“Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you . . .”

(Psalms 143:8, NIV)
THE LAST EDITORIAL I wrote was concerning sin and its havoc in man. Now we turn our attention to the mighty deliverance God has provided for those who choose to obey Him.

In the shadow of the world’s evil shines the oh so bright light of God’s sublime act to redeem this creature of His making. He does it well, perfectly and completely. Let’s now in joy tabulate this wonderful deliverance available to all men through Christ.

**The Remission of Sin**

Matthew 26:28 records the statement of Christ: “This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”—wonderful deliverance from the terrible mastery of sin.

**Repentance of/for Sins**

It is Ezekiel who calls out to his generation to cast away from them all their transgressions. This sets the standard of complete severance from sins. It places in the realm of man’s choice the turning from sinning, and Acts 3:19 preaches to us all, “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.”

What a glorious announcement. It is addressed to you, to me. It tells us that God, through this sincere act on our part, because of Christ’s great sacrifice, will forgive (blot out) our sins.

**Cleansing from Sin**

In 1 John 1:9 the redemptive acts of God are included in one statement, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

In the cleansing man is free from sin, restored. As Peter spoke of it, “purifying their hearts by faith”—the essential Pentecost—sanctification, the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

So over against the dark fact of sin is the glorious God-given truth of salvation.

What a great deliverance it is for us all. Here are some conclusions to summarize it:

1. Sin is more terrible than we often realize.
2. Its consequences are more inevitable than we often think.
3. Choice and decision mold man’s destiny.
4. Only Christ can bring salvation.
5. We must seek and accept it on His terms.
6. Repentance/forgiveness and consecration/cleansing become the essential acts for experience.
7. The price for redemption is not too high.
8. To be free from sin is righteousness bringing peace.
9. Now is the time to seek God.
10. Preachers, preach about sin and redemption in its fullness.
11. Sunday School teachers, teach it.
12. Christians, testify to its reality in their lives.
I BELIEVE IN PRAYER—
I BELIEVE IN GOD

by FORREST NASH

SHOULD WE PRAY concerning matters of time and circumstance? Should we pray for needs such as physical healing, protection of life, financial income, guidance in choosing careers and mates? The answer is yes. The Bible records the prayers of many persons who counseled with the Almighty about their life's circumstances and problems.

Jesus instructed His disciples to pray for daily bread. In the midst of a storm on the Sea of Galilee, His disciples prayed in desperation. He responded by quieting the waves. During His earthly ministry, there were people with physical diseases who sought healing; Jesus touched them and restored them to health. In the prayer life of our Lord as it embraced both physical and spiritual matters, He demonstrated perfectly all He taught about prayer.

But with all the illustrative information from the Bible and from the life of Jesus, there is still much misunderstanding about prayer as it relates to personal and temporal needs. For example, why does God respond with silence to the petitions of some who seem so deserving and respond favorably to petitions from those who seem so undeserving? We find ourselves in a quandary much of the time on the why and the when of petitionary prayer. The ancient writer said, "His ways are past finding out." The apostle Paul said, "Now we know in part . . . for we see through a glass darkly." However, we should be thankful that we can see even partially!

Ofttimes when we pray, we envision and rationalize the answers that seem feasible and acceptable, forgetting that God sees the full circle while we see only the segment. Sometimes we are tempted to inject some personal preference as to how God should answer. There was the young man who said to his pastor, "I read where Jesus said, 'Seek ye first the Kingdom and all these things shall be added unto you.' What I wish to know is how long after my seeking the Kingdom must I wait for these things?"

The greatest answer to prayer is the spiritual development within the heart of him who prays. Christ-likeness is the goal of all discipleship. The mind of Christ within us is a gift of grace in redemption; its development depends on a genuine walk of faith and implicit obedience. Jesus prayed for no earthly advantage or benefit that would mar His relationship with the Father; neither should a true disciple. Jesus demonstrated concern for both the physical and the spiritual man; so must we. It is possible to stress the spiritual and ignore the physical; it is likewise possible to serve temporal needs, waiting for some proper time to give attention to the spiritual, a time that never seems to come. Let us remember, the visible is temporal; the invisible is eternal.

It is a common experience of the human family to calculate attractive solutions to needs and problems—asking God to approve what is ours. Sometimes our solutions result in expedient and temporary relief when God's solutions require spiritual surgery. All of us have known good people who sincerely prayed for some cup of dire circumstance to pass from them. Maybe it was a son fighting in military conflict, a body stricken by disease, or financial needs that never seemed to leave. God often answers by giving strength to endure the difficulty. He who said we are most like God when we suffer, said it well. The influence of the shining face that God gives to His choice sufferers is a light that penetrates the darkness of our despairing world. Oswald Chambers reminds us that when God answers our requests with seeming silence, it could be a sign of our spiritual progress. Jesus said, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of" (John 4:32). He paid a price for it. So must we.

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). Eternity holds the highest answer. I believe in prayer concerning every area of life. I pray also for joyful acceptance of the will of God when His temporary silence is the answer. I must believe that God is good and that He cares for me. How do I know? Calvary!

FORREST W. NASH is an elder in the Church of the Nazarene, a former district superintendent, now residing in Olathe, Kansas.

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Letters

HIGH TIME
Thanks to Dr. W. M. Greathouse for pointing out the difference between “gifts” and “fruits.” I sincerely trust that more of us will now “tear” ourselves away from our TVs, stop listening to “pussy-footing” preachers and worldly-minded laymen, cease running until our tongues hang out from one church activity to another, long enough to let God clear our minds and give us a right concept of holiness and holy living!

It’s high time that we stopped being so “mealmouthed” about our church doctrine and began, in the power of the Spirit, to proclaim scriptural holiness “from the house-tops.”

Charles C. Davidson
Brandon, Florida

HALLELUJAH!
I just thought you would be interested to know that the Indianapolis District has exceeded our Herald of Holiness goal for 1984. As far as we can determine, this is the first time the Indianapolis District has achieved this goal. Thank you for helping us by producing such a good magazine.

John F. Hay
Camby, Indiana

LOVE SINNER, NOT SIN
Thank you, Richard S. Taylor, for your article, “Misrepresenting God’s Word,” in the August 1 issue. In the summer of 1926, through the preaching of W. G. Shurman in First Church of Chicago, I learned that God loved me but not my sin. I went to the altar and accepted Jesus as my Savior. These 58 years have been victory.

Gale E. Millhuff
Shawnee Mission, Kansas

GRIEVING FRIEND HELPED
Many heartfelt thanks to Lois Blanchard Eades and others who made it possible for the article to appear, “I Don’t Know What to Say” (August 1 issue).

Her advice can be of great benefit to anyone, but it especially touched me because my friend’s son recently died—on the day I happened to read the article. As a matter of fact, this is the eighth death in my friend’s family in the past two and one-half years, and the overwhelming extent

(Continued on page 20)
The headline declared dramatically, "Zhao backs peace bids." It captioned the account of Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang's visit to British Columbia and his support of Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's peace efforts around the world.

While opinions differed concerning Trudeau's peace mission to promote nuclear disarmament, still everyone everywhere is concerned about peace. People live in a condition of anxiety. While our fears and problems seem infinitely smaller than the global dilemma, we are strongly affected by the climate of panic in a world torn by hatred, tension, and conflict.

For many life is hard, complex, and frustrating. The struggle for personal peace is a concern as crucial as the international quest.

The Bible speaks often of peace. The Christmas season reminds us of the angel's announcement of God's gift to the world, "A Savior...Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11), the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). The announcement of His coming was punctuated with a song of praise declaring, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14, NIV).

What a provision God made for peace! As a man, Jesus issued the invitation and challenge to a genuine inner peace when He said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NIV). Before His death on the Cross He prepared His friends for days of separation and for the stern challenge of being His witnesses with this assurance: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27, NIV).

Add to this the timeless statement of the apostle Paul, "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7, NIV).

Christ's coming into the world is God's great peace initiative! Inner peace does not mean a life of ease that is without problems and disappointments. Lessening the responsibilities of life through retirement is no solution. The assumption, "If I can just get out from all the responsibilities life has put on me, I'll be happy," is not necessarily so. One man who retired early said to a friend, "Can you help me find something to do? I'm getting so tired of just playing golf!"

Life needs contrast and challenge. Often the greatest joys come after intense struggle. Jesus' invitation was not to those who refused to get involved. He promised peace for the struggling, burdened, and hurting people.

Peace is not so much a matter of outward circumstance as having a worthwhile purpose for life. George Bernard Shaw said it well: "This is the true joy of life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown out on the scrap heap; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy."

We must be delivered from the tyranny of trivial living if we are ever to have personal peace. The pursuit of purposeful living has a horizontal focus toward others. As we "lose ourselves" in service to others, we are "surprised by peace."

There is also a vertical route to peace. The "God-shaped vacuum" in each of us must be filled by God. Without Him we miss the dynamic life purpose that brings peace.

The cross of Christ is the path of ascent to God. At the Cross sins are forgiven, guilt is erased, a broken relationship is restored. And there we find "peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). Incredible, but true!

Yes indeed, our world needs peace. My best wishes are with anyone who undertakes a peace mission in our troubled world. But it should be pointed out that the greatest peace initiative has already been undertaken by Jesus Christ. Had it been recognized and accepted by all, other peace efforts would be unnecessary.
by BRYAN STONE

W ITHIN CHRISTIANITY recently there has been a growing debate over the proper Christian attitude toward nuclear weapons and their threatened use. One widespread view in the debate, especially found among conservative evangelicals, is that while Christ calls us to a life of peacemaking and of addressing our enemies not with hatred but with unconditional love, the Christian must be “realistic” about the world situation. To be a realistic Christian, so the stance goes, is to recognize the utter futility of “turning the other cheek” in national and societal relationships, especially when the enemy is a totalitarian power. Supposedly, to turn weapons into plowshares or to take unilateral steps toward peace, regardless of the stance of our enemies, is pure idealism; or as put by one evangelical, “wishful thinking.” Since one nation finds it necessary to keep deploying nuclear weapons, we must also do so. After all, let’s be realistic!

In the search for a proper answer to this deadly serious question, I would like to propose another type of realism—one that takes its view of the “real” from the gospel and not from current political theory or even from common sense. In fact, the type of realism I would suggest flies in the face of our natural inclinations. For this type of realism believes that the “wishful thinking” of unconditional love conquers all hatred and war and can transform the world into a safer place to live. This “realism” finds its power in weakness, vulnerability, and nonviolence rather than in strength, dominance, and threat. This view of what is real points to something that is more than a wish. It is a reality. It “works.” To deny that it works would be to deny the power found in the Cross and the strength found in Christ’s sufferings and self-giving. To deny that it works would also be to deny the power of this reality in the lives of thousands of Christians from the early martyrs to Martin Luther King, Jr. What I believe to be the gospel view of realism threatens current theories of what is real in three ways:

1. While not naively optimistic about human nature, “Christian realism” claims grace and not sin as its last word. Humans are sinful. Both human persons and entire nations consistently elevate that which is of finite value to infinite value. We also recognize that there are impersonal structures of evil that threaten our existence and against which we struggle daily. To deny either of these two facts would, for the Christian, be “unrealistic.” It would therefore also be unrealistic to believe that totalitarian governments as well as expansionist, democratic countries, left to themselves, would not overrun smaller, less powerful countries or attempt to run foreign governments from a distance. It does not take the gospel to tell us that! We see it quite often and with even the most well-meaning countries. However, for the Christian, sinfulness cannot be the final word. Were we to stop here, our view of reality would become lopsided and pessimistic. Fortunately, it is not the last word. The gospel recognizes that the real is not the “realized.” The power of love, while not realized completely in our world, is claimed by Christ to be the really “real.” It is not to be the real only in the age to come, nor does this reality exist side by side with our world. It can be real in our world. If we say it cannot, or relegate this reality to a merely interior dimension of life, we are in danger of proclaiming Jesus’ life to be worthless, the Cross to be a bad joke, and the Resurrection to be without meaning.

The gospel critiques current views of what is “real”
precisely at this point where realism becomes a "pessimism." Do we stop with the human situation or do we add the word of reconciliation? Do our national policies and our beliefs about international affairs reflect a "realistic" understanding of human sinfulness only, or do they also reflect an awareness of and a commitment to the reality of love’s power to conquer human sinfulness and end enmity with our neighbors?

2. “Christian realism” challenges the world’s definition of “power.” For the most part, power is viewed in terms of “might” or “dominance.” Certainly, this is power. However, Christ introduces a new power—one that calls into question and indeed, reverses, our common notions of power. In Jesus, real power is not discovered in might or sheer strength, but in weakness, humility, and in powerlessness. The “power of the powerless” contradicts our natural expectations and inclinations. Indeed, it is a far cry from the current military philosophy of “peace by strength.”

For the Christian realist, the power of evil must be addressed and challenged without hesitation. Often, though not always, Christian pacifism has failed to do so. But in challenging this power of evil, the Christian does not pit against it the same type of power. The Christian does not fight fire with fire. The “power of the powerless” is not passive nor is it based on a sinful view of power. It is active and determined. Yet it refuses to fight evil with the tools of evil. The doctrine of deterrence, on the other hand, claims that raw, deadly power must be pitted against raw, deadly power. The results have been disastrous in terms of fear, mistrust, and tension.

Today we need Christians who have the vision to apply a new resistance to evil: a nonviolent resistance. This resistance applies a type of power far removed from the structures of subordination and domination, threat and fear present in our world.

3. “Christian realism” does not deny a hope for the age to come, but it affirms hope as a reality to be lived out of in the present. The kingdom of God is to come "on earth as it is in heaven," not "in heaven after earth is gone." The truly real, while not realized, is truly present. Hope makes possible the practice of this power in powerlessness and nonviolence. The persistence of hope, in the midst of seeming domination, is the single greatest threat to absolute authority. It is more than just resistance that we need. We need hope. This is just one more reason why it is important for people who are genuinely concerned with building a better future to live now in a way that demonstrates real hope for the future. Once again, I am not speaking about a kind of false optimism or a denial of reality. I’m talking about the concrete choice to live in hope: hope founded on the knowledge that our future lies in God’s hands but that God is not out to destroy His creation.

History is more than meets the eye for the Christian; God, against all odds, has gotten into the mix and is at work. Too often we have let society dictate to us its view of reality and its understanding of power. In this way, Christians have been duped into a kind of self-styled realism that is actually a thin disguise for a desperate sense of historical inevitability. Christians today must announce a new resource—a new “reality” if you will. This reality is at our disposal and can make our world a safer place to live. If it seems strange and foreign to us, perhaps that is because it is. God, help our church to recapture the power of that defenseless and yet very disarming child from Bethlehem.

WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE?

by FRANCES SIMPSON

A HEADLINE in our local paper some time ago read, “Inspiration Comes from Adversity.” If that be so, not many will stand in line to get inspiration. It’s quite easy to give to charity volunteer for hospital duty, even teach a Sunday School class, but none of us go looking for adversity.

This newspaper article went on to quote from an inspirational piece:

“Cripple him, and you have a Sir Walter Scott.
“Lock him in a prison cell, and you have a John Bunyan.
“Raise him in abject poverty, and you have an Abraham Lincoln . . .”

We could add others to the list.

FRANCES SIMPSON is the pastor’s wife at Marion, Ohio, First Church of the Nazarene.

Place her in the jungles of Peru, and you have an Esther Carson Winans.

Imprison her in a concentration camp, and you have a Mary Scott.

Make her a quadriplegic, and you have a Joni Earlecock.

We are smart enough to know that’s not the whole story. Others have been crippled, or in prison, or reared in poverty, and have corrupted society with their evil.

What makes the difference? It must be that some fan the spark of godlikeness in them while others quench every suggestion of hope. I’m glad we don’t have to be sick or poor to influence others for good, but it is comforting to know that God can take us where we are and make us a blessing.
RESULTS? Here they are! NOW WHAT?

by RAY HENDRIX

I had just given my 30-minute WORLD MISSION RADIO presentation highlighting the exciting things going on in 24 languages weekly around the world. A typical comment from those at the NWMS convention was, “Wow, I had no idea the Church of the Nazarene is doing so much.”

One lady said, “You must excuse me, but I am a new Nazarene. I have had no religious background, and now I am so excited with my new life in Christ that I am seeking ways to share the gospel with the lost. I have been giving $400 a month to ——— (shall remain nameless) simply because I did not think the Church of the Nazarene was active with radio and TV outreach. I have decided tonight to redirect that money through my local church.”

I get the same story everywhere I go. One reason why hundreds of thousands of Nazarene dollars are going to big name radio and TV personalities is that our people are not aware!

During my presentation I give quick examples of the very contemporary, culturally relevant programming our educated and talented people overseas are producing. One man in Arizona said afterward, “Although I can’t stand the contemporary sounds of some of those broadcasts, I understand that you can’t always reach them with ‘Tell Mother I’ll Be There.’”

A businessman in Louisiana called me the other day and said, “It wasn’t until three days later that the Lord started dealing with me about where I was putting my priorities and money. I am sending $200 a month to the WORLD MISSION RADIO ACCOUNT from now on.”

And that’s the story over and over. There’s a lot being done by a lot of people, but the church has not been sufficiently aware of it.

A good friend heard my presentation in Tulsa and gave me some good advice. “You cover the subject matter beautifully considering the time pressure on you during the NWMS conventions. However, you need to let the people know about results—not just productions.”

Well, first let me update you on the process for listener responses follow-up.

All Spanish letters, now averaging about 500 a month, are processed in the Latin American Office of Communications in San Jose, Costa Rica. Letters are answered, free literature and items are sent, Bible Correspondence Courses are made available, and then the letter is sent to the nearest Church of the Nazarene for further personal contact by a local pastor.

In Africa, a similar process takes place out of the Africa Radio Office. The only exceptions are the letters from Portuguese-speaking listeners. They are forwarded to Kansas City and Dr. Jorge de Barros and his staff follow through with those responses. In Africa, responses are averaging between 400 and 500 letters a month. In our very adequate studios in Johannesburg, 10 weekly programs are produced in seven different languages and vernaculars. With limited staff and financing, the Africa Regional offices are doing their best at follow-up procedures.

Letters from the Chinese program are handled through the offices of Trans World Radio in Hong Kong and also through our Nazarene missionaries.

The Marathi broadcast in India

RAY HENDRIX is administrative assistant to Paul Skiles in Media Services at International Headquarters in Kansas City and is in charge of Latin Language Communication.

Shown (l. to r.) are Ray Hendrix, International Broadcasting director; Noemi de Pla and Juan Vasquez Pla of the Latin American Office of Communications in Costa Rica; and Paul Skiles, Media Services director; looking at one week’s listener response.
is a story in itself—5,000 responses in one year! They are handled locally. The same applies for the broadcasts produced in Italy, Indonesia, the Philippines, Korea, Japan, Quebec, and in Guatemala in the Kekchi and Pokomchi Indian dialects.

The main problem we have is that letters of response seldom get back to our office. The exceptions to this are the monthly reports and letter condensations that come from Costa Rica and Africa, our regional communications offices. So with that as a background, allow me to share with you some responses recently received:

From BRAZIL: Some three months ago I came to accept the love of God in my heart. Your program, the Portuguese A HORA NAZARENA, convinced me of my need.

From CURAÇAO: I had always been very skeptical of religious programming. I could not accept the fact that a Christian would have the audacity to try to convert others by the use of radio. What a surprise God had in store for me. Your Spanish broadcast placed me in a bad position, because one of your programs made me see my need for God. I have turned my life over to Him, thanks to you and LA HORA NAZARENA.

From URUGUAY: I had decided to take my own life, when only by God's intervention I heard your program for the first time. I never listened to religious programs. The words I heard changed and saved my life.

From HEILONGJIANG, CHINA: I am a student living in a remote area of farmland. Some of my fellow schoolmates and I have been listening to your radio broadcast for quite some time. We want to form a small group who believe in God, but we don't know what to do. Our group has been attacked. Many schoolmates say that we are ignorant, foolish, and superstitious. The faith of my fellow schoolmates is being affected.

From INDIA: I am a teacher from a Brahmin family. I wish to study the Bible in an unprejudiced fashion. Please rush to me the name of someone in my city who can teach me about the Bible.

From CUBA: I want you to know that here in our neighborhood, many listen to your programs. The members in our church also enjoy your programs that are heard from Trans World Radio in Bonaire. Several have found salvation after listening with us. Thank you.

From JAPAN: I am not a Chris-

\textbf{ALONE}

Night falls. Suddenly I am alone. The electric light chills and I fear footsteps under the window, doorknobs twisting furiously, silence.

I turn on the wireless, then switch it off; it deadens danger.

I listen. I am always listening. I hear the old house complaining, the bougainvillea banging on the roof, the mouse scurrying.

I listen and hear my heart. Suddenly I revolt, switch off the light, got to bed, for I remember—You count each hair on my head.

—MERLE LAMPRECHT

Ciskei, South Africa

... Oh, I want to go to church to find some friends in Christ.

These are only a few of the thousands of letters that come as a result of WORLD MISSION RADIO ministries around the world. Many letters report true conversions and earnest seeking. Some letters come from Christians who are lifted and encouraged by our 24 different language radio broadcasts.

But whether or not they write is not a serious concern of mine. Oh, I like to know God is working through our efforts. But what about those millions who hear, accept, become believers, but cannot write because they don't know how? Or what about the millions who may know how to write but to whom the price of a postage stamp represents more than a day's wages?

The purpose of WORLD MISSION RADIO is not to generate letters. That's not what motivates us, nor is it the denominational philosophy of broadcasting. We have to take care of those many letters that do come in, but our priorities are biblical in the sense of proclamation. And when you get right down to it, wise stewardship of available funds dictates that the product must be aimed at the right target audience. \textit{That audience is not us!}

Now that you know that responses from around the world are coming in at the average rate of 1,500 a month, what else do you need to know for you to get excited about and supportive of WORLD MISSION RADIO?

Any pastor can tell you that a faithful minority in each church usually carries the major part of the financial burden. There are people in your own church who have not given a cent of tithe to the church, but have given hundreds, even thousands, to "other" religious causes. If all of us fulfilled our financial obligations each month, there would not be so many financial needs denominationally. We are depending upon you, and so are the dozens of talented pastors and program producers in several of our mission fields, who without the financial subsidies from the WORLD MISSION RADIO account, would not be able to continue their weekly ministries.

Results? There you have them. Now what?
I had come to enjoy an early morning cup of spiced tea with my quiet time in God’s Word. This morning the kitchen seemed cold, for it had been raining all night. I poured another cup of tea and slowly opened the morning paper. As I skimmed the front page, the headline leaped out at me: “Average U.S. Family Watches TV Seven Hours Per Day.”

“Hmph!” I said to myself, “not our family. What a waste! There just isn’t that much decent programming on TV in a single day.”

Sandy, my wife, came into the kitchen. “Why are you frowning, dear?” she asked.

“Just how much TV do we watch in a day?” I asked almost indignantly. I showed her the paper. After she read it, we began to discuss television and our home. We decided to make a television log, where we would record not only the hours that the television was on, but the programs we were watching as well. We agreed to evaluate the log after one week. Though our brief study was certainly not scientific, we discovered some interesting and surprising facts about television and our use of this appliance.

First, and most obviously, we were alarmed at the fact that the total hours of television use in our home was closer to the national average than we cared to admit, even to ourselves.

Secondly, we began to examine the specific programs that we watched regularly. We examined them initially in the light of the fact that the role models for many of the programs, divorce, adultery, and social drinking are portrayed as not only acceptable but preferred behavior. Sadly, the morning and evening programs were not much better. We could not find a single, normal family on television, let alone one living according to the principles set forth by God for the family, His basic unit of society.

We then prayerfully considered the course of action with regard to our television. We shared with Shane, 9, and Andy, 3, just why we wanted to be selective in our television use. Yes, there were a few wholesome programs on television, especially the documentaries, but we determined to watch these with our children, for they are almost universally produced by worldly and/or humanistically oriented organizations. We want to be present to correct any errors that might be presented. We decided as a family to eliminate some of the programs we were watching, for they did not furnish the proper role models for our boys, or for my wife and me either.

The Lord brought to mind, as we concluded our time together as a family, “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matthew 6:22-23, NIV).

“Lord,” we prayed together, “help us to provide our eyes with those things that add honor and glory to Your name. Help us, Lord, to use the television and the other means of entertainment to promote our growth by a deeper walk with Thee. Amen.”

David William Smith is pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Willits, California.
by MILLIE GIBSON

MARY ANDERSON, missionary to India from 1936 to 1969, was one of the first to welcome my husband and me to our new home at Casa Robles in October 1981. She came across the driveway from her house to ours carrying a lovely purple flowering African violet. But her smile and words of welcome and encouragement were even more beautiful to me than the plant. I had heard Mary speak at our Los Angeles District Missionary Convention a few years before. She had presented the devotional thought before the day’s events began, and I remember how she had said such neat things and brought us into the presence of our Heavenly Father. I felt I had heard all the good that I had come expecting to hear that day wrapped up and delivered in those first few minutes.

As the work progressed on the retirement homes my husband Gordon was responsible for constructing at Casa Robles, I enjoyed the comings and goings of the busy missionary family. It was my special privilege to walk across Oak Street each Thursday morning to the prayer meeting. Sometimes I walked with Dorothy Cook, and sometimes with John and Mary Anderson. Mary and I talked together about the billowing clouds over the mountains, the new leaves on the trees, my gardenias in bloom, or the roses. Or Mary would share with me some good things God had done in her life that week. I never heard a complaint or a harsh word from Mary, only encouraging, uplifting, happy words. When she prayed, it was with the same spirit of optimism. Her Heavenly Father was as ready to give answers to our prayers as we were to verbalize them.

I remember Mary’s entering into our excitement when we first knew that Dr. Nees was arranging with the new Asia-Pacific Seminary to have Gordon go to the Philippines as campus development coordinator. Mary began calling me “missionary.” I said, “Mary, I’m not a missionary. I have been a pastor’s wife for 30 years and have never become used to that title. How will I ever adjust to this one?”

“Well,” she said, “you are, and you will just have to get used to it.” So from then on, it was “Missionary.”

One day she said, “Millie, I wonder if it would be too much trouble for you to drive me to the shopping center. I have a little something I want to purchase.” I was curious, of course, but Mary just said, “I want to buy something that I know you will need.”

At the arranged time, we went together to a nearby department store. On the way she explained the item she had in mind was a caftan, or a long flowing house robe, the kind she had always taken to the mission field, the one piece of clothing that to her was indispensable. Hers, she said, was usually in rags when she furloughed.

Then we saw a beautiful young Indian woman in her native sari in the store and Mary, in her characteristic way, stopped, folded her hands palms together, and greeted the lady in her Marathi language. And I was aware suddenly that this was Mary E. Anderson, beloved, well-known, successful missionary who was taking me shopping. To buy for me! What a delightful honor! She knew just what she wanted and we found it together. After Mary paid the sales girl, she handed the package to me and said, “Now, Missionary, you are ready to go.” I call it my Mary Anderson robe.

Then Jason, our four-year-old grandson, with his mommy, Marcia, and sister Jillian, came to Casa Robles en route from the air force base in Iceland to an AFB in Texas. Jason followed everyone around, carrying on his conversations with anyone who had time to listen. One day as we passed the Anderson and Cook homes, I said, “Jason, look at the pretty roses,” and he said, “No, Grandma, that’s a sticker bush, and that’s a (Continued on page 12)
sticker bush, and..." I heard Mary's familiar chuckle and turned to see Mary and John enjoying the evening on their veranda.

At the last Thursday morning prayer meeting that John and Mary attended, Rev. Pearson asked Mary to give the itinerary of the last speaking trip they were ready to begin on the East Coast. Mary did so, and then gave this testimony:

"Folks, you all know Jason, the Gibsons' grandson. Well, he has wrapped himself around all our hearts. And if you talk to Jason very long, you know he has one thing on his mind—to get to Texas. And you know why he is so anxious to see Texas—his daddy is there. And you know, we as Christians, who belong to the family of God, should have just one thing uppermost in our minds, too; to get to heaven, to see our Heavenly Father." There was a big lump in my throat as I visualized the homecoming welcome from the Father that awaits us, just as surely as Jason's daddy awaited him.

Just about two weeks later, we learned that Mary, on June 24, 1983, had indeed experienced her arrival at home. My first thought was, Mary is enjoying the homecoming celebration, the meeting with her Heavenly Father that she visualized that day in the last prayer meeting with her friends at Casa Robles. I praise the Lord along with thousands of Nazarenes in India, in America, and other parts of the world, for the fact that I can say, "I remember Mary."

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**THESIS**

Death is not a period bringing the sentence of life to a close like the spilling of a moment or the dissolution of an hour. Death is a useful comma, which punctuates and labors to convince of more to follow.

—WILLIAM WALTER DeBOLT
Trenton, Nebraska

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**HERALD OF HOLINESS**

We parked the car and walked across Constitution Avenue to the appointment gate at the White House. The November morning was chilly. My husband spoke to the Secret Service man inside the gate, told him we had an appointment and our name was Conn. "Jack and Ernestine?" he asked without hesitation. "Yes." He unlocked the great iron gate and told us to come inside. We strolled along a winding walkway to a side entrance. He was a friendly young man. We talked of the nice weather and the roses that were still blooming. He seemed to know about us, and it was almost as if we had met before. Once inside the White House we followed a long hall until we came to a group of young people and a guide. He told us to join them and enjoy our VIP tour.

How proud we felt as we toured the East Wing of the White House, viewing those beautiful and magnificent rooms and hearing interesting stories about the furniture in each room and about the presidents and their families. We felt proud of our country and of our American heritage. And we were so thankful that we could get to see it.

To see it! How much those three little words meant as I recalled the circumstances that had brought us there. It all began the previous March 16. Jack got up as usual at 6:15 and dressed for work. About a half hour later I came into the room where he was sitting holding his Bible. That morning's reading was in chapter 9, which begins, "and as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him." As I came into the room Jack said, "Something is wrong. I can't see all the page with my right eye." He explained that if he closed his left eye the page had a hole where the words were twisted and gone just to the right of his center of vision.

Jack went on to work and immediately to the plant medical center. After examination, the plant doctor told him his right eye was hemorrhaging in the retina. The doctor called an ophthalmologist and made Jack an appointment for that afternoon. The ophthalmologist's diagnosis was macular degeneration. He explained that the hemorrhage was behind the retina and centered very near the macula, or the focusing point for acute vision. It was untreated. The next day it was worse, and since the one ophthalmologist was out of town, Jack was referred to another. His diagnosis was the same, with an addition—the left eye had the same condition and Jack would probably lose the vision in it also.

Two days later Jack came home from work with a patch over the right eye. We sat on the back steps. He removed the patch and looked at me. Finally he said slowly and quietly, "I've been coming home for 35 years and seeing you waiting—with two eyes. This is the last day I'll see your face with this right eye. It's spreading..."
across the center of my vision. Your face is all twisted.” We cried together. Jack said, “The Lord knows and understands.” And I know He does understand why, even if I still don’t.

Angiograms were made of both eyes the next day. They confirmed both eyes were affected. He was sent to Atlanta to see a retina specialist. We heard again that he was already legally blind in his right eye and probably would be blind in the other one in time. There was no treatment for the right eye. This was a terrible shock to us. We had worked hard and raised our family. We had been faithful to the Lord for all the years we had been married. We had trusted Him for healing before and He had never failed. This time there had to be a reason. Didn’t Jesus tell the disciples, “... that the works of God might be manifested in him”?

Several months later the doctor wanted Jack to go to the Wilmer Eye Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. They had a new krypton laser there and thought they might possibly seal off the hemorrhaging in the blind eye, and a nationally known ophthalmologist could evaluate the other eye. As we thought about going there, Jack said he had always wanted to see the White House and this would be a good time if we could get tickets.

We had no idea how tours were handled. He suggested that I write the First Lady and ask if her staff could send us tickets. The next day my letter was in the mail. About a week later the telephone rang while I was preparing dinner. “This is the White House calling Mrs. Ernestine Conn.” Talk about excited! Never in my wildest imagination had I thought of that. A lady on the White House staff had gotten our telephone number from Johns Hopkins. She said they had arranged for our visit. We would not need tickets—just come to the appointment gate. I forgot all about cooking. That evening we had burned cornbread.

We had heard the familiar words, “No treatment,” again in Baltimore at the eye clinic. So, to be able to see the White House took on a greater meaning to us. Many times we forget to be thankful for what we have until we lose it. Vision is a precious thing. We have learned to thank the Lord each day that Jack still sees with his left eye. But whatever God wills for the future, we trust we can accept. It’s not always easy for me. Sometimes when I see Jack slowly moving his fingers across the raised dots in his beginner’s Braille text, I feel the questioning “Why?” arising. But as of now there is no answer. Once as I watched, and struggled with a great lump in my throat, Jack sensed it. He looked up, grinned, and said, “See—Dick—run. See—Jane—run.”
IN RECENT YEARS mobile Americans have taken a new interest in “roots.” On my father’s side my roots reach back to the small town of Pisek in Czechoslovakia, from which my grandfather emigrated to America in late 1890s. This became even more intriguing to me as I realized those people are now under a very strict Communist state. As a pastor and leader in my community, I felt I needed another dimension and view of people and places outside my free world.

My wife and I have returned from this central European trip with an intensified thankfulness for our heritage of freedom and with a greater understanding of the blessing of political and spiritual freedom.

Our first trip into Europe originated in London, spanned the English Channel into Belgium, Holland, and West Germany with the typical jet suddenness that leaves one feeling you are riding along any peaceful American countryside until the first announcement to prepare passports and visas for inspection. This is definitely more than a crossing of state lines!

Our first border crossing into Communist East Germany was a tense experience. This is considered the world’s deadliest border, with a fence extending 835 miles from the Baltic Sea to the border of Czechoslovakia. The fence is 11 feet high, made of stretched steel with sharp diamond-shaped holes too small for adult fingers. This fence was erected not to keep people out, but to keep them in.

To discourage emigration, high explosive mines are placed on the concrete fence posts at knee, chest, and head levels. The trip wires are very sensitive to movement, sometimes set off by the wind. A deep trench keeps any vehicle from driving through. A control strip

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PIERCING THE IRON CURTAIN

by ROBERT ULRICH

six meters wide is always freshly graded and raked so that footprints are easily seen. Arc lights and control towers sit behind a patrol road where police vehicles cruise continually. Five hundred meters back is another fence loaded with visual and acoustical warning devices. Dogs are used in places where accessibility and visibility are difficult. The troops who man this monument to tyranny and fear have orders to shoot any fellow soldier who tries to escape. Bounties are also paid for killing civilians who try to flee.

Our tour guide, herself a native of West Germany, gave us detailed orders not to take photographs of the border fortifications or the Communist officials. We were watched from the observation towers very closely and any suspicious moves would bring instant retaliation. She warned us not to joke or laugh among ourselves while the guard was on board lest he think we were laughing at him. We remained very quiet and cautious while he collected our passports and visas. He grunted his approval without the slightest facial movement. It took a little over an hour before the search of our luggage compartment was over and our passports returned.

We proceeded into East Germany on a designated access road to West Berlin. The roadway is fenced on both sides and no vehicle is allowed to stop unless forced to do so. If you stop, a police car will be along in a matter of minutes to check you out. Communist police were visible everywhere along the road. One of their best sources of hard currency is speeding fines and they were very strict about this. We reentered West Germany just before entering West Berlin.

After defeat in World War II, Germany was divided into French, British, United States, and Soviet zones. In effect the country was divided into two unequal parts; the larger western section was governed by the three Western allies and the smaller Eastern part remains under Russian Communist domination. Berlin, an island in the middle of the Eastern section, is likewise divided into four sectors.

By 1961 over 2,700,000 people had abandoned the Communist East for the West. Many were technically and professionally trained people whom they could ill afford to lose. Afraid of losing even more, the Communist authorities closed the border and erected the Berlin wall. The wall separating East and West Berlin is 28 miles long and the wall dividing East Germany from West Berlin is 72 miles long. East German soldiers have orders to shoot any refugee who passes the death strip and nears the wall. To date 70 have died in an attempt to get over the wall.

From the viewing platform in West Berlin we could see over the wall to a small hill, the former “Führerbunker” where Adolf Hitler and his wife, Eva Braun, committed suicide. Appearing in front of us, beyond the wall, was the new East Berlin television tower (at 1,185 feet, it is higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris) with a revolving restaurant rotating once each hour. When the sun reaches a certain point, a cross of reflected sunlight appears on the steel sphere of the restaurant. Though certainly unintentional, it clearly tells the world that Jesus will find a way to witness despite an atheistic government.

Paul, our East Berlin guide, joined us as we entered

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ROBERT ULRICH pastors the Church of the Nazarene in Federal Way, Washington.
Checkpoint Charlie to have our coach and passports checked. He had a surprising grasp of the English language, acquired when he was taken prisoner by the Americans at age 19. He was sent to the United States and moved to 20 different work camps across America. He was proud of his fluency in English, but thoroughly Communist, and never missed an opportunity to boast of the superiority of their philosophy.

Our tour was restricted to what they wanted us to see, but the people we observed from a distance appeared well dressed and content. The shops were austere and, as we noticed in the other Communist countries we visited, the merchandise is inferior in quality.

Leaving Berlin through East Germany we approached the Czechoslovakian border. This was our most difficult border crossing. It took four and a half hours for us to clear. During that time we were not allowed to leave the motorcoach except in groups of two for a rest room visit.

What a marked contrast! This countryside consisted of old, crumbling stone houses, most without water and modern conveniences. There are fewer trees and everything seemed suddenly dreary compared to the neat, well-groomed West German countryside.

At the hotel in Prague we had to surrender our passports at the desk to obtain our room key. The passports were sent to the police station and remained there until we turned in our key to board the bus. We saw more red stars and hammer and sickle emblems here than in either East Germany or Hungary. The people seemed more somber. Religious persecution is a fact of life, and many are serving time in jail for teaching the Bible or holding services. Evangelical Christians are very few. About 98 percent of the people with religious ties are Catholic.

The easiest Communist border crossing was into Hungary. Here our money bought more than in any country we visited, but the variety and quality of merchandise discouraged spending. Religious persecution is not as severe, and services are allowed openly in the churches. Here, as in most European countries, only about 2 percent of the people were evangelical Christians.

Crossing into Austria was like a breath of fresh air. The people were friendlier, happier, and more prosperous. We learned that Austria is the only nation that has been allowed to govern itself after being occupied by the Russians. No one seems to know why.

Piercing the “Iron Curtain” has been an exciting and enlightening experience for us. Although we were protected as tourists, we could gain enough insight to understand that we are fortunate indeed to be able to live as free people. The next time we see “Welcome to Oregon” with no border crossing, we will offer a prayer of thanksgiving that we can come and go as we please in our native America! We appreciate our heritage of the gospel that overcomes tyranny and frees the soul for eternity.

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**Book Brief**

**A TEACHABLE SPIRIT**

**PAULETTE WOODS**

BLESSED with an exciting outreach to women, this Nazarene pastor’s wife shares tips to success. The recounting of her first day at tackling early morning devotions is humorous, typical of the “I’ve-been-there” appeal to her writing. After introducing herself and her start in the sanctified life, she outlines “Guidelines for starting Bible studies for women, from someone who did.”

Perhaps one of the most important concepts of the book is that any woman can open her home to Bible studies. In her groups, a warm welcome and mutual acceptance helped even those who “didn’t have it all together” as hostesses to entertain the group. She writes, “Remember that the hardest person to be is someone else, and the easiest is to be yourself.”

**A CHRISTIAN WOMAN’S JOURNAL**

The chapter “From Bible Study to Women’s Ministry” gives detailed ideas for leadership, multiple study groups, luncheons, and outreach. The two final chapters are clinchers—stories of women whose lives were changed.

Not included on the order blank in this issue, but an excellent companion book by the same author, is *A Christian Woman’s Journal* (at $2.95). I recommend it for scribblers “for recording your thoughts and dreams.” It contains appealing quotations plus space for 100 days of journaling. Illustrated with Mrs. Woods’ own art, it’s a delightful gift item.

Women who long to enrich their lives this winter, while expanding their outreach to others, will appreciate both of these books.

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Evelyn Stenbock

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City

To order, see page 23.
LOVE FULFILLS THE LAW

One day a fellow asked Jesus for a summarizing concept of the law of Moses. Could its hundreds of precepts be distilled into a few or even one? Jesus answered, in essence, “Love God wholeheartedly and love people unselfishly.”

Paul echoed this same concept when he wrote, “Love is the fulfilling of the law.” The law, rightly understood, is concerned with both deeds and motives. Each of these is to be marked by genuine love for God and man.

The love of which Christ spoke and Paul wrote is not a vague sentiment, not a mushy feeling. Neither is it mere human affection, though human affection is respected, not despised, in Holy Scripture. The love that fulfills the law, the love that sets life into proper order—God first, others next, oneself last—is divine love. It is “the love of God” that is “shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.” Such love is pure, strong, outgoing, sacrificial, burden-bearing, and sin-forgiving. It fulfills the requirements of God for holy, happy, and helpful human life.

This divine love is not the product of our willing or our striving. It is the gift of God. In fact, this love encounters a natural enemy in human nature, for the carnal mind is self-oriented and unloving. Looking out for number one is the philosophy that human nature finds congenial.

For divine love to rule our lives, our hearts must be purged from sin and selfishness. The Old Testament promises such an experience. “The Lord your God will circumcise your heart, that you may love the Lord your God with all your heart.”

The heart surgery needed by us and promised in the Old Testament is recorded as fact in the New Testament. “God gave them the Holy Spirit, purifying their hearts by faith.” In the power of that gift, the early Christians faced prison, torture, and martyrdom with unquenchable love for God, the church, and even for their persecutors.

“Love divine, all loves excelling,” is the result of heart cleansing, not of human resolution. Let God sanctify you wholly, and you can love the loving and unloving, the lovely and the unlovely. Love fulfills the law.

GOOD CHEER

Some months ago I was preaching in Los Osos, Calif., where Ron Fay is our pastor. His little girl, Emily, asked her mother, “Is Dr. McCumber a Christian?”

“Yes,” she replied. “Why do you ask that?”

Emily answered, “Well, he never smiles.”

The next day she found my picture in a college yearbook, and reported this excitedly to her parents.

“Was he smiling?” they asked.

She thought a moment. “Not exactly,” she decided. “But if you look at his eyes, I think he has a giggle way down deep inside.”

Well I guess I don’t smile a lot. Doris has told me that for years, and so have others. I tell them that I took lessons in smiling from Dr. V. H. Lewis! But like him, I’ve got a chuckle down deep that occasionally breaks the surface.

Emily knows that Christians should be happy, and she naturally associates happiness with smiling faces. She will learn as she gets older that some people, though filled with joy, have rather serious expressions. They would make a poor living posing for smile buttons, but they nevertheless “rejoice in the Lord.”

“The joy of the Lord,” says Scripture, “shall be your strength.” The joy of His unfailing presence—“I am with you always”—renders the believer impervious to circumstances. Abased or abounding, the disciples of Christ can offer sacrifices of praise from a heart filled with joy.

It’s a joy to know Christ. It’s a joy to be forgiven. It’s a joy to be filled with the Spirit. It’s a joy to belong to the church. It’s a joy to have a part in the mission of Christ in the world. It’s a joy to face the change and decay of history with the promise of heaven. Nothing that happens can quench that joy.

The Christian is not spared the blows that fall upon the world, but he knows the One who said, “In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”
Following Christ on most days simply means the faithful performance of routine assignments. I seldom need courage for heroic action. Much of the time I just need grace to patiently endure routine.

ROUTINES

The other day I was checking back over my Journal for something. My eyes fell on the entry for Friday, January 6, where the page carries the word Epiphany.

Epiphany is an ancient church celebration. It commemorates the coming of Christ into the world as its Light.

Under the word Epiphany I had scrawled my entry for the day, which began with this paragraph:

The light has been shining for nearly 2,000 years now, and the darkness has neither comprehended nor overcome it. The light will get all those who trust and follow Him safely home. I aim to keep walking in the light.

And following that paragraph, the very next sentence read, “The day was filled with routines.”

Well, that’s how it is in my rather hum drum life. Following Christ on most days simply means the faithful performance of routine assignments. I seldom need courage for heroic action. Much of the time I just need grace to patiently endure routine. How infrequently do I “mount up with wings” as an eagle! Day after day I must wait upon the Lord for strength to “walk and not faint.”

This fact carries with it some significant implications. I am not a better Christian than I prove to be in the daily grind. I am not a better editor than I prove to be on blue-pencil days when I pursue misspelled words and displaced commas over ordinary manuscripts. I am not a better writer than I prove to be in grinding out “Standpoint,” which will likely carpet birdcages. I am not a better husband than I prove to be on days that contain no birthday, anniversary, or holiday celebrations. My mettle is tested, not by the rare occasions, but by the routine responsibilities.

I can say of every day—even Monday—“This is the day the Lord has made.” But can I say of every day, “Today I have been faithful to God and others”? That really matters, for most of my days are like peas in a pod. Is that true of you, also?

Thank God the Light shines on the days filled with routine activities!

NO TWO PEOPLE ARE ALIKE

Albert Ebenezer Fox and Ebenezer Albert Fox were identical twins. They were arrested for poaching, and the police knew that only one was guilty. But which one? They smugly refused to help the police; no confession was forthcoming. Then they were fingerprinted, and Ebenezer Albert was convicted. No two people, not even identical twins, are totally alike.

What is true physically is probably true mentally and spiritually as well. No two people think alike or react alike always. Personality, a most elusive term, is as individual as one’s fingerprints.

That no two people are fully alike, it seems to me, has some important implications for gospel work. Some can be reached by one method, others by a different method. Some are reached by one aspect of truth, some by another. You cannot make a single “canned” approach to all sinners and expect them to be reached for Christ.

The Master is our model in this, as in nearly all things. As we read the Gospels we find Jesus in contact with all sorts of people in all kinds of situations, and while He does repeat himself sometimes, He does so rarely. To one man only we hear Christ say, “You must be born again.” He told Nicodemus that, but not Zacchaeus, or Simon, or the rich young ruler.

The clue to success in winning someone to Christ will often lie in our deepening acquaintance with that person. Knowing something of another’s background and experience will provide a point of entry for the gospel. This does not mean that none can be reached on first or infrequent contact. God knows them all, and He can guide us to say the right things to total strangers or casual acquaintances. The story of Philip and the Ethiopian treasurer in Acts 8 illustrates this fact. But the identical method will not capture for Christ every stranger. Various ways and means of witnessing are needed.

People are not totally different, so what goes on inside us is a clue to what is going on inside them. But enough differences exist to make our task endlessly challenging and exciting. And God tailors to each person an experience of salvation as personal as fingerprints.
ON MONDAY I went in for a routine six-month check with my doctor. After the tests from the lab were reviewed he said: “For some time there has been a gradual change in your blood cells. I want you to see my colleague, the hematologist, for some further blood analysis.”

He gave me a reassuring comment, but dropped the term “possible leukemia.” During the following examination the hematologist asked, “Is there any history of cancer in your family?” When I went from the office back to the lab with the order for further tests, there it was in print, with the doctor’s check in front of it—leukemia.

On Tuesday I entered the hospital for a bone marrow test and came back the following Monday for a sonogram of the liver. During this X-ray procedure the technician returned her instrument several times to the same spot. When she finished she said, “Stay right where you are while I show the X-rays to the doctor. He may wish to examine you personally.” In a few minutes the radiologist came. Twice, as he moved his instrument over the area in question, he said to the technician, “Take a picture.”

When the radiologist left, the technician excused me, saying, “When you see your doctor next week, you will get the results. The radiologist has already phoned him.”

For eight days the specter of blood cancer hung over our heads; but our Christian faith buoyed us up.

While waiting in the hospital for the sonogram, I was finishing a small book I had been reading. Through the writer, God gave me courage. There at the bottom of page 13 were the words: “If we do not lose our faith, we do not lose our strength.”

One day during the period of waiting, our scheduled devotional reading included, “He will keep you safe from all hidden dangers and from all deadly diseases. He will cover you with his wings; you will be safe in his care; his faithfulness will protect and defend you. You need not fear any dangers at night or sudden attacks during the day or the plagues that strike in the dark or the evils that kill in daylight” (Psalm 91:3-6, TEV).

Another day the assigned reading included, “Do not be afraid—I will save you. I have called you by name—you are mine. When you pass through the deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. . . . For I am the Lord your God, the holy God of Israel who saves you” (Isaiah 43:1-3, TEV).

As I wakened, the morning we were to get the diagnosis from the doctor, a stanza of song flowed through my spirit:

Ye saints of God, fresh courage take
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy and will break
In blessings on thy head.

When I shared this assurance at family worship, Mrs. Harper said, “Let me show you the words God gave to me.” From the hymnal she read:

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide.
In ev’ry change He faithful will remain.

At 10:30 that same morning the doctor said, “I have good news. We did not find the bone marrow as bad as we expected. We will want to keep a check on the blood count, but the problem is not serious enough at this point to require any treatment.”

I praise God! “The clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy!”

At home that evening, Mrs. Harper said, “This has been a good day for me.” I replied, “And for me, too!”

On one of the days yet to come, from some physical breakdown, the doctor’s word will not be good news. But then, as in this experience, God will be there.

I praise Him for His promises given to us in Scripture. I rejoice for Christian writers who put their faith into prose and song. I am glad for the Holy Spirit who recalls God’s truth to our minds just at the times when we most need it. I am glad for our Christian faith. I praise God.

A. F. HARPER is professor emeritus of Nazarene Theological Seminary and resides in Kansas City, Missouri.
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HARK, THE HERALD ANGEL
Your family will thoroughly enjoy this music drama that takes place in heaven and in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born. Songs and a dramatic story about angelic little Hark make Jesus' birth live in a new way.
L-9039 Stereo Album $8.98
MC-48 Book containing all the songs and dialogue $3.50
TA-9039C Stereo Cassette $8.98
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Joshua and his exploits around Jericho are a part of our biblical heritage but does your family know how the children of Israel's kids played a part in this epic? In dialogue and song, Miracle After Miracle relives those exciting moments. Perfect for family listening and singing along.
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TA-9032C Stereo Cassette $8.98
MB-505 Book with all the music and dialogue $3.95

Recordings for the Spirit of Christmas
GREAT JOY COMING
Children's voices underscore the moods of the season in this recording and book that features 32 new, current, and traditional songs for Advent and Christ's birth. Selections include "One Small Child," "What Can We Give to the King?" "O Holy Night," "Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus."
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A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
The Tempo Singers and a symphonic orchestra present the sounds of Christmas in one of the most beautiful recordings available. Selections include "Noel," "O Come, O Come Immanuel," "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow," "I Wonder as I Wander," "Go Tell It on the Mountain," and more.
L-7026 Stereo Album $8.98

CAROLS ALIVE!
A wonderful collection of traditional and contemporary Christmas songs presented by soloists and choirs. Thirty selections include: "I Know Now," "No Longer a Baby," "Child in the Manger," "Mary, Sing Alleluia," "What Did You Say Was the Baby's Name?" "I Wonder as I Wander," "Beautiful Savior."
L-9001 Double Album $10.98

THE MORNING SON
The melodic songs of the season remind us of whose birth we celebrate. The 16 selections in this collection are ideal for gift-giving or for your personal listening. Among the selections are: "The Morning Son," "Be Exalted," "Gabriel," "With God, Nothing Is Impossible," "The Wise Men Song," "Emmanuel."
L-9053 Stereo Album $8.98
TA-9053C Cassette $8.98
Recordings for any time and every taste . . .

If you buy but one recording this year, make it this double cassette set. It’s a best-seller that you’ll play over and over again.

GREAT IS THE LORD
Here are two cassettes that bring together 56 all-time favorite songs arranged in 20 medleys. There has never been a collection to equal this. Songs included are: “Sometimes Alleluia,” “El-Shaddai,” “Thou Art Worthy,” “My Tribute,” “Till the Storm Passes By,” “I’ll Fly Away,” “Until Then,” “Because He Lives,” “He Touched Me,” “We Shall Behold Him,” “They That Wait upon the Lord,” “Gentle Shepherd,” “Where the Spirit of the Lord Is,” “This Is the Day,” “His Eye Is on the Sparrow,” “The Wonder of It All.” Order the book for sing-alongs around the piano or with the tape.

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OTIS SKILLINGS PIANO
The well-loved arranger/composer interprets familiar selections on the concert grand: “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us,” “When We All Get to Heaven,” “Christmas Medley,” “Jesus, the Very Thought of You,” “Amazing Grace,” “The Bond of Love,” and so much more.

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Joyful
A double album featuring the Otis Skillings orchestra. Selections featured are: “Lord, We Praise You,” “All That Thrills My Soul,” “The Happy Side,” “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” “It Is Well with My Soul,” “How Walk with God,” “Hear Them Bells,” “All Hail the Power,” “When God Speaks.”

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Gather the family around the piano—and sing!

CEASELESS PRAISE
Sing these 100 new and favorite selections as solos, duets, or together as a family. All are familiar selections from the talents of Bill Gaither, Amy Grant, Dallas Holm, Randy Painter, Evie, and the Imperials. Sample songs: “We Shall Behold Him,” “A Perfect Heart,” “A Name I Highly Treasure,” “El-Shaddai,” “Down from His Glory,” “I Go to the Rock,” “My House Is Full.” Topical index; plastic-ring binding.

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THE GOLDEN HYMNBOOK
This big 8½” x 11½” songbook contains 132 best-loved hymns and 11 Christmas carols. LARGE PRINT for easy reading and playing. Ideal for senior adults, retirement communities, nursing homes, at-home song fests. Many of your traditional hymn favorites are included.

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CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS
This large folio of 100 favorite songs is designed to meet two needs. The moderately easy piano arrangements are ideal for pianists who simply enjoy playing ‘contemporary classics’ of Christmas music. Vocalists will welcome this single volume containing many of the most widely used solos, written in medium range. A variety of styles is represented, but each song has proven to be an effective tool for ministry; there are no “fillers.” Song titles include “Clean Before My Lord,” “Eternal Life,” “We Shall Behold Him,” “Sail On,” “I Am Loved,” “Mansion Builder,” “Cornerstone,” “I Go to the Rock,” “Peace in the Valley,” “Tid Rather Have Jesus,” “Mountain Top,” “Praise the Lord, I’ve Never Changes,” and others. Plastic-ring “lie-flat” binding.

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**BOOKS** can make the heart sing.

The Bible will put a song in every life and Christmas is the time to give God's Word

This is *the* Bible to give . . .

**THOMPSON CHAIN-REFERENCE BIBLE**

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A comprehensive theological reference. This 560-page volume covers the gamut of philosophy, psychology, history, and everyday Christian living. Its 954 articles have been written with the layperson in mind. This beautifully bound book deserves a place in the library of Sunday School teachers, seeking Christians, as well as pastors and writers. $29.95

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A 16-page Christmas treasury, written in prose verse and illustrated with pen and ink sketches. These page-long pieces deal with the inner thoughts of the central characters in the Christmas drama. An ideal gift for church giving. 3½" x 8¾". Brilliant red, gold, and black. Includes deckled-edge envelope to send to that loved one.

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DELIVERED FROM DRUGS

by HARRY E. WEST

Peter walked into a Church of the Nazarene one Sunday morning. He was skeptical—going to a church had not been one of his things. However, through the repeated invitations of his friend Charles, and the love shown by this congregation, he had felt the tug of God on his heart. He was a three-time loser to the influence of drugs. As a user, then a pusher, then a man who had run into difficulties with the law, he was in desperate straits. He had a wife, a new baby, and three other children for whom he was responsible. He was currently on bail awaiting trial. He had no steady job.

Peter and Charles had been good friends for about 10 years. During that period of time they had been jointly and individually involved in using and selling many kinds of drugs—including marijuana, amphetamines, and Quaaludes. Then Charles was saved and God straightened out his life. He was no longer interested in using and selling drugs.

During this interval, Peter had an automobile accident, was injured and hospitalized. While he was in the hospital, he had time to wonder how Charles had gotten rid of the drug habit. He telephone Charles and asked him. Since he did not accept the explanation that Charles gave him, however, soon after his release from the hospital he was back to his routine of using and selling. Then he was arrested and given the choice of admitting himself to a drug rehabilitation treatment center or being sent directly to prison. He decided on the treatment center.

While there he met a nurse who encouraged him to read his Bible, pray, and seek God's salvation. Isn't it wonderful how God brings the right people together at the right time! Simultaneously, Charles had approached several others during a series of weekly prayer cell meetings. He requested that they each make Peter an object of daily prayer. They prayed for his deliverance from drugs and that he would come to church and be saved. They also showered him with cards and letters from church members as a gesture of love.

Peter was overwhelmed by all this attention and support from people he didn't even know. As soon as possible, he and his wife visited the church. After a few visits, he became a seeker during the morning worship service. At first his wife was quite negative, but as she observed the changes in him, she too became a seeker and was saved. Now, along with Christ, she is his main support.

God was not through working miracles in their lives. Peter had to face the judge for sentencing on his serious criminal charges. Peter's lawyer wasn't too optimistic about the outcome and advised Peter to be prepared to go directly to prison from the courtroom. Over the past several weeks, many people had written letters to the judge requesting that he grant clemency. The Sunday before Peter had to appear in court on Monday, prayers had gone up on his behalf all during the service. In the evening service, the pastor and members of the church formed a circle of faith and love around Peter and his wife and prayed for God's special intervention. Everyone felt assured that He was going to work on Peter's behalf. No one could guess the extent of that undertaking until the judge pronounced sentence the next day.

When Peter appeared in court, several members and the pastor were there. Peter's case was the last to come before the court that day. During the wait, people had been praying and God's presence was felt in the courtroom. The judge called the pastor as one of the witnesses to the change that had taken place in Peter's life. Then the judge acknowledged that six months earlier he would not have made the decision he was about to make. He sentenced Peter to pay court charges and to give 200 hours of community service. That service was to be provided to the local church! No fine and no probationary period were required!

What a time of rejoicing and thankful prayer that inspired! Peter and his wife continue to follow the leading of the Spirit and they are now an inspirational asset to the church of Jesus Christ. Their experience brings to mind Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."
of her grief at this point can really be known by only a few. I feel this article has given me extra knowledge and strength to impart to my grieving friend.

Kathy Rushing
Longview, Texas

THANKFUL READER

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the Lord for His many blessings on my life, especially during the last nine months. On December 2, 1983, I was involved in a head-on collision that almost took my life, but praise be to God. He saw fit to work a miracle and as a result I am well on my way to full recovery.

I also want to express my thanks and appreciation to my church family during this very difficult time in my life. Their love was expressed in many ways: in prayer, cards, letters, and gifts. My love and appreciation for God and the Church of the Nazarene is beyond expression.

James R. Mayes
Willard, Ohio

WANTS OLD PATHS

The Nazarene church has been built on the use of the King James Version—and suddenly the NIV arrives on the scene. I was not too concerned until recently at the Bible quiz in our church, when a disagreement as to the answer of this question—"How many times did Jesus say that we are to forgive people?" Answer is 7 x 70.

The answer via the NIV was 77. This is a tragedy for the young people of our church, when members disagree in their presence. Our church better return to the old paths—KJV.

James B. Taylor
Bedford, Indiana

THE CATCH
by HAROLD BOWLBY

WHEN I ANSWERED the doorbell, there stood Harold with a stringer of bluegills. I had called on him for the first time a few days earlier. He told me that he had retired but was now suffering from a respiratory ailment that limited many of his activities. He was pleased, however, to be able to participate in his favorite pastime of fishing. He readily admitted he had no excuse for not coming to church, and although I could extract no promise of attendance for the coming Sunday, I sensed a spiritual hunger. Tears came freely to his eyes as we prayed together.

Now he was on my doorstep sharing his catch of fish. The bluegills seemed to be an invitation crying out, "Please, come see me again." So I called again and again, encouraging Harold, inviting him to worship with us, and praying for his salvation and healing. Finally, his illness forced him into the hospital. Visiting him there I knew that I must press the issue of his salvation. As we made small talk I silently prayed for an opening to speak to him about his relationship to Christ.

Suddenly he broke in with, "Preacher, I've committed a lot of sins in my life. Do you think God could forgive me?"

I spent the next few minutes explaining the way of salvation. When I was convinced that he understood, we prayed together and Christ came into Harold's heart.

He was discharged from the hospital, but it soon became apparent that he would have to return. I saw Harold's wife a few days later and asked about his condition. After informing me that there had been no change, she said, "Harold wants to be baptized. He wants to know if there is another way of being baptized besides immersion?" I assured her that I could baptize him by sprinkling and would do so on my next visit.

When I arrived at the hospital, I was dismayed by the confusion in his room. His roommate had company, the television was blaring, and various hospital personnel were popping in and out of the room. Again I silently prayed for the Lord to bring some order out of confusion that I might baptize Harold in an atmosphere conductive to such a sacred moment. Almost immediately a nurse appeared telling the roommate he was being moved to another room. Within five minutes we had the privacy we desired.

As I baptized Harold, the tears flowed down his cheeks and he reaffirmed the commitment made a few days before.

We visited, read Scripture, and prayed together, rejoicing in the Lord's presence. This was the last time I would see Harold alive, for a few days later he went home to be with his newfound Lord.

I have often recalled the moment he stood at my door with his catch of fish. I still see the smile and the sense of joy as he shared with me. I picture myself standing before God in the same manner. Harold is at my side. "Lord, I caught someone for You."
PEOPLE AND PLACES

Dr. Jon Johnston has been selected by Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif., to direct the London Extension Program. Dr. Johnston and his wife, Cherry, will be on assignment in England January-May 1985. His responsibilities will include administration as well as teaching and research. He is the author of the new book titled Christian Excellence: Alternative to Success, to be released by Baker Publishing Company in 1985.

Mervel Lunn, business administrator of the Bethany, Okla., First Church, has been designated a "Fellow in Church Business Administration." One of 14 candidates approved this year by the Professional Training and Standards Committee of the National Association of Church Business Administrators, Dr. Lunn qualified by meeting specific prerequisites in management experience, education, association activity, and attendance of seminars at approved educational institutions.

WRITERS CLUBS DIRECTOR RETIRES

In an effort to encourage Christian writers and to improve their skills, the Nazarene Publishing House (Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City) has sponsored biennial Writers Conferences since 1973. Following the 1980 conference, Mr. M. A. (Bud) Lunn asked Dr. A. F. Harper to launch and lead a Christian Writers Club project to encourage the formation of local groups of writers. Guidelines for the project were developed. Early in 1981 after the first issue of "The Leader" was published and mailed to 37 interested persons across the country. From these first 37 contacts, 20 clubs were organized. Since the beginning the project has received wide acceptance. There are now 89 clubs in 30 states and two other countries.

Although officially retired, Dr. Harper continues to contribute to the work of the church through a number of retirement ministries, one of which has been the directorship of the Christian Writers Clubs.

"At 77 it seemed time," says Dr. Harper, "to turn the program to another leader. I expect to keep busy with a couple of writing projects: (1) critical editor of the 42-volume Beacon Small Group Bible Studies, and (2) editor of the six-volume series, Great Holiness Classics."

Dr. Earl C. Wolf has been named the new director of the Christian Writers Clubs, and assumed responsibility for the program September 1, 1984.

CORRECTION

The name of Zora Petitt should have been included in the list of ordinands given in the Kentucky district assembly report that was carried in our August 1 issue. We regret the omission but the information supplied to us was incomplete.

THE CHURCH SCENE

The Burr Oak, Kans., church, organized July 2, 1914, observed its 70th anniversary July 1. Friends, former pastors, and members from 18 cities and 5 states were present for the day's activities, which included morning, afternoon, and evening services with a potluck dinner in the church annex at noon.

Dr. Robert J. Cerrato, superintendent of the Kansas District, presented the morning message.

Pastor Don Pierce presided over an open service in the afternoon. He presented two charter members, Lela Dillon and Lillian Oglevie. The third charter member, Clifford Cortner, was confined to a nursing home. Special music by members and former members, the history of the church, and reminiscences from former pastors were enjoyed.

In the evening, Pastor Pierce challenged the congregation to further the kingdom of God in the community and to be a lighthouse for holiness.

Killeen, Tex., First Church recently had a groundbreaking ceremony to build a new 40 ft. by 100 ft. sanctuary. The added structure will provide seating for 350 people at a cost of $150,000.

Participating in the ceremony were Dr. James Blankenship, superintendent of the San Antonio District; Pastor W. E. Heizer, Dr. Truell Hyde, secretary of the church board; and Mateland L. Aycock, contractor. Rev. Heizer has been pastor here since November 1983.
The Nazarene Hunger and Disaster Fund is a special fund maintained at Nazarene Headquarters in Kansas City to meet needs caused by famine, earthquakes, floods, displacement due to war, or other sudden or long-standing disasters. Through this fund, money has been made available to undernourished school children and nutrition centers in Haiti; to earthquake victims in Italy, Mexico, and Central America; to families displaced by fighting in Lebanon and Central America; to refugee families in Southeast Asia; to malnourished mothers and small children in Africa. Medical relief supplies have been flown to areas of disaster. And it is an ongoing program. Funds can be sent at any time to Dr. Norman Miller, General Treasurer, Church of the Nazarene, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131, designated for Nazarene Hunger and Disaster Fund. All monies will be used 100 percent for the purpose designated.
RECORD ENROLLMENT AT NAZARENE WRITERS CONFERENCE

DR. W. T. PURKISER RECEIVES FIRST “NPH AWARD”

The campus of Mid-America Nazarene College was the site of the Eighth Biennial Nazarene Writers Conference, August 20-22, held under the auspices of the Nazarene Publishing House. Total registration topped 250, making this by far the largest conference ever. Participants came from 27 states from California to Massachusetts and Minnesota to Texas as well as Canada. Although the great majority were Nazarenes, 14 other denominations were also represented.

Old-timers acclaimed it the finest conference yet, both for program quality and the inspiring spiritual tone that pervaded the sessions.

The major resource persons were Dr. Dennis E. Hensley, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Dan Benson, Lakewood, Colo.; Harold Ivan Smith, Kansas City; and Mrs. Linda Burba, Flushing, Mich. Other “outside” persons involved in the workshop sessions were Marie Butler, Donna Goodrich, Debbie Goodwin, and Gay Leonard. Headquarters and publishing house staff persons manned the remaining workshops.

The program, which began with registration at 10:30 Monday morning, August 20, included 5 major addresses, 6 seminars, and 19 workshops. Topics covered the full range of interest from beginners’ basics to advanced writing. Added features were a question-and-answer session in which the four resource persons participated, and 15-minute time segments for scheduled personal interviews with editors. About 100 registrants enjoyed a 25-mile bus trip and tour of the Nazarene Publishing House on Monday afternoon.

The concluding event was a banquet attended by 285 persons. Paul Miller was master of ceremonies for the event at which Dr. Curtis Smith, president of MANC, also brought greetings. Dr. Bob Benson of Nashville brought the main address on the subject of “They’re Only Words . . . but Words Are All I Have.” Special music was presented by Gary Moore, baritone, and Christy James, violinist, both accompanied by Jean Parker.

During the banquet Dr. W. T. Purkiser was presented with the first “NPH Award,” to be given biennially to the person deemed to have contributed most to the literature program of the Church of the Nazarene. An appropriate citation to Dr. Purkiser was read by Dr. William M. Greathouse, general superintendent.

Awards were also presented to the

Above, Mabeth Clem, editor of Standard, leads a two-session workshop on writing adult fiction.
In an “Ask the Experts” session Tuesday night, the four main resource persons fielded questions submitted by the conference. Pictured (l. to r.) are Harold Ivan Smith, Dennis Hensley, J. Fred Parker (conference director and panel moderator), Dan Benson, and Linda Burba.

Below, 1 of the 19 workshop sessions available for both beginning and experienced writers.

The climatic event of the conference was a banquet Wednesday night at which Dr. Bob Benson, of Nashville (above l.), was the speaker. Among the special features of the evening was the presentation of the first “NPH Award” to Dr. W. T. Purkiser. Dr. William M. Greathouse (r.) read the citation and made the presentation. The banquet (below) was attended by 285 people.

Several special groups attended the conference including five ethnic writers led by Glen Van Dyne (top l.) and the adult curriculum writers of the Enduring Word Series, directed by Gene Van Note (center, below).
LILLIAN JOHNSTON NEW COORDINATOR OF WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Mrs. Lillian Johnston has replaced Mrs. Ruth Gibson as coordinator of Women's Ministries at general headquarters.

Lillian, who is also director of Children's Church and coordinator of Special Education, joined the headquarters staff in January of this year. She has been active in the past in women's ministries in churches of varying sizes.

In her new position she will gather and distribute resources and ideas for women's ministries programs and will edit the quarterly newsletter, Women's Ministries Happenings.

Correspondence may be addressed to her at the headquarters address.

SHEILA BOGGESS JOINS CL/SS

Sheila Cawvey Boggess, 27, has joined the Division of Christian Life and Sunday School as an editor and program coordinator.

The former city editor of a daily newspaper in Frankfort, Ind., she has assumed the editorial responsibilities of Standard, a Sunday take-home paper for adults, and the Adult Teaching Resource packet.

In these assignments for Adult Ministries, Mrs. Boggess is replacing Mabeth Clem.

Mrs. Boggess will also work as a program coordinator of special projects for Children's Ministries.

Pictured at the second Special Education Convocation, June 28-29 (from rear, clockwise) are Marty Anderson, Garland, Tex.; Ron Shingleton, Romney, W.Va.; Maxine Blane, East Peoria, Ill.; Judy Buettner, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Eleanor Pester, Clarksville, Ind.; Patsy Hunt, Cassville, Mo.; Bob Troutman, Kansas City; Denise Shaffer, Texarkana, Ark.; Lillian Johnston, Kansas City; Beula Postlewait, Kansas City; Evelyn Beals, Kansas City; Lynn Springfield, Olathe, Kans.; B. C. Hunt, Cassville, Mo.; Fred Wenger, Parsons, Kans.; and Glen Taylor, Anderson, Ind. Not pictured are Clara Schuster, Mount Vernon, Ohio; Fran Reed, Bourbonnais, Ill.; Dorothy Sayes, Muskogee, Okla.; and Mike Buettner, Lee's Summit, Mo. Attending for emphasis on ministry to blind and deaf persons were Beverly Burgess, Kansas City; and Karen Vaverka, Olathe, Kans. Workshops will be held at the General CL/SS Convention (June 20-22, 1985) to introduce information about different handicaps, the theology involved and how to counsel with and minister to the families of handicapped persons. Methods of teaching exceptional children and ways to adapt current Sunday School material will be developed in brochure form and produced as soon as possible.

She is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, where she received her bachelor's degree. Mrs. Boggess has worked with several publications and with Campus Crusade for Christ International.

She and her husband, Bob, have moved to Olathe, Kans., where he will begin preparing for the ministry at Mid-America Nazarene College.

STANDARD EDITOR RESIGNS

Mabeth Clem has completed her assignment as editor of Standard, the Sunday take-home paper for adults.

Mrs. Clem worked at headquarters for the last eight and a half years. In addition to her most recent position, she was formerly secretary to the nursery editor and editorial assistant to the adult curriculum editor.

In her four and a half years as editor of Standard, she sought to broaden the spectrum of articles to appeal to all adult life-styles in the Church of the Nazarene. She instituted a once-a-month large-print edition of Standard for senior adults and those with vision problems. The Adult Teaching Resource packet has also been her responsibility.

Mrs. Clem is the daughter of Dr. Alvin and Mrs. Alice Kauffman, former professors at Eastern Nazarene College. She and her husband, Doug, are expecting their first child this fall. Her future plans include becoming a full-time mother.

"MOONIES" SEEK RESPECTABILITY

Several Nazarene ministers, along with representatives from other traditionally conservative religious denominations, have been receiving offers to attend expense-paid seminars in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Unification Church of Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

The purpose of the seminars is allegedly to show the ministers how "the government has become an oppressor of the church." However, reports indicate that the central idea behind the week-long sessions is to indoctrinate young ministers with the idea that Moon, who is serving 18 months in prison for income tax evasion, is a martyr.

Some persons speculate that this may be a bold attempt on the part of the cult to gain credibility by linking itself with established evangelical denominations.

Moon publicly preaches a theology of love and unity among Christians, but he was quoted in Time as saying, "He (God) is living in me and I am the incarnation of Himself. The whole world is in my hand, and I will conquer and subjugate the world." He adds, "God is now throwing Christianity away and is now establishing a new re-
ligion, and this new religion is Uni­fication Church."

Ministers who receive invitations to such meetings are urged to beware. The followers of Moon, "Moonies," are known for their persistence and their near fanatical devotion to Moon and his teachings. —NN

CORRECTION
An advertisement that appeared in the September 15 issue for Nazarene Bible College of Colorado Springs, Colo., stated "there is only one Na­zarene college that offers a Bible certifi­cate program for laymen of any age." We have since learned that this is not accurate. We have letters from other Nazarene colleges affirming that they also offer Bible certificate programs for laymen.

FOR THE RECORD
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS
WEST VIRGINIA NORTH
The second annual assembly of the West Virginia North District met at Fairmont, W.Va. District Superin­tendent John W. Dennis, reelected to a four-year term, reported one new church, Terra Alta. Presiding General Superintendent V. H. Lewis or­dained Thomas John Govin, Gregory Scott Hostutler, Johnny Jess Biles, Doyle Neil Rider, James Edward Nash, Fay Lee McQuelin, and William Michael Byus. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Dayton W. Lockard and Jerry E. Bush, and laymen Bud Hardman and Donald Estep. Mrs. John W. (Dorothy) Dennis was reelected NWMS president; W. Michael Byus was elected NYI president; and Jan Forman was reelected chairman of the Board of CL/SS.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS
WEST VIRGINIA SOUTH
The second annual assembly of the West Virginia South District met at Summersville, W.Va. District

Give a GIFT CERTIFICATE
and let your pastor
... SS teacher
... friends
... relatives
select just what they want most

4 x 6½" certificate includes presentation/mailing envelope

Date __________

Amount $ __________________________

To whom __________________________

From whom __________________________

Address of sendee __________________________

CHECK or MONEY ORDER Enclosed $ ______

CHARGE (30-day) TO:  □ Personal  □ Church  ______ (other) Account

BILL TO __________________________________________

ACCOUNT NUMBER __________________________

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Pictured (l. to r.) at the Missouri district assembly ordination service are Dr. Charles H. Strickland, general super­intendent; ordinands and wives, Rev. and Mrs. Christopher J. Grube, Rev. and Mrs. R. Ellis Clark; and Rev. Hiram Sanders, district superintendent.
Superintendent C. Harold Smith, reelected to a four-year term, reported.

Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, presiding general superintendent; ordained Altun, and laymen Russell Mack Bailey, John Jenkins, and Charles Seabolt were elected to the Advisory Board.

OMEANEY Smith, Robert E. Snodgrass, and Charles Seabolt were reelected NWMS president, NYI president, and chairman of the Board of CL/SS, respectively.

SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA

The 33rd annual assembly of the Southeast Okla-

SOME VERY IMPORTANT PEOPLE

The highest award issued in our Caravan program is the Phineas F. Bresee award. We congratulate these award winners and all who worked with them in the program.

Brad Ashcroft, Nashville, Mich.
Lori Bazer, Omaha, Neb.
Tanya Brown, Bethany, Okla.
Julie Cantwell, Olathe, Kans.
Melynda Castlon, Burlington, Iowa
Christopher Celeno, Delta, Pa.
Cody Cleavelin, Lubbock, Tex.
Bradley Coffey, Fowlerville, Mich.
Melissa Cook, Indianapolis, Ind.
Beth Ann Cox, Midwest City, Okla.
Laura Daily, Danville, Ind.
Danielle DeCoe, Howell, Mich.
Paul E. Dickey, Woodstock, N.H.
Daniel Dillinger, Fort Bragg, N.C.
Debra Durden, Sapphersville, Califf.
Nancy Farmer, Valley Grove, WVa.
Aaron Fletcher, Mason, Mich.
Curtiss Ford, Grand Ledge, Mich.
Rachel Frezza, North Haverhill, N.H.
John George, Zionsville, Ind.
Kent Gieselman, Marshalltown, Iowa
Shawn Herman, Nashville, Mich.
Cindy Huffman, Omaha, Nebr.
Chad Hogue, Springfield, Ohio
Tara Holmly, Oak Harbor, Wash.
Kevin Iverson, Lansing, Mich.
Amy Jones, Brownsburg, Ind.
Jodi Jones, Skowhegan, Maine
Christy Kossak, Portland, Ore.
Marc Lewis, Amarillo, Tex.
Robbie Lloha, Lakefield, Fla.
Jennifer Loose, Danville, Iowa
Joey Love, Lakeland, Fla.

Shana Monn, Kansas City, Mo.
Debbie McEwen, Bethany, Okla.
Sheila Meek, Midwest City, Okla.
Mary Miller, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Scott Mollohan, Pleasant City, Ohio
Tawnu Montandon, Pittsboro, Ind.
Salli Morris, Grand Ledge, Mich.
Melanie Munyon, Fayetteville, N.C.
Tracy Napier, Fayetteville, N.C.
Ted Nelson, Bremerston, Wash.
Rhonda Northcote, Bradley, Ill.
Heather Petersen, Springfield, Ohio
Melissa Peterson, Omaha, Neb.
Jami Pierce, Mason, Mich.
Stephanie Ritter, Portland, Ore.
Shawna Sayre, Charleston, WVa.
Kevin Sederberry, Lubbock, Tex.
Matt Selton, Burket, Ind.
Jennifer Smith, Lisbon, N.H.
Kimbry Stewart, Charleston, WVa.
Jolyne Strait, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Pameeia Surgeon, Danville, Ind.
Tristan Sutton, Three Rivers, Mich.
Christine Talmadge, Oak Harbor, Wash.
Billy Teafalliler, Vancouver, Wash.
Lana Thurman, Howell, Mich.
Greg Tolley, Brownsburg, Ind.
Heather Trost, Pylesville, Md.
Debbie Waiden, Oak Harbor, Mich.
Brad Warrick, Indianapolis, Ind.
David Whitmore, Vancouver, Wash.
Becky Zarke, New Lothrop, Mich.

The list of winners will be continued in future issues.

MOVING MISSIONARIES

MRS. MARGARET BROMLEY, Papua New Guinea
Furlough address: 15 Bettina St., Magregor, Queensland. 4109 Australia

REV. RAY and ERNA COPELIN, Philippines
Field address: P. O. Box 448, Ililo City 5901, Panay, Republic of the Philippines

REV. RAYMOND and DONNA COUEY, Indonesia
Field address: Jl. 14 No. 2, Kuncen Baru, Ungaran Jateng, Indonesia

REV. LEBRON and ANNE FAIRBANKS, * Philippines
Field address: Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 556, Makati, Commercial Cen-

REV. RUSSELL and RUTH LEWIS, Bahamas, retired.

REV. LILIE METZGER, North American Indian, retired.

MISS JOAN NOONAN, Peru Field address: Apa-

REV. PAUL and THELMA SAY, Dominican Republic
Furlough address: 3024 Page Ave., Orlando, FL 32806

DR. HARMON and BEVERLY SCHMELZENBACH, Kenya, Field address: P. O. Box 22025, Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa

MISS JUDITH SLATER, Africa Communications Council Field address: P.O. Box 151, Florida 1710, Republic of South Africa

REV. DARYLL and VERNAL STANTON, Southern Af-

REV. OSCAR and MARJORIE STOCKWELL, Mo-

Pictured at the West Virginia South District (l. to r.) are Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, general superintendent; ordinands and wives, Rev. and Mrs. David P. Sullivan, Rev. and Mrs. Roy Welch, Rev. and Mrs. Walter T. Jeffrey, Rev. and Mrs. Gerald W. Reynolds, Rev. and Mrs. Calvin T. Martin, and Rev. and Mrs. Alan L. Grace; and District Superintendent C. Harold Smith.
VITAL STATISTICS

Dennis; one sister
Joe (Dickson); daughter Garnetta Roediger; son F. M.
months, July 30, Indianapolis, Ind. (leukemia). Sur­

RECOMMENDATIONS

REC. JIM NORCROSS is entering the field of full­time evangelism. He has been successful wherever he
has served. I highly recommend him as a capable
preacher and soul winner. His mailing address is
2532 Stansberry Cr. Confier, CO 80433. Phone
(303) 839-2773. — M. Harold Daniels, Colorado dis­

CORRECTION

Mrs. Jack Riley has written to inform
us that the figure of “more than 100
buildings” appearing in her husband’s
obituary is too large. According to her,
Jack built, or helped to build, over 70
buildings, but not 100.

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

FRANCES L. ADAMS, 60, July 6, Kansas City, Mo.
Interment: Independence, Mo. Survivors: husband
Kenneth O.; son Kenneth E.; two grandchildren;
mother, one brother
BRADLEY JAMES BRIGHT of Rochester, Ind., 22
months, July 30, Indianapolis, Ind. (leukemia). Sur­
vivors: parents, Ralph and Carla (Lemmon) Bright;
brother, Jennifer Rose; maternal grandparents.
FARRIS LESTER CORNELIUS, 80, Sept. 20, Wel­
lington, Tex. Interment: Dodson, Tex. Survivors: wife
Joe (Dickson); daughter Garnetta Roediger; son F. M.
“Buddy,” six grandchildren, three great-grandchil­
dren, one sister.
REV. W. RAY DUNCAN, 68, Feb. 21, Waverly, Ohio.
Survivors: wife Kathryn; sons Pat and David; daughters Mrs. Judy Smith and Mrs. Kathy Mounts; six grandchildren. Ministry: Akron, North Central Ohio, and Ohio districts; evangelism.


NELSON MOSLEY of Arcadia, Fla., 64, Sept. 4. Tampa, Fla. Interment: Arcadia, Fla. Survivors: wife Mary Virginia (Blakeley); sons Richard W. and Keith A.; daughter Kathy E.; seven grandchildren.

ARTHUR NORMAN, 53, Aug. 22, Harrah, Okla. Survivors: wife Tina; daughters Mrs. Tim (Diane) Marvin and Janie; one grandson.

MRS. BEATRICE GENTRY POTTER, 80, Nashville, Tenn. Survivors: son Milton; daughters Mrs. Ceci (Ruby) Felker and Mrs. Jay (Burden) Mick; six grandchildren; 3 brothers; three sisters.

MRS. NA M. THARP, 84, Aug. 24, Moscow, Idaho. Survivors: sons Lloyd, Gilbert, and Jerald; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

JACK ALLAN VERNER, 69, Sept. 4, Nampa, Idaho. Survivors: wife Erva J. (Strand); sons James Allan, David Charles, and Donald Thomas; daughter Jacqueline Anne Rundio; 11 grandchildren; 3 brothers; three sisters.

Hazel, L. WEBER, 83, Aug. 29, Arnold, Neb. Survivors: sons Harry, Marvin, Darby, and Dennis; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two brothers; and two sisters.

BIRTHS

to DAVID AND CINDY (STOCKWELL) ALEXANDER, Olathe, Kans., a boy, Joshua Boyd, Aug. 20.
to WYNNE L. AND ROBIN JENSEN DAWSON, Independence, Kans., a girl, Roxanne Laree, Aug. 18.
to REV. JOHN AND KAREN BLANKENSHIP DONNERBERG, Houston, Tex., a girl, Amy Sue, Sept. 14.
to RON AND DEBBIE CRIBBS DUNLAP, Butte, Mont., a boy, Jeffrey Aaron, Aug. 17.
to REV. ROGER AND CARLA SMITH ELMIS, Bowie, Texas, a girl, Jennifer Lorene, Aug. 17.
to TOM AND MARLA FELDER, Covington, Ga., a boy, Benjamin Thomas, Aug. 3.
to REX P. AND LORAL MCDONALD HENCK, Kansas City, Mo., a boy, Britany L., Aug. 23.
to DUANE AND JUDITH HINKLEY, Home- stead, Fla., a boy, Joshua Allan, Aug. 16.
to DR. WILLIAM AND PATSY BUCHANAN KLOTZ, Joplin, Mo., a boy, Christopher William, Sept. 7.
to DANIEL AND CYNTHIA GLOVER LENGEL, Selinsgrove, Pa., a boy, Joseph Richard, Aug. 24.

**Showers of Blessing**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

November 11

"Tomorrow Never Comes"

November 18

"The God of Battles"

by W. E. McCumber, speaker

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**MAJOR'S ORDER TO HIRE HOMOSEXUALS OVERTURNED BY NEW YORK COURT.** A controversial ruling by New York's Mayor Ed Koch, which withheld city funding from the Salvation Army, the Roman Catholic archdiocese, and Orthodox Jewish groups providing social services to the city because of their refusal to hire homosexuals, was declared unconstitutional this week by a New York state judge. Judge Alvin Klein ruled that the mayor of New York had acted beyond his authority by issuing an order that should have come from the city council.

In his statement the judge said that the New York administrative code had not been amended to include "sexual orientation" or "affectional preference" as protected classifications. Neither are these classes protected in any federal or state codes, he said.

Leaders of the three groups who had contested the ruling expressed their satisfaction with the judge's ruling. This will allow them to continue to provide services to the city for child care, youth shelters, housing for the homeless, and other human needs of a large urban center.

The Salvation Army had said that its services would be available to all people whether they were homosexual or not but maintained that to hire homosexuals would be to approve or condone the practice.

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**MORE TEENS TODAY BELIEVE IN ASTROLOGY THAN FIVE YEARS AGO.** Today some 55 percent of teens interviewed in a Gallup poll indicated that they believe in astrology, compared with only 40 percent in 1978. Overall, 8 out of every 10 teens indicate that they believe in at least one of eight supernatural phenomena listed in the survey.

More teens, 69 percent, believe in angels than any other supernatural phenomenon listed in the survey. Younger teens, ages 13-15, had a greater tendency to believe in angels (73 percent) than older teens (65 percent). Overall, belief in angels among teens is up 5 percent from 1978.

Six of every 10 teens believe in extrasensory perception (ESP), a decrease from 1978, when 67 percent said they believed in ESP. Astrology was in third place in the 1984 list. More young teens (59 percent) and young women (58 percent) believe in astrology than the 55 percent of teens as a whole.

Following these three phenomena there is a considerable drop; in 1984 28 percent of all teens believe in clairvoyance, 24 percent in Bigfoot (the Abominable Snowman), 22 percent in witchcraft, and 20 percent in ghosts.

Among those who attend church regularly, 76 percent say they believe in angels, compared to 61 percent of those who are not regular church attendants. This is the only instance in the survey where churchgoers show a greater tendency than others to believe in the supernatural.

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**IRWIN DOUBTS AUTHENTICITY OF ROCK SAMPLES FROM ARARAT.** Former astronaut Jim Irwin returned from his own search for Noah's ark on Mount Ararat and expressed doubt that the rock samples brought back by another expedition will prove the existence of the ark. He said he had been in the area from which the rock specimens were taken and had seen only "ordinary rocks."

Turkish police reported that they had seized eight pounds of rock and wood samples from another Mount Ararat expedition from Mark Steffins as he was going through customs at Istanbul's international airport.

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**NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK.** National Bible Week will be observed November 18-25. Each year since its beginning in 1941, the president has issued a National Bible Week message. President Reagan said in his message that "the meaning of the Bible must be known and understood if it is to make a difference in our lives. The rewards of such effort will help preserve our heritage of freedom and signal the message of liberty to people of all lands."
In spite of your comments about 1 John 5:7 (Sept. 15, '83) some church members insist that the Manual sets forth the KJV as God's Word (word for word). Is this the church's position?

The official positions of the church are contained in the Manual. The Manual does not identify the KJV as “God's Word, word for word.” Our article of faith on “The Holy Scriptures” says, “We believe in the plenary inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, by which we understand the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, given by divine inspiration, inerrantly revealing the will of God concerning us in all things necessary to our salvation, so that whatever is not contained therein is not to be enjoined as an article of faith.”

This does not identify the KJV as Holy Scripture. To identify the KJV exclusively as The Word of God would be a wrongheaded notion, for Holy Scripture existed before the KJV appeared, and Holy Scripture still exists in other languages and in other English versions.

No translation is perfect, and no translation can justly be claimed as God’s Word to the exclusion of all others.

I heard a preacher say, “The Bible nowhere tells us to pray for sinners.” I have prayed for the salvation of sinners through the years. What is your thought on the matter?

Jesus prayed for sinners—“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do”—and His example is all the instruction and encouragement I require. I cannot think about loved ones away from God without praying for them.

Please speak to the issue of fasting. Knowing the church has always encouraged this practice, and feeling God has answered many prayers through fasting—how does God view this practice in our lives? I do not find a great deal in the NT on this subject. Is it the fasting or faith that God sees and honors?

You are right, the NT says little about the subject. Fasting was not required by the Law, but came to be widely practiced by the Jews. Voluntary fasting is first mentioned with reference to David’s prayers that the child conceived during his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba might live—a prayer that was not granted (2 Samuel 12:22). In Jesus’ day the Pharisees—at least some of them—fasted twice weekly, sometimes advertising their piety with sad faces. This formalism was rebuked by Christ (Matthew 6:16-18), but sincere and unostentatious fasting is mentioned with evident approval by NT writers (Luke 2:37; Matthew 9:14-15; Acts 13:3; 14:23).

Some modern translations, on what translators regard as convincing manuscript evidence, omit the references to fasting in Matthew 17:21, Mark 9:29, Acts 10:30, and 1 Corinthians 7:5.

It boils down to this—fasting is not required but not forbidden. Fasting does not guarantee that prayer will prevail, but it can help to intensify the petitioner’s sense of dependence upon God and of the importance of issues prayed about. God responds to faith, but fasting can assist faith by enlarging the focus on our weakness and God’s power.

One thing is made perfectly clear by Scripture, that true fasting is not only abstinence from food but also abstinence from sin. The fasting God approves involves mercy to the poor and justice for the oppressed (Isaiah 58:5-11); it has a social as well as personal dimension.

I conclude that God honors prayer and fasting when these are done in sincerity and obedience and faith.
INEXPENSIVE GIFTS FOR EVERYONE

**BALL & CUP**

"Jesus Loves Me" imprinted on orange plastic cup. Yellow ball is tied with string to cup. To play, catch ball in cup.

AW-46 45¢; 12 for $4.95

**RETURN TOP (YO-YO)**

Imprinted with "Jesus Loves You" and smile face on the side. Size: 2" diameter.

AW-55 59¢; 12 for $6.49

**CREATION RULER**

Durable, flexible vinyl 12" ruler with inches and metric. Ten designs in bright colors.

AW-177 59¢

**PUPPY COMB & CASE**

Red unbreakable comb in white vinyl case. Design and text printed in black. Size: 1½" x 5½".

AW-209 39¢

**FLORENTINE FLASHLIGHT**

Metal with gold finish. "The Lord Is My Strength" imprinted in black. AAA-battery furnished. Key chain attached. Length: 3½".

GI-16 $1.59

**LOLLIPPOP PEN**

Assorted color plastic caps represent fruit flavors. Text: "Be Glad and Rejoice." Length: 5½".

PE-212 49¢

**DELUXE MINIATURES**

Salman reproduction in ornate plastic frame. Has easel back or hanger. Size: 2¼" x 2¼". Picture of Christ at Heart's Door.

P-254 59¢; 12 for $5.49

**MIRRORS**

Famous Salman pictures are on back with mirror on front. Each picture is sealed in clear plastic. Size: 2" x 3½".

AW-3200 Head of Christ 
AW-3203 The Good Shepherd .79; 12 for $8.69

**INLAY ACTIVITY PUZZLES**

These large and colorful puzzles can also be used as a game. Provide for fun and learning. Will be a favorite this year! Size: 10¼" x 14¾".

GA-2573 God's Creation 
GA-2574 Special Day Tell-a-Time 
GA-2571 Bible Families Each, $1.29

**INLAY BIBLE STORY PUZZLE**

A special puzzle for this special season—"Jesus Is Born." Size: 10¼" x 14¾". Beautiful colors.

GA-2509 $1.29

**LUMINOUS STAND-UPS**

Finely molded plastic figurines and symbols remind children of prayer and Christ. At night they give off a soft luminous glow and each have a snap-on base. Heights: 3½".

Stand-ups

AW-5304 Cross 
AW-5310 Praying Hands Each, 29¢; 12 for $3.19

Stand-ups with Text

AW-5325 Praying Boy, "God Is Love" 
AW-5326 Praying Girl, "God Is Love" 
AW-5327 Shepherd, "Jesus Cares" 
AW-5328 Praying Hands, "Remember to Pray" 
AW-5329 Jesus and the Children, "Jesus Loves Me" Each, 39¢; 12 for $4.29

Colorfully Hand-Decorated Stand-ups (not luminous)

AW-306B Praying Boy 
AW-306G Praying Girl Each, 39¢; 12 for $4.29

★ Order in quantities and SAVE

★ Order right away while merchandise is available
BOOKS OF THE BIBLE BOOKMARK
Full-color bookmark with plastic covering and attractive red tassel. Books of the Bible printed on the back. Size: 2 3/4" x 6 1/2".
BM-104 69¢; 12 for $7.59

RAINBOW BOOKMARK
This beautiful bookmark is made up of nine ribbons arranged in the colors of the rainbow. Each ribbon is intended to mark the different divisions of the Old and New Testaments. Not only is it lovely to look at, but it also is a teaching device.
BM-440 $3.25

POCKET VANITY
5 1/2" plastic brush and comb. Has praying hands design with imprint, “With God All Things Are Possible.” Assorted color combs.
AW-24 69¢; 12 for $7.59

COIN HOLDERS
Easy to use . . . simply squeeze at end and it pops open. Made of soft, rubberlike plastic.
AW-102 Smiling face with imprint, “Smile, God loves you” Each, 79¢
AW-111 Adorable bear with imprint, “Love one another”

CHRISTMAS CANDY BOXES
These are attractive candy boxes in holiday colors. Easily assembled and made of sturdy cardboard. Holds up to one-half pound of candy. Size: 3" x 4 1/4" x 1 1/8" with handle. Packaged in 50s.
CH-8 Ornament Design 1 pkg. $3.50
CH-20 Shepherd Scene

LITTLE BOOKS OF FAITH
Bound in leatherlike covers with gold-stamped titles. Provides treasured verses. Illustrations. 64 pages.
BL-100L The Little Bible—1 1/2" x 2 1/2" size—black. Verses from every book.
BL-181L The Story of Christmas—2" x 3 1/2" size—white.

JERUSALEM FLOWER CARDS
Flowers from the Holy Land! The flowers on the card have been mounted and gathered in Palestine. Size: 2 3/4" x 4 1/4".
AW-115 30¢; 12 for $3.30

SPECIAL BOOKS FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN AND TEENS

AWAY IN A MANGER
Sing and color book that follows one of children’s favorite carols. 16 large pictures to color. Size: 8 1/2" x 11".
H-2458 89¢; 12 for $8.79

RUSTY WAGNER AND THE ANDERSVILLE GANG
By Lola Williams. Your children will love this new preteen novel. Many lessons will be learned as they follow the zany adventures of Rusty, Smiley, Dave, and Curt. 80 pages. Paper.

THE ADVENTURES OF JEREMIAH
By Ron Wheeler. A special treat for teens—this book contains 44 episodes from their favorite cartoon character! Lots of fun with a good message! Paper

SIGNS OF CELEBRATION
By Edie Lauckner. Over 57 specific suggestions are made for banners in the church. Will help you produce meaningful banners that convey the message of the Christmas season. 32 pages. Paper.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE CUTTERS
Make it a class activity this year! Contains 12 festive cookie cutters in traditional Christmas shapes. Cutters have raised imprint lines for beautiful detail. Includes an eight-piece manger scene, recipes, decorating hints, and can also be used as tree ornaments.

ADVENT CALENDAR
This full-color calendar makes a delightful family activity for the Advent season. Each day before Christmas you open a window to find an appropriate scripture verse and illustration from the Nativity story.

A SPECIAL GIFT FOR THE HOME OR CLASSROOM

CAN YOU IMAGINE?
The most rollicking, fun-filled scripture songs the children will ever enjoy. Each has a super message all done up with a lot of humor, truth, and toe-tapping happiness. Free eight-page coloring book with each album and cassette. There’s a songbook available too.

Order from Your Nazarene Publishing House, Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141

Prices subject to change without notice.
ARSON BLAMED FOR BLAZE AT KANSAS CITY CHURCH

Arson has been blamed for a two-alarm blaze that caused heavy damage to Kansas City Grace Church, Thursday afternoon, September 20.

No one has been charged in connection with the fire, but police investigators say a 12-year-old may have been the culprit.

The church had been broken into, burglarized, and vandalized on the Monday prior to the fire, but police are uncertain if the two incidents are related.

Damage estimates have been placed at around $200,000. The blaze apparently was started in the pastor's office and spread into the educational unit and the sanctuary. Much of the building suffered heat, smoke, and water damage. Authorities say the inferno may have reached temperatures of 1,500 degrees.

Two of the firemen fighting the blaze were treated and released after suffering second-degree burns.

About 300 volumes of the personal library of Rev. Vernon Curless, pastor emeritus of the church, were destroyed in the fire. Many of the books were out of print and had been autographed by their authors. Fortunately, most of the library of current pastor Richard Morris was housed in his study at home.

Members of the church joined together in the aftermath of the fire to protect the church from looters, take inventory, and to get the fellowship hall prepared for services just three days after the blaze.

The church, located in northeast Kansas City, just south of the Missouri River, plans to use a mobile trailer on its parking lot for Sunday School classes and to hold worship services in the fellowship hall until the building can be renovated.

—NN

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SURVIVES BLOOD CLOT

Rev. B. J. Garber, superintendent of the Alabama North District, is recovering at home following emergency surgery for a blood clot in the main artery of his heart, September 9.

He was stricken at the home of his son in New Orleans, La., after two days of speaking at a retreat for pastors and laymen in Alexandria, La.

Doctors say he is very fortunate that the attack happened only eight blocks from a hospital equipped to deal with such an emergency.

Rev. Garber and his wife, Glenna, are grateful to God and to the many Nazarenes who prayed for them during their crisis.

The district superintendent was able to return to his home in Cullman only a few days after the attack and is expected to be back at his normal activity the first part of November.

—NN

The pastor's ruined study

Order NOW in Preparation for These December/January/February Lessons.

Order NOW in Preparation for These December/January/February Lessons.
WANDA KNOX WINNING FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Doctors studying biopsies and the results of extensive tests could find no traces of cancer in former NWMS Executive Director Wanda Knox, following exploratory surgery in Kansas City October 8.

Mrs. Knox underwent surgery for cancer last January, followed by six months of intensive chemotherapy. The illness had forced her to return to the states from her missionary assignment in Trinidad.

Doctors for the missionary were jubilant, and they credited God for the excellent results.

Nazarenes around the world have been praying for Mrs. Knox since learning of her illness. —NN

BAPTISMAL RECORD SET IN HAITI

The Church of the Nazarene in Haiti celebrated “Super Sunday” September 30, 1984, with the baptism of 2,749 new Nazarenes. It was the largest number to be baptized in a single day in the history of the denomination.

The special day marked the official close of the 75th anniversary celebration, according to Regional Director James Hudson. He, along with 18 other missionaries, participated in the largest baptismal service of the day (1,044) in the North Central District center at Gonaives.

Dr. Hudson says the goal for the day was 3,000.

The “Super Sunday” celebration was planned by the regional director and the six district superintendents of the country following last spring’s assemblies with General Superintendenterald D. Johnson. During his messages, Dr. Johnson spoke about his own baptism at the age of nine.

The Nazarene leaders in Haiti decided that they would like to begin having an annual baptism service, of which this was the first. —NN

NEW CHURCH GOAL EXCEEDED IN DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY YEAR

The goal of 228 newly organized churches in the Diamond Jubilee Year (September 1, 1983, to August 31, 1984) has been surpassed, according to reports received by the Church Extension Ministries office. As of October 15, 1984 (with reports from world regions still to be received), there were 273 new Nazarene churches organized in the 75th year.

The goal for new churches was set by the Board of General Superintendents and equals the number of Nazarene churches in existence in 1908 when the church was officially organized.

The quinquennial record to date for Canada and the United States shows 287 new fully organized churches. In addition, there are 193 new church-type missions and 103 extension and/or language Bible classes. Of these 574 new works, 260 are among ethnic groups. Districts organizing 7 or more churches during the current quinquennium include:

- Oregon Pacific 27
- San Antonio 11
- Central Florida 9
- Dallas 9
- Upstate New York 9
- Virginia 9
- Houston 8
- Wisconsin 8
- Central Ohio 7
- Georgia 7
- Mississippi 7
- Southern Florida 7

The latest figures available also indicate that the worldwide quinquennial goal of 1,000 new churches has been exceeded with the total now standing at 1,413. —NN

ARSON DAMAGES CALIFORNIA CHURCH

An arsonist or arsonists have been blamed for a fire at the Riverside, Calif., Arlington Avenue Church during the early morning hours of September 24. Pastor Daniel Penn says flammable liquid was ignited in the area of the piano in the sanctuary and in a ladies lounge, causing about $150,000 in damages.

Rev. Penn says the church had just begun a series of special services and that the fire seemed to pull the members of the congregation together, creating a “spirit of optimism.”

The sanctuary was rendered unusable by the blaze, so the congregation will meet in their fellowship hall for the next few months.

The church was fully insured. —NN
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