther Lewis!" District Superintendent James Hester and his wife were involved in the services, too. I was there because the pastor, Fred Cook, is my cousin, and I take pride in his work.

A new building—debt free! Behind that miracle lies an intriguing story. A wealthy man who lived in Chanute began to attend our services occasionally. Though he did not become a Christian, he was befriended and visited by a succession of pastors over the years.

In the last year of his life this man found Christ as his personal Savior. He wanted to be baptized and join the church. Unable to leave the nursing home, both rituals were performed there by Pastor Cook. Before he died, the new convert drew up a will that left a tithe of his estate to our church in Chanute. With that unexpected windfall the mortgage was paid off and a new building erected.

While this resulted from the generosity of one wealthy person, that we have a church at all in Chanute is a tribute to pastors and people who through the years have labored, prayed, and sacrificed to make it possible. The inheritance was icing on the cake, but the dough for the cake was provided by faithful Nazarenes, who also stood the heat of the kitchen while the baking process went on.

I thank God that Doris and I could attend the occasion. We shared a fellowship dinner with the church, toured the new facilities, benefited from the earnest messages, and visited cousin Fred and his family, all in one day. Such days focus the answers to many prayers and reward the labor of many people. They are high days, indeed!
Life is a gift from the Creator, and for the use or abuse of the gift we must answer to Him. A Texas steer dining on plastic is not so irrational as a human being smoking and drinking his way to destruction.

LETHAL APPETITES

Driving through the Texas panhandle, Doris and I beheld a strange sight. Near the barbed wire fence that paralleled the highway, stood a hefty young steer, gazing at the passing cars and placidly eating a large plastic bag. I think the steer, without knowing it, was committing suicide.

If the steer could talk, I can imagine it saying, “But I like it!” Or, “If it feels so good, how can it be bad for me?” Or, “Get out of my face! It’s my life. If I want to dine on plastic bags, that’s none of your business.” Perhaps, as he sank to the ground, bloated and dying, he might boast, “I did it my way.”

With just such foolish arguments people have justified the gratification of strange appetites for lethal substances. They seek to dignify their folly by making “freedom” the issue. That poor dumb steer couldn’t know how damaging ingested plastic can be, but people who know their habits are dangerous, and can be fatal, will belligerently label their indulgences as “rights.”

An ancient Greek was told by physicians that he must quit boozing or go blind. In response, he raised a glass of wine and exclaimed, “Farewell, sweet light.”

A man in his 30s was dying of lung cancer in a Georgia hospital. At the request of a family member, I visited him. He was bitter and angry, lashing out at me about the unfairness of God in permitting him to die so young when his wife and children needed him. “I have a right to live,” he wept.

Gently but firmly I reminded him that his fatal illness was self-induced in the face of repeated warnings. He forfeited the right to live by claiming the indulgence of a perverted appetite as his right. Before he died he was honest and penitent, and he found forgiveness and peace in Christ.

Sin is irrational. No one has the right to self-destruction. Life is a gift from the Creator, and for the use or abuse of the gift we must answer to Him. A Texas steer dining on plastic is not so irrational as a human being smoking and drinking his way to destruction.

THE STEWARDSHIP OF INFLUENCE

“No man lives to himself,” not even a hermit. However limited our contacts with others, we are constantly exerting an influence, good or bad. By what we do and say, by how we act, react, and interact, we are impressing other people. Since all of life, including unconscious influence, will be judged by God, we ought to be concerned about the stewardship of influence.

Our actions can be misread, of course, and our influence can be negative when our intentions were good. This is especially true in casual contacts and partial contexts. Someone may hear a snatch of conversation and jump to wrong conclusions, where the whole conversation would have created a radically different impression. Influence should be weighed by the whole tenor of our lives.

But this does not mean that brief contacts are unimportant. Much of our lives are filled with fleeting associations with others. The waitress you may never see again, the postman you say hello to once a month, the grocery clerk whose name you’ve never learned, the neighbor’s kid who chases a ball through your flower bed, the stranger who phones at night in an effort to sell you aluminum siding, the person who sits beside you on the bus or at a ball game, the visitor who drops into your Sunday evening service—these are all part of your responsibility as a steward of influence. In all human encounters, however brief and seldom, we should aim at being genuinely Christian.

Influence is not the same as “image.” Some are concerned about their contacts because they want to project a certain image, and image becomes a misnomer because they are striving to portray themselves as something they really are not. They want to sell themselves as gold but they are really brass.

We should never aim to gull people in order to exploit them. We should not pretend to be better Christians than we really are. We should, however, in all relationships of life, be loving, accepting, forgiving, encouraging people who seek to follow the teaching and example of Christ.
Christ did not promise peace here on this earth. He clearly tells us who our brother is and how we should treat him—both friend and enemy.

Those who suggest that we should "deploy more nukes" should reread His words.

Considering the fact that with only a fraction of the earth's population, we control and use 90 percent of the world's resources, we might have reason to fear that we would be "overwhelmed by the masses of Asia" without nuclear weapons. The same people that we so fear are the same people that Christ admonishes us to feed and clothe. If, as the writers seem to claim, God is on our side and if they truly believe that we "must depend on God for maximum security (Psalm 46), rather than on political power, wealth, or weapons of war," then the belief that we must use "war as an instrument of national policy" betrays a cruel cynicism.

The prophets prove that one can still love one's country and speak out against its wrongs. I love my country. I'm proud to have served in the Peace Corps and resent the implication that my belief that Christ taught pacifism is rooted in a hatred for my country and communist-inspired.

Putting down our arms and trusting in God may be unrealistic according to the wisdom of the world. But Christ himself would not accept a worldly crown, nor would He call down 12 armies of angels for the sake of immediate but temporary victory.

Joshua's victory over Jericho did not depend on the size of his army nor did Gideon's. To argue that we must trust in God and stockpile more weapons is to want our cake and eat it too.

David Stottrup
Litchfield, Minnesota

PERCEPTIVE QUESTIONS
Morris Chalfant's March 15 article on the nuclear freeze movement raises several questions:

1. Isn't it faulty logic to reject an idea simply because some of its supporters are rascals? If not, then we'd better reject Christianity, for some of its adherents have certainly been rascals!

2. As the internationalization of the church proceeds, shouldn't we move beyond the simplistic view of the world as a chess game between the United States and the Soviet Union? Won't an obsession with promoting American political viewpoints in official church papers be detrimental to us in holiness evangelism around the world?

3. Where is the emphasis on the biblical principle of Psalm 20:7: "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God"? If armaments are the answer, the world ought to be more peaceful than ever before in its history and it ought to be becoming increasingly more democratic and free. Is it not. Have we chosen to fight with technology instead of with Truth?

Howard Culbertson
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

by LESLIE WOOTEN

He was a young man with a wife and four children. As a lad he had become a Christian but later strayed away from Christ and the church and went back into sin.

A serious accident sent his swiftly to the hospital. White-frocked RNs kept constant surveillance of his worsening physical condition. His doctor indicated that only a miracle could prolong his life more than a few days at the most.

No priest or pastor called. None of his relatives or friends who were able to see him were professing Christians except one.

Since I was his only visitor on this particular occasion, I waited for the nurse to leave his room momentarily, hoping to catch him alone for a couple of minutes.

Suddenly a serious sense of urgency to witness to him seized me. I prayed. "Lord, what shall I do? The nurse is still with him." A compelling inner persuasion instructed me. "Witness anyway! Politely ignore the nurse and fulfill your mission. Don't delay. It's now or never!"

My pulse was racing as I approached his bedside. Never before had I sought to win a soul under such urgent conditions. However, I had witnessed to him on the Sunday night preceding Monday's accident, and had pointed out the great risk he was running by failing to serve the Lord. So it wasn't a cold turkey approach.

Nervously, I eyed the RN and wondered what her reaction would be. She was busy monitoring his vital signs and ignored me until I began to witness. Startled, she emitted a muffled gasp—placing her one free hand over her mouth. I ignored her mild remonstrance and continued. "All the doctors in the world can't save you, only Jesus can. You were once a Christian, so you know how to pray. Jesus said, 'Him who cometh to me I will not cast out.' As I pray, you pray too and ask Jesus to save you."

Softly and tenderly I prayed for Jesus to forgive his sins and save his soul. When I concluded, he continued praying in a very weak but audible voice, "Jesus, save me—Jesus, save me—Jesus, save me." And then he was gone.

As the nurse and I left the room and closed the door behind us, not a word was spoken. Out in the corridor, the Holy Spirit reminded me of the penitent thief on the cross. A victorious feeling of relief swept over me as an inner witness clearly confirmed, "Jesus saved him! Mission accomplished."

LESLIE WOOTEN is pastor of the Decatur, Illinois, Oak Grove Church of the Nazarene.

"By All Means... Save Some!"
Phillip W. Bolerjack, minister of youth and music at Newton, Kans., First Church, was awarded the D.Min. degree from Phillips University, April 29. Dr. Bolerjack wrote his field project on "Multiple Staff in the Church of the Nazarene." He is married to Rosanne Els Bolerjack and has a son, Phillip Aaron.

Dale Demmler was awarded Employee of the Year for 1983 by Goodwill Industries. Dale was presented with the award on May 22, at Pittsburgh's Heinz Hall. Mr. Daniel Galbreath, president of the Pittsburgh Pirates, was present for the award luncheon. Dale is a truck driver for Goodwill. His wife, Janet (Findlay), is also employed by Goodwill as a sales manager. They have two children, Timothy, five, and Heather, one. They are members of the Bunola, Pa., church.

Charles Brantley was recently elected New Jersey State Chaplain of Gideons International for the 1984-85 term. Brother Brantley is a member of the Springfield, N.J., church. He has taught Sunday School for 36 years and served on the church board. Brother Brantley, age 64, has been married for 44 years to Annie Brantley. They have two daughters, one son, and four grandchildren. They have resided in Roselle, N.J., for 62 years.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TRAVEL AGENCY ANNOUNCED

Wander World Travel of Overland Park, Kans., has been designated the official travel agent for the 1985 General Assembly. A Nazarene company, the agency has provided travel service for the International Church of the Nazarene for the past three years. Persons traveling by air who stay over a weekend will be eligible for "Super Saver" discount fares offered by many airlines. However, Wander World has negotiated with several major carriers to provide "Assembly Saver" fares, which will be even lower. The company also guarantees to provide the lowest fare available at the time a ticket is purchased. Those planning to attend the June event are encouraged to make flight reservations early. Inquiries or reservations may be made by dialing toll free 800/255-5083. (Kansas residents may phone 913/649-2382 collect.)

Other Nazarene travel companies are invited to contact Wander World, with the assurance that commissions will be protected. Groups interested in chartering a bus or plane may also use Wander World. Special rates will also be available from major car rental firms.

SEPTEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH

Traditionally the Herald of Holiness awards to the winning districts have been presented at the meeting of district superintendents and church leaders during their annual conference in February. This year the 1983 winners were honored at their district assemblies. Dr. Charles H. Strickland (center), general superintendent, is shown presenting a folder plaque to Dr. Gene Fuller (r.), district superintendent, and Pastor Gary W. Scarlett (l.), district campaign manager. West Texas was one of the winners and their subscriptions represented 103.6% of their goal set by Kansas City.

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A special committee, organized by Dr. Raymond Hurn, Church Extension Ministries' director, the Division of Church Growth, has given unstintingly of unusual educational skills in developing new materials for ministering to those who use English as a second language. The ESL group is shown preparing copy for the new Dictionary of the Bible and Christian Doctrine for Everyone. Pictured (l. to r.) are Dr. Albert Truesdale, associate professor of philosophy of religion and Christian ethics at Nazarene Theological Seminary; Dr. Wesley Eby, education specialist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Gallup, N.Mex.; Mrs. Nancy Clark, language specialist and recent graduate from the University of Minnesota with a degree in computer science; and Dr. George Lyons, associate professor of biblical literature, Olivet Nazarene College. Not pictured: Rev. Jerry Appleby, former coordinator of Ethnic/Urban Ministries Committee, who played an active role in this project and now pastors Pasadena, Calif., Bresee Avenue Church. The dictionary is projected to have 850 entries. But the unique feature will be the definition of these entries with a vocabulary of only 2,500 basic English words. A book of this nature is not only for those who use English as a second language but also for laypeople who need a better understanding of theological terms written in "shirt-sleeve" English. Already inquiries are coming from other groups concerning this project, which indicate a need far beyond the Church of the Nazarene.

RETIREE RETURNS PORTION OF PENSION TO OTHERS

Since early in 1982, a retired minister in California has been sending a check to Pensions and Benefits Services every month that he is financially able. Sensitive to others with needs greater than his own, he testified to Dr. Dean Wessels, administrator of the Board of Pensions, that God had so abundantly supplied his needs that he desired to return a portion of his monthly “Basic” Pension check to the Pensions and Benefits Fund for redistribution. Although far above and beyond the call of duty, Dr. Wessels reports that this minister's actions are not unusual. The record shows that he faithfully pastored for many years, sacrificing to build churches, and serving wherever needed. The Board of Pensions has expressed appreciation to this minister for his love, faithfulness, and extreme generosity. (Name withheld to respect the privacy of the individual.)

SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN U.S. AND CANADA TAKES EFFECT

The United States and Canada recently agreed to eliminate dual coverage and taxation under Social Security in such situations where workers are covered under the laws of both countries. The agreement became effective August 1. It affects U.S. citizen working in Canada and the Canadian citizen working in the U.S., regardless of whether an employee or self-employed.

Under terms of the agreement, dual taxes are still owed on earnings made prior to August 1. Thereafter, a person working in employment covered under the laws of both countries will remain covered only under the system of the country where the work is performed and will be exempt from coverage under the other country's system.

Dr. Dean Wessels, administrator of the Board of Pensions, reported one example of how this could affect a U.S. minister pastoring in Canada: As a U.S. citizen paying the self-employment Social Security rate, the pastor, who is resident in Canada, would be covered under the Social Security system of Canada. However, that would not relieve the individual from the obligation to file a U.S. tax return. Rather, he would still have to file the return but would show on Schedule SE that the earnings were exempt under the agreement. To do so, he would attach a certificate of coverage under the Canadian system as proof of the exemption.

Dr. Wessels advises that any U.S. or Canadian citizen who feels they are affected by this agreement to secure the detailed regulations from the appropriate agency. The following addresses may be helpful:

Social Security Administration
Office of Research, Statistics, and International Policy
International Policy Staff
1104 West High Rise Building
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21235

Accounting and Collections Division
Department of National Revenue—Taxation
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0L8
Canada

Secretariat of l'Administration des Ententes de Securite Sociale
155 Rue McGill
Montreal, Quebec HZY ZE8
Canada
THE MORNING SON, by Doug Holck, recreates the joy and mystery of Jesus’ birth. For S.A.T.B. choir with optional narrator and soloists, the 16 selections are all new and the arrangements are equal to the author’s best-selling “The Word . . . The Person . . . The Song.” Performance time: 45 minutes. BOOK, MC-52, $3.95; ALBUM, L-9053, $8.98; BOOK/ALBUM, L-9053C, $11.95; CASSETTE, TA-9053C, $8.98; TRAX (REEL), MU-9053, $45.00; (CASSETTE), MU-9053C, $45.00; SERVICE FOLDERS, MC-52SF, 100 FOR $6.00.

LITTLE CHILD . . MIGHTY KING
Joseph Linn arrangements of 12 new and current songs for either SAB or SATB choir. Contemporary for youth but for adult choirs too. BOOK, MC-51, $3.95; ALBUM, L-9054, $8.98; BOOK/ALBUM, L-9045C, $11.95; CASSETTE, TA-9045C, $8.98; TRAX (REEL), MU-9045, $45.00; (CASSETTE), MU-9045C, $45.00.

GREAT JOY COMING
Tom Fettke collection of 32 Christmas selections for individual use, or programmed with the help of GREAT JOY COMING PROGRAM RESOURCES. For children, youth, and adults. SONGBOOK, MC-53, $3.95; ALBUM, L-9055, $8.98; CASSETTE, TA-9055C, $8.98; BOOK/ALBUM, L-9055C, $11.95; TRAX (REEL), MU-9055, $45.00; (CASSETTE), MU-9055C, $45.00. PROGRAM RESOURCE, MC-53A, $5.00.

For information on our complete line of seasonal materials, consult the Lillenas Christmas 1984 Music and Program Resources. Free upon request.
Pictured is “New Creation,” a vocal ensemble composed of students at Oklahoma State University that travels under the sponsorship of the Nazarene Student Center. The vocal group started four years ago when the Northwest Oklahoma District launched its sponsorship of a Student Center ministry at OSU. “New Creation” started as a men’s quartet and has now expanded to 25 members. Other ministries have developed, including “His Hands” puppeteers, “God’s Company” drama troupe, and “Joyful Noise” instrumental ensemble. “New Creation” has ministered in 24 churches this past year and has been featured at Nazarene Night at Six Flags over Texas, the Northwest Oklahoma district assembly, and the District Youthfest. Their travels have taken them across the state into all four districts in Oklahoma, and into Kansas and Missouri. They are directed by OSU alumnus Jim Luthye of Perry, Okla. Their music consists of contemporary as well as traditional numbers.

MVNC RECEIVES COMMUNITY TRUST GRANT

Mount Vernon Nazarene College has received a $25,000 grant from the Mount Vernon Community Trust to help purchase microcomputer equipment for the Teacher Education Program, according to Dr. Ron J. Phillips, director of development and college relations. The new grant will help to establish a microcomputer laboratory for teacher education that will contain 25 units and make it possible to provide instruction of application of microcomputers in three areas: computer-assisted instruction, computer-managed instruction, and computer literacy.

Acquisition of the microcomputers ties in with a new course being required of elementary education majors and strongly recommended for secondary education majors. The course covers such topics as the history and the impact of computers, an explanation of available hardware and components, the availability and appropriateness of software for instructional purposes in the public schools, and instructional programming.

“I expect the new equipment to be installed and operating in the fall semester of the current school year,” said Dr. Clifford Anderson, director of teacher education.

HENDRICKX NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS AT MVNC

Jan Hendrickx has been named assistant director of college relations at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, President William J. Prince announced.

Hendrickx will work with Dr. Ron J. Phillips, director of development and college relations and the coordinator of information services in the editing of the Communicator and other college publications. She will be managing editor of the Communicator, MVNC’s major quarterly publication.

Her other responsibilities include assisting Dr. Phillips in the preparation of reports and requests to foundations and corporations, and developing strategies and techniques for financial development.

Hendrickx will plan and implement “Invasion Days” in the churches around the college’s educational zone.
(Ohio, West Virginia, and eastern Kentucky). She will also be active in alumni fund-raising.

Before coming to MVNC, she was a lecturer in the Department of Speech Communication at Denison University, and a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Communication at Ohio State University.

Hendrickx earned her master’s degree from Ohio State in 1982 and bachelor’s degree from MVNC in 1980. She also attended Moorhead State University (Minnesota) and the University of North Dakota.

Jan lives in Mount Vernon with her husband, Jim, an assistant professor of art at the college, and her two children, Jessy, 14, and Ethan, 8.

Dr. William Prince, president of MVNC, emphasizes a point during his Saturday morning presentation at the college’s summer orientation.

MVNC HOSTS LARGEST ORIENTATION

Mount Vernon Nazarene College hosted over 300 parents, students, and friends for a summer orientation on the campus July 20-21.

Over 150 students, incoming freshmen and transfers, attended the two-day event sponsored by the admissions department. This is the largest number ever to attend a summer orientation. The college stages two orientations a summer, and a combined total of 260 students attended, also the largest recorded.

The orientation acquainted the parents and students with the campus, administration and faculty, and all aspects of college life.

The parents and students heard presentations from Dr. William Prince, president of MVNC; Dr. Robert Lawrence, vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Stanton Parry, vice president for finance and management; Ron Hyson, director of admissions; William Bennett, registrar; John Donoho, dean of students; Debra Devore, director of financial aid; Sue Curtis, director of career services; and Dr. Floyd Davis, director of testing.

District Superintendent Dwight Neuenschwander reports the New Zealand District is reaping rich dividends from the third visit of the Northwest Nazarene College Northwesterners Choir. Their June 13-22 tour has resulted in several new people being attracted to various churches across the district and many are attending regularly. Pictured with the choir is director Dr. D. E. Hill (far l).
WORLD BIBLE QUIZ FINALS

Six Nazarene Bible quiz teams participated in the 11th annual World Bible Quiz Finals, which were held July 25-28 at Greenville, Ill. Twenty-four teams from seven denominations and groups were represented at this quiz.

Five Nazarene teams competed in the semifinals of the tournament. Placing high in the final rankings were Olivet (4th), Colorado (5th), Mount Vernon (7th), Bethany (10th), and Eastern (11th). The Illinois District quiz team placed 16th, just one place short of the semifinals bracketing.

Among the outstanding individual quizzers in the tournament were Becky Causey of Colorado (3rd), Carol Sutterfield of Bethany (5th), and Holly Gould of Eastern (6th). Other Nazarene quizzers in the top 25 were Tim Tashjian of Bethany (13th), Fritz Baugess of Mount Vernon (14th), Andrew Singh of Olivet (20th), David Causey of Colorado (24th), and Jerry Neal of Olivet (25th).

The annual meeting of the World Bible Quiz Association, Inc., Board of Directors was also held during the finals. Elected to the board for the 1984-85 year were 14 individuals from six member groups, including Fred Fullerton, general director of Nazarene Quizzing; Scott Mapes, editorial assistant for Quiz Specialties; Paul Madtes, Jr., of Frederick, Md., and John Emmons of Valparaiso, Ind.

Lyle Curtis, pastor of the Lawrence, Kans., First Church, and John Emmons served as two of six quizmasters for the tournament. Donna Roediger, the Bethany Regional Quiz director, and Mrs. Harold Emmons of Valparaiso, Ind., helped to compile quizzing scores for the tournament.

Next year's World Bible Quiz finals will be July 24-28 at Greenville, Ill.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS

The 36th annual assembly of the Northwestern Illinois District met at Manville, Ill. District Superintendent Floyd Pounds, completing the third year of an extended term, reported one new church, Quad Cities Spanish Ministries.

Presiding General Superintendent Jerald D. Johnson ordained Mark Hatcher, Roger Davis, and Ron Courtney.

Elders Donald Tyler, John Hollis, and James Hazelwood, and laymen John Alderson, William Greer, and Dan Poot were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Carol Pounds was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Richard Barriger was elected NYI president; and Rev. Duane Kaufman was reelected chairman of the Board of CL/SS.
Shown at the Northwestern Illinois assembly (l. to r.) are Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent; ordinands and wives, Rev. and Mrs. Ron Courtney, Rev. and Mrs. Roger Davis, and Rev. and Mrs. Mark Hatcher; Dr. Floyd H. Pounds, district superintendent; and Rev. David Sorrel, district secretary.

The Southwest Indiana District class of ordination and recognition candidates for 1984 are pictured (l. to r.): Dr. B. G. Wiggs, district superintendent; Rev. H. Russell Parker, ordained; Mrs. H. Russell Parker; Mrs. Robert Shepherd; Rev. Robert Shepherd, credentials recognized; Mrs. James Storey, Dr. James Storey, credentials recognized; and Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, general superintendent. Not present for the picture was Rev. James McCallie, credentials recognized.

At the Northwest district assembly are (l. to r.) Rev. Walter E. Lanman, district superintendent; ordinands and wives, Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Powers, Rev. and Mrs. M. Alan Mortimer, and Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Wilks; and Dr. William M. Greathouse, general superintendent.

The Chicago Central district assembly ordinands and wives are pictured: (front row, l. to r.) Rev. and Mrs. Rodney Miller; Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, general superintendent; Rev. E. Keith Bottles, district superintendent; Rev. Daniel Wheelock, district secretary; (back row, l. to r.) Rev. and Mrs. Howard Briggs, Rev. James Shalley, Rev. and Mrs. Rodney Overpeck, and Rev. and Mrs. David Weitz.
the credentials of James McCallie, Robert Shepherd, and James Storey.
Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Ron Freeland, Bill Lewis, Samuel Taylor, and Darrell Winenger, and laymen Robert Clifton, Edward Mason, Jesse Pitts, and Frank Zagar.

Mrs. Darrell (Barbara) Winenger, Carlyle Thill, and Bill Lewis were reelected NWMS president, NYI president, and chairman of the Board of CL/SS, respectively.

ILLINOIS
The 41st annual assembly of the Illinois District met at Springfield, Ill. District Superintendent John J. Hancock, completing the second year of an extended term, reported one new church, Areola Spanish.

Presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse ordained Calvin E. Campbell, Gary L. Clark, Roy C. Cranmer, Mark R. Quanstrom, and Dale E. Siverly, and Dr. William M. Greathouse, general superintendent.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Ron Freeland, Bill Lewis, Samuel Taylor, and Darrell Winenger, and laymen Robert Clifton, Edward Mason, Jesse Pitts, and Frank Zagar.

Mrs. Lorene Whittington, Rev. Garey A. Miller, and Rev. Duane Schmidt were reelected NWMS president, NYI president, and chairman of the Board of CL/SS, respectively.

MOVING MINISTERS
RICHARD A. BLODGETT from Stockton, Ill., to Dubuque, Iowa
GARY L. BRACKEN from associate, Columbia City, Ind., to Gas City, Ind.
MARTIN R. BROWN from pastor, Calvary, Battle Creek, Mich., to Mt. Vernon, Ind.
WILLIAM R. CRISP to Dubuque, Iowa
MICHAEL C. DUGAS from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo. to Arnold, Mo.
THOMAS A. CONLEY from pastor, Winchester, Ind., to Mount Sterling, Ill.

MOVING MISSIONARIES
REV. JAMES and SHEILA CLYBURN, Western Australia, Field address: 58 Rostrata Ave., Perth 6155, Western Australia
REV. ROY and ERNA COPELIN, Philippines, Field address: P.O. Box 511, Metro Manila, Republic of the Philippines

HAVE YOU READ THESE BOOKS?
Written by contributors of the September/October/November 1984 devotional magazine

C. S. COWLES — Family Journey into Joy. Pleasurable reading for parents and teens alike. 168 pages. Paper. $3.95
DEBBIE SALTER GOODWIN — One Is More than One. A challenge to victorious living as a Christian single. 112 pages. Paper. $2.50
ALAN SCOTT — My Father, My Friend. Teen’s search for a personal relationship with God. 48 pages. Paper. $1.95
AL TRUESDALE — The New Millard Story. co-author Franklin Cook. Nazarenes in action—reaching all cultures. 76 pages. Paper. $2.95
C. ELLEN WATTS — John Pattee of China and the Philippines. The message and ministry of a Nazarene missionary. 144 pages. Paper. $3.95

Prices subject to change without notice

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE, Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
Miss Esther Thomas, Swaziland, retired, Home address: 4001 E. Blacklidge, Space 5757, Tucson, AZ 85712.

Miss Nellie Storey, Africa, retired, Home address: Apartado 249-C, Tecun Uman, Guatemala, Central America.

Rev. Harold and Emily Ray, Guatemala, Field address: Apartado 1011-A, Guatemala City.

Rev. Thomas and Sharon Pound, Caribbean.

Rev. William and Gail Patch, Korea, Field address: 4001 E. Blacklidge, Space 5757, Tucson, AZ 85712.

Mrs. Esther Timmer, North American Indian, Service address: Box 30080, Station B, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Pittsburgh Lincoln Place Church will celebrate its 85th anniversary of serving God and the community on November 11. Special events are planned, among which will be the guest speaker, Dr. B. Edgar Johnson.

The Olivehurst, Calif., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary November 18. Homecoming activities will include a special morning worship service, followed by their annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner. An afternoon praise service will follow the dinner. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend. For more information, contact Pastor Donald Duerer, Olivehurst Church of the Nazarene, P.O. Box 767, Olivehurst, CA 95961, or call (916) 741-1899.

The Ogden, Ill., church will celebrate its 65th anniversary October 7. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. There will be dinner on the grounds, and a 5:30 anniversary celebration in the fellowship hall. A former pastor, Elmer B. Ferguson, will be speaking in the 4 p.m. service. All friends and members are invited to join the celebration. We urge all former pastors to take part in this celebration. For more information contact Rev. Paul E. Drake, 206 Market St., Ogden, IL 61859.

On Sunday, October 28, Special services begin at 10 a.m. with a combined service of praise and worship. The afternoon service is at 2:30 p.m. The evening service will be dismissed. Special guests include Dr. Bert Daniels, district superintendent, former pastors, and former members, and friends. A covered dish dinner is planned for all in attendance. For more information, please contact Pastor Bill Fowler, 202 W. Cherryoke, Marlow, OK 73055, (405) 658-8980 or 658-3510.

The Mansfield, Ark., church will celebrate its 75th anniversary on Oct. 13-14, 1984. Beginning Saturday at 12 noon, there will be an open house and gospel singing until 5:00. Sunday there will be dinner on the grounds following the morning service. The afternoon homecoming service will begin at 9:00 with South Arkansas District Superintendent Donald Irwin as guest speaker. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to join the Mansfield family. Address all correspondence to Rev. Mitchell L. Burks, P.O. Box 96, Mansfield, AR 72944.

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

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

Justin David Anderson, six days. July 16, Hennepin, Minn. Survivors: parents Dale and Deneise; twin brother Jason Dale; sisters Julie and Kristie; maternal and paternal grandparents.

Mrs. Robert (Mildred) Arnold, 75, Aug. 3, Buffalo, Minn. Interment Maple Grove. Minn. Survivors: husband Robert; sons Ray and John; daughter Mrs. Jim (Lois) Anderson; nine grandchildren; three foster grandchildren.


If you never planned for inflation... you may be ready for a creative alternative

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Rev. Hempel Please send me a free copy of "Giving Through Gift Annuities." I understand there is no obligation.

Rev. Mr. Mrs. Miss Address City State ZIP Phone Birth Date Month Day Year Birth Date of Spouse

SEPTEMBER 15, 1984 29
OPEN DOORS ANNOUNCES “SEVEN YEARS OF PRAYER” FOR THE SOVIET UNION. Open Doors, the worldwide ministry that for nearly 30 years has been taking Bibles “unofficially” behind the Iron Curtain, has just unveiled a new project to invade the Soviet Union ... with 7 years of prayer.

Open Doors’ leaders are asking Christians from around the world to concentrate their prayers on the Soviet Union, because they believe this could cause a radical change there. Open Doors is asking for believers to concentrate especially on three points: (1) Boldness for the Russian Christians; (2) Unity among Christians of the various churches and persuasions in the Soviet Union; and (3) Openness to the gospel among non-Christians—atheists as well as Muslims.

Open Doors suggests Christians pray for the conversion of millions of young people in the Soviet Union who, “after years of spiritual oppression and indoctrination, are now asking about the real values of life.”

Finally, they request prayer for Bible distribution, and for permission for printing or importing Bibles into the Soviet Union.

NATIONWIDE PICKETING AT 7-ELEVEN STORES PROTESTS SALE OF ANTI-CHRISTIAN PORNO MAGS. Picketing at 7-Eleven stores began August 6 at more than 300 locations across the country. This picketing is part of a coordinated coast-to-coast effort to get citizens to boycott 7-Eleven stores because of their refusal to stop selling anti-Christian pornographic magazines. It is sponsored by the National Federation for Decency.

Donald W. Wildmon, a United Methodist minister who heads the NFD, said 7-Eleven is the leading retailer of pornographic magazines in the nation. He contacted the 7-Eleven officials three times before calling the boycott but was told that the company makes too much money to stop selling them.

Selling pornographic magazines is harmful, according to Wildmon, because the states with the highest readership of pornographic magazines also have the highest rate of rape. He noted that according to Dr. Victor Cline of the University of Utah, the rate of rape has gone up 700% since 1933, taking into account the population growth.

Wildmon said that several national and regional chain stores have recently removed pornographic magazines from their stores. They include: Eckerd Drugs, the second largest drug chain in America; Cullum Companies; American Stores; Marsh Supermarkets; Penn Dairies; and Shop and Go.

A spokesman for 7-Eleven said that selling pornographic magazines was part of their philosophy of “giving customers what they want.”

CHRISTIAN ACTIVISTS HELP KILL GAY RIGHTS BILL. The Sacramento based Committee on Moral Concerns in California was largely responsible for marshaling public opinion against a California bill that would have protected homosexuals from employment discrimination. Gov. George Deukmejian received 100,000 phone calls and letters—thought to be the most ever received by a California governor on a single subject.

An overwhelming number of those contacting the governor opposed the bill. The governor’s veto message said that a person’s sexual orientation should not be a basis for the establishment of a special protected class of individuals.

VENDING MACHINE DISPENSES GOSPEL. The Christian Literature Crusade team in Tokyo is experimenting with a vending machine that dispenses Christian books, magazines, and Bibles. The machine is located on a busy street in a student district of Tokyo.

Newspapers and magazines have featured it in articles and photographs, and two TV stations have aired reports about the innovation. Within the first few months more than 1,000 Bibles and New Testaments have been “sold” by the device.
to ROGER AND JOANNA FRAZIER, Cleburne, Tex., a boy, Julie Marie, July 21.
to REV. JERRY AND JOY (JORGENSEN) KERN, Nampa, Idaho, a boy, Jeremy Lee, May 28.
to MARK D AND SHIRLEY (HENDLEY) MARVIN, Henderson, Tex., a girl.
to MARK AND SHERRI (CARNAHAN) MOHNN-KERN, Grandview, Mo., a girl, Aubrey Renee, June 15.
to BILL AND LaDONNA (TODD) RAMSEY, St. Louis, Mo., a boy, Brent Douglas, May 13.
to DAVID AND LYNN SHAW, Nashua, N.H., a boy.
to MICHAEL AND DIANE SLUSHER, San Jose, Calif., a boy, Jon Michael, May 19.
to MARCIO AND MARIANNE (KLING) NICHOLS, Henderson, Tex., a girl, Britanic Morgan, July 3.
to BRUCE AND LINDA PICKERING, Cape May, N.J., a boy, Bradley Matthew, July 11.
to BILL AND LaDONNA (TODD) RAMSEY, St. Louis, Mo., a boy, Brent Douglas, May 13.
to KATELYN AND MATTHEW HAMPTON, Lincoln, Neb., a girl, Audra Claire, Aug. 5.
to MARK AND MARIANNE (KLING) NICHOLS, Henderson, Tex., a girl, Audra Claire, Aug. 5.
to REV. EUGENE AND JANICE (CARR) LYMON, Seneca, S.C., a boy, Jedidiah Tyler, Apr. 28.
to REV. RICHARD AND SUSAN WILSON, Olathe, Kans., a boy.
to JOHN AND MARY (JOHNSON) UPCHURCH, Nelsonville, Ohio, a boy.
to MARK D. AND SHIRLEY (HENDLEY) MARVIN, Hendersonville, Tenn., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married May 12, 1934. The reception was hosted by their children, LaVina West of Bellevue, Wash., and Lewis Level Andrew of Oklahoma City. It was held at the Midwest City, Okla., Breesee Church, where Rev. Andrew is associate minister. The Andrews have served in the ministry for 41 years with pastorates in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas.

SEPTEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH

The important mission given to the servant in chapter 24 is an argument in favor of identifying him as Eliezer, for it seems unlikely that one so entrusted would remain unmentioned in the record of Abraham’s life.

Will you explain the apparent disparity between the recorded attitude of the thieves crucified with Jesus as presented by Matthew and Mark on the one hand and by Luke on the other? In Mark 15:32 we read, “And they that were crucified with him reviled him,” and in Matthew 27:44, “The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same [revilement] in his teeth.”

In Luke 23:40 we read that only one of the thieves reviled him, “But the other [thief] answering rebuked him, [the first thief] saying, Dost not thou fear God,” etc. It was to the second thief that Jesus said, “Verily I say unto thee, to day shalt thou be with me in paradise.” Singularly, John does not mention the attitude of the thieves.

I’ve read and pondered a lot of comments on these apparently contradictory accounts. The only way to reconcile them, it seems to me, is to suppose that both thieves reviled Christ at first, but one of them desisted, becoming convinced of the innocence of Jesus and of the validity of His claims. So convinced, he repents and then rebukes his fellow criminal.

Many expositors, however, think that Matthew and Mark “group in categories,” and were either ignorant of the detailed distinction made by Luke, or did not find it important to their purpose.

The Christ who did not reply to His mockers was “Eliezer of Damascus.” Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

In Leviticus 15:13, washing to become ceremonially clean is discussed. The KJV and NASB require the water to be “running,” but the NIV only says it should be “fresh.” True, running water is fresh, but fresh water isn’t necessarily running, in the context of the book None of These Diseases, which translation is the best?

Running water is not always fresh—it may be heavily polluted and a menace to health.

Fresh water isn’t always running, but unless it is, stagnation will soon occur, along with opportunities for certain dangerous insects to breed.

Given the time, place, and circumstances under which the Levitical laws were given, “running” and “fresh” were virtually equivalent. There seems to me little to choose between these translations. I notice that the translation of the Masoretic text of the Old Testament into English done by the Jewish Publication Society of America uses “fresh” in this passage.

I’m sorry that I can’t answer in the context of the book you mentioned. I don’t have it and have not read it.

In Genesis 24, what is the name of Abraham’s “eldest servant,” who “ruled over all that he had”? Surely this choice servant, who played such an important part in keeping the messianic lineage intact, had a name.

Is his name given anywhere else in Scripture?

Most commentators infer from Genesis 15:2 that “Eliezer of Damascus” is the servant mentioned in chapter 24.

Eliezer was Abraham’s “steward,” the servant in charge of all the other servants. He was an “elder” in office, whatever his age.
POTENTIAL SUICIDE FINDS LIFE WORTH LIVING

She came to revival meeting at Fort Wayne, Ind., Nease Memorial Church with a heavy heart.

She had—the doctors said—a terminal illness; she was thinking of suicide.

She left with eternal life—she was rejoicing in the presence of the living God.

Rev. Charles E. Taylor, pastor of Nease Memorial, says the experience of the young lady was just one of many new touches of God's grace that marked the April 17-22 revival with Evangelist Arnold Leidy.

One young man acknowledged a call to preach and another about the same age reaffirmed his own call to Christian service.

Pastor Taylor believes God touched all of these lives, and others, through the intervening prayers of the young adults of the church over a period of many months.

"GOD'S TIMING" BRINGS REVIVAL

God had the answer to the problems that beset the Riverton, Wyo., church, and He knew exactly when to move upon the scene.

Pastor Wesley L. Spengler and Evangelist Jimmy Dell are agreed that the March 10-14 revival was an example of God's great timing.

The church had been ready to close its doors. A day-care center was losing between $500 to $1,000 each month, and there were few regulars still attending the services.

The day-care center was closed, and the new pastor began an intensive four months of visitation.

When the revival meeting started, the months of preparation began to pay off.

During the revival approximately 30 people were saved and 12 sanctified. 120 persons sought help at the altar.

One man commented, "There have not been this many people at the altar in Fremont County in the last 20 years."

The Lord even gave good weather during the five nights of revival although a storm broke immediately after the revival closed.

Among those saved were a grandmother and granddaughter kneeling together at the altar.

One person from another denomination was so impressed, he exclaimed, "I've never been in services like this.
rate in the San Fernando Valley. Rev. Greg Gebhart, pastor, works at fighting the problems by changing the people. The church has bused Bryant Street children, and sometimes their parents, to Chatsworth for Sunday worship services for the past one and a half years. It has also provided meals, household items, counseling, and has taken children camping, to baseball games, and on field trips.

Clarence Barrows, who supervises student teachers at California State University, Northridge, directs the outreach program and visits Bryant Street families every Saturday. The whole community knows him and has nicknamed him "The Rose Man" because he hands out flowers from his home garden. Jim Weekly assists with the outreach and is a driver on many of the field trips.

The church's goal is to first show what Christianity is by their actions, and then to ground people in a Christian education. Over 100 of these people are enrolled in Sunday School.

The South Austin, Tex., church dedicated its new sanctuary May 13. This addition will seat 400 with an overflow area in the balcony. Cliff Hoerling, a layman from the church, volunteered his services as general contractor. Since its relocation 13 years ago, the South Austin church has grown from a congregation of 60 to 250 and has a Christian school for K—9th grade and a day care with 300 students enrolled. The 5,200 sq. ft. structure was built at a cost of $310,000, with an indebtedness of $192,000. General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins gave the dedicatory message, with Dr. James Blankenship, superintendent of the San Antonio District, assisting. Rev. Randall Wyles has pastored the church since 1972.
WHO IS INVITED?

Commissioned Evangelists • Registered Evangelists • Commissioned Song Evangelists
Registered Song Evangelists • Retired Evangelists and Song Evangelists • All New Evangelists
All persons who hold scheduled revival meetings • Students preparing for full-time evangelism

Evangelism Ministries invites those that are evangelizing and their spouses to meet for inspiration and fellowship with other evangelists in Indianapolis. The Planning Committee anticipates the Gathering to be a spiritual highlight of the year for the 250-300 expected participants.

General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland will give the keynote address at the opening banquet. Dr. Edward Lawlor, general superintendent emeritus, will preach in three of the general sessions and Rev. William Griffin, pastor of Indianapolis First Church, will speak at the other two general sessions.

Please fill out the registration form and mail to the Hyatt Regency, One South Capitol, Indianapolis, IN 46204, by November 16, 1984. If you have any questions, call Evangelism Ministries on our toll-free WATS line (800-821-2154).

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Group: CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Dates of Function: DECEMBER 17 – 19, 1984

Hyatt Regency Hotel
INDIANAPOLIS
December 17-19, 1984

Please don't be a NO SHOW!
If you must cancel this reservation, obtain a cancelation number from the reservation agent by calling direct (317-632-1234) or toll free (800-228-9000). Thank you.
NAZARENES URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONWIDE PICKET OF 7-ELEVEN STORES

The National Federation for Decency is coordinating a nationwide peaceful picket of 7-Eleven convenience stores on Saturday, October 27. The picketing is planned to kick off Pornography Awareness Week, October 27—November 4.

I encourage all Church of the Nazarene pastors and people to observe Pornography Awareness Week, and to join with other Christians picketing stores selling pornography on Saturday, October 27,” said Dr. B. Edgar Johnson, general secretary and member of the Christian Action Committee of the Church of the Nazarene. “As Christians, we must oppose that which exploits humanity, that which is degrading, dehumanizing, and dehumanizing to all people. We need to make a visible witness, and the peaceful picketing by Christian people will help us make that witness.”

The NFD hopes to have 2,000-3,000 picket locations around the country on October 27 to encourage persons not to shop at the convenience stores. They are the largest retail outlet of pornography in the nation.

During a similar picket August 6, Christians peacefully stood vigil in front of 412 of the neighborhood stores and regional headquarters in more than 168 cities.

Special information packets were sent to all Nazarene pastors earlier this month to help inform them about what they and their congregations can do to actively combat the menace of pornography in their communities.

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FOUNDER OF NAZARENE CHURCH IN ITALY DIES

The man considered to be the founder of the Church of the Nazarene in Italy, Dr. Alfredo Del Rosso, died August 17 in Bristol, England, at the age of 94.

Converted at the age of 16, Dr. Del Rosso was sanctified when 24. In 1926, he began an independent holiness work near the city of Florence.

Following World War II, two Nazarene soldiers testified in his church as to being sanctified and spoke of the Church of the Nazarene. When the servicemen returned to the United States, they sent Dr. Del Rosso a Church of the Nazarene Manual, along with several other books relating to the denomination. He was ordained in 1948 and subsequently appointed district superintendent—a position he held until he retired in 1961.

Always a strong holiness preacher, Dr. Del Rosso was a scholar, fluent in 14 languages.

More recently, he had been in poor health and was living with his daughter in Great Britain. His wife died in 1969. Memorial services were held in Bristol, August 23.

FIRST NAZARENE IN WESTMINSTER PULPIT

Dr. Mark R. Moore, Education Services secretary, spoke in one of the most prominent pulpits in Great Britain August 12 when he was guest preacher at Westminster Chapel at Buckingham Gate in London. Dr. Moore was one of a select group of ministers who were asked to speak at the historic church this summer by pastor Dr. R. T. Kendall.

Named after the late General Superintendent Dr. R. T. Williams, Dr. Kendall is the son of Nazarene parents who live in Ashland, Ky. He is a 1971 graduate of Trevecca Nazarene College and holds the D. Phil. Oxon (Ph.D.) from Oxford University.

While at Trevecca, Dr. Kendall also served as an assistant to Dr. William M. Greathouse, now general superintendent.

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THANKSGIVING OFFERING FOR WORLD EVANGELISM

The greatest and most important work in the world is the advancement of God's kingdom. We must continue to be busy with our task. Begin NOW to pray—plan—and give an offering for World Evangelism on Thanksgiving Sunday. Let us make this offering a true expression of our love to share with the world the gospel news that God sent His Son to be their Savior.

The Thanksgiving Offering goal for the denomination has been set at $9,500,000.

WILLIAM M. GREATHOUSE, Secretary
BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Dr. Mark R. Moore at the pulpit of Westminster Chapel.
ILLUMINATED LAWN SIGN

Universal design
ideally adaptable to the architectural theme of
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- Three 60" high-outage fluorescent lamps provide inside illumination and an inexpensive night-light
- Aluminum frame may be easily drilled to accommodate desired mounting. Pole mounting optional

SIZE: 3 feet high by 5 feet wide. Maximum imprint, 16 letters and spaces

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With center pole mounting . . $530.00

NOTE: Planter illustrates one of many settings for this sign. Not included with purchase.

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REFLECTIVE ROAD MARKER

Reach those who travel after dark with a sign that may be seen both day and night

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- "Codit" reflective material 100 times brighter than white paint, durable as enamel.
- Coated with a metal primer and a rich blue and green finish for lasting beauty
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With 2-line imprint .................. $41
With 3-line imprint .................. $47

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