NEW OPTIMISM FOR GROWTH

AN EDITORIAL

TWO IMPORTANT CONCEPTS are beginning to converge in the church. Neither is new, but both have been submerged and somewhat neglected. The renewed interest in these principles has been brought about by recent research on successful church growth principles and the holiness revival we are experiencing as a result of our celebration of Christian holiness. The confluence of these two great doctrinal streams could well become a mighty Amazon which could sweep the church into one of its greatest periods of advance.

One stream is a revival of the involvement of the church laity in the total ministries of the church. There is an awakening consciousness among our dedicated laymen of areas of ministry where they can be effective and fulfilled in the building of the Kingdom. If interpreted correctly and executed properly, this new awareness has great potential in church growth and development. Our church's concept of laity and clergy and the roles that each can fulfill in supplementing each other makes possible the tapping of these rich resources of lay involvement in the various ministries of the church, and it offers great opportunities to our dedicated laymen.

The other stream is a renewal of personal witnessing which is being revived through our renewed emphasis on holiness preaching. Many people are coming into the blessed experience of heart cleansing as a result of this emphasis. The result is a beautiful spirit of witnessing to the grace of God which is the natural result of this dynamic experience.

The disciples went from the Upper Room following Pentecost to communicate their newly experienced joy to the outside world. Peter and John, when threatened by the leaders of the Jewish Sanhedrin court, replied, "We cannot but speak the things we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

The effect of personal witnessing to a great spiritual experience is immeasurable. It strengthens and supplements the pulp tit ministry and gives credibility to the message of the church. It is the natural result of the gracious presence of the Holy Spirit in a person's life.

In our local congregations we will do well to provide the channels for the confluence of these two streams. Let us tap the great reservoir of strength and talent offered by our laity. Let us guide and encourage the tremendous potential offered through the power of personal witnessing. The impact can be felt from afar, and the pulpit ministry of our church, backed by this powerful potential, can produce a revival in our time.

LET US TAP THE GREAT RESERVOIR OF STRENGTH AND TALENT OFFERED BY OUR LAITY.

By General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland
SOME ARE TEMPTED to reverse the miracle at the marriage in Cana of Galilee by turning the wine back to water. The gospel can be made palatable without compromising its message or diluting its content. The reproach of the Cross will always be present. Jesus could not avoid it nor can we. But in our own generation we can make the gospel as appealing as possible and still retain its vital content. We get in trouble only when we remove the essentials of that message in our attempt to gain followers. This results in a water-weak solution that bears little resemblance to the bottle-bursting new wine Jesus gave as a description of the gospel.

More specifically, I am thinking of a type of salvation that goes under the popular expression of “making a decision.” Not that those who come to Christ for salvation will not be forced to make a decision. But if conversion is that and nothing more, we have made water of wine. What about repentance? Where is the godly sorrow for sin? Does making a decision also involve making a new life compatible with the standards of Christ?

Without throwing words at those who have popularized this terminology, we must ask, is it not better to call it what it is—salvation? The Bible calls it that. Everyone knows the meaning of that word. Decision is just the beginning. It seems to leave the prodigal still in the hogpen. He needs to make it back to the Father’s house. Only then is he saved.

According to recent polls, 34 percent of the American people claim to be “born again.” There was a time when it meant something to be a professed Christian. We have turned that wine into water long ago. Is it possible that we will finish off Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus in the same fashion? Why have so many so-called born-again Christians made such little impact on their society? The ethical consequences of the new birth are in little evidence in the lives of many who identify with this pious description.

Or take another one, consecration. Sanctification seems to be a hard word for some people to pronounce. It has somewhat of a sting in it. Consecration is nice and smooth. Now consecration is the beginning of sanctification. But the Holy Spirit must enter the consecrated heart and cleanse it from all sin or there is no real Bible sanctification.

Even more disturbing, we are hearing testimonies like, “I am sanctified but I just have not let the Lord have His way in my life.” How can a person be really sanctified while personal reservations still claim priority? What kind of religious experience are we talking about? To reduce sanctification to nothing more than consecration, or to consider those entirely sanctified who are not totally consecrated, is neither scriptural nor reasonable. We turn our wine into water.

Then there is the matter of love. Now love is the heart of the gospel. Jesus said it was the prime cause for His presence in the world. Most everyone can quote John 3:16. Jesus said love was the greatest commandment. Loving God and our neighbor with our total being says it all. Paul reminded the Corinthians that without love they were wasting their time being religious. It would come to naught. Love is essential.

But are we carrying our affections beyond the realm of the reasonable when we go around telling everybody we meet that we love them? I sat watching a TV preacher the other day as he said, “I love you.” How could he love me? He doesn’t even know I exist. I am just a statistic to him. And who loves statistics?

Jesus said for us to love our neighbor. He meant that fellow whose dog barked all night, keeping us awake. He meant that man who put his fence six inches over the line on your property. He meant that woman whose children dumped your garbage can and the papers scattered all over your yard. Jesus said to love them. When you can love them you demonstrate the gospel really works. It is then that your light can shine in this dark world. To say I love someone I have never seen and never will costs nothing and means nothing. To tell a stranger I love him is equally meaningless. Wait until you have lived by him for six months and then tell him.

The extension of the list could become endless. The principle of a watery religion is ageless. Each generation must translate the gospel for its own time in a language that its peers can read. Real heart-changing salvation is always understood. Spirit-filled men and women will never go unnoticed. Real love that is demonstrated in day-to-day life with real people that we know will never be misread. To love the human race is easier than to love individuals.

ROBERT E. MANER is pastor of First Church of the Nazarene, Valdosta, Georgia.
AGAInst Abortion

I just want to say a special thank-you for J. Grant Swank, Jr.'s, article, “The Bible and Abortion,” October 15, 1980. I think we as Christians should take a stand against the murder of unborn babies, the same as we take a stand against any killing.

Life is so precious and should be a gift that is not taken lightly. To carry that life within you, feel it move, and hearing its heartbeat, is a miracle too big for words. I watched my little girl, born 4 months prematurely, weighing only 9 oz., fight for an hour to live in a world she would never know. And on October 11, 1980, my son was stillborn. Had I not been alert enough to ask for his body he would have been disposed of along with the trash. I know this to be true, because while I was taking my nurse's training I learned it was a common practice to save the cost of burying the baby.

In my memory I see their tiny angelic faces and wonder how anyone could put such a low value on life. As a nurse and a mother I agree with the author that control should come before conception. A tiny life should never be sacrificed for our lack of control.

Vicki Singer
Lakeview, Ohio

RE: REStitution

The article by Lola M. Williams entitled “Restitution: When Is It Necessary?” definitely had much to offer; however I question the statement made to Mr. Long as to the nature of the $6.00 rent return. As stated in the article: “I am a Christian and do not want to miss heaven over $6.00 back rent.”

As a former Roman Catholic, I find such a statement reaffirming any RC who thinks he's going to heaven because he is good and does what is only "right." Perhaps a clearer conception of sin and apostasy would be helpful.
THE CHURCH of the Nazarene has never lacked “characters”—men and women of unusual personality and piety, known and loved for their independent spirit and, at times, for their idiosyncrasies also. They fit into no pastoral or evangelistic mold and are a district superintendent’s delight for their unswerving championship of old-time holiness doctrine. They can also be his despair as he tries to find a tolerant or approving sphere for their radical, single-minded ministry.

In the best sense of the word, Rev. James McLeod, B.Sc., born 1895 and glorified 1979, was a character, beloved by ministers and laity alike in the British Isles. His funeral was as unusual as his life, for the body was missing, having been donated to Glasgow University for research. This was a typical gesture, for in 60 years of Christian life, he sought nothing for himself and unselfishly rejoiced in the achievements of his fellow ministers. Jealousy was alien to his soul.

A highlander from a well-to-do Scottish home, Jim enlisted in the Argyll and Southern Highland regiment in 1914 and served throughout the first World War, mainly in front-line trenches in France and Belgium. He witnessed incredible horrors, endured terrible hardships, went over the top again and again and, miraculously, was one of the few to survive the fiercest and bloodiest battles of this century’s first global conflict.

The soldiering zeal that brought him awards and an officer’s commission was applied to university courses in 1919. He graduated Bachelor of Science in engineering in 1922. God saved and sanctified him during this time and introduced him to the red-hot holiness fellowship of the Parkhead Church of the Nazarene in Glasgow. George Sharpe, George Frame, and J. B. Maclagan were but a few of its “clan” of Spirit-filled Nazarenes.

Simplicity, even poverty, was the aim of this exsoldier’s life and the pattern of his ministry. At first he would not possess anything the poorest missionary was denied. Ordained by Dr. J. B. Chapman in 1932, he spent 50 years of ministry in two small churches, Greencok, Scotland, and Dromore, Northern Ireland; but fearless open-air preaching and his familiar concertina gave a large canvas and immeasurable influence to his ministry. Like David, he blended the care of a “few sheep” with a willingness to engage the Goliaths of compromise, materialism, immorality, communism, and papal intolerance in single-handed combat. Friends trembled for his safety many times.

A special kind of man needs a special kind of wife and, in Thomasina, Jim found an equally unselfish partner. Their home was humble and its amenities limited, but their children became members and leaders of the church.

The little bread I have, I give, and pray; Tomorrow may bring more to give away.

That was the practice of a parsonage never without visitors. Its master and son would sleep in the greenhouse to accommodate others, the girls in a tent. Yet laughter overflowed, singing was natural, and every meal was a sacrament and miracle of provision. The miracle was continued when the district provided a tenement apartment in Paisley for their last years.

To give Jim the freedom of one’s pulpit was a risk in time and theme. Jesus was always central, holiness the goal, and the Second Coming the incentive, but these were interwoven with insights and comments upon modern culture that provoked “Amens” or spiritual angina. As district secretary for many years, his reports were an assembly highlight, blending optimism, testimony, prophecy, and humor. Entirely without guile, though shrewd in assessing men and affairs, he was always a front-line soldier of the Cross, a commissioned officer of the Second Coming.

The tribute services held in Parkhead, Glasgow, and Lisburn, Northern Ireland, were remarkable in attendance and atmosphere, a witness to the debt owed by the church to its “characters” and small-church pastors. A little leaven of the one is sufficient, and a constant endeavor to upgrade the latter is essential, never to be overshadowed or compensated for by the phenomenal growth of cherished First Churches, but rather encouraged for these too were once small.

I salute the memory of a choice friend, a Nazarene saint, a man who laboured with me in a building program, rejoicing in success denied to him as if it were his own. For this Mr. Standfast, the trumpets sounded on the other side, and his memory bequeaths a double portion of a sanctified fighting spirit to every Nazarene.

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A HOLY

"Character"

by ALBERT J. LOWN
AWARD NIGHT FOR HAITIAN CARAVANERS.

SEVEN HOURS FOR A SCARF

by MIRIAM HALL

I T HAD BEEN a thrilling day already, full of new experiences, excitement, and surprises. But we were totally unprepared for the sight that met us when we drove up to the church at Duvalier-Ville, Haiti. The churchyard was packed with groups of children and adults who spilled out into the streets and formed lines for blocks down the way. In the church, which normally seats three to four hundred, waited another thousand or so, eager for our arrival. The heat was stifling and the electricity had not yet been turned on for the evening. But no one seemed to mind.

These children and workers were members of Haitian Caravan groups. Now, after only a few months in the program, they had earned their scarves. Today they would receive this coveted award. Our hearts were stirred even more when we were told that “many of these children walked over seven hours to receive their scarves.” Some had left home on Saturday for a three- to seven-hour walk, spent the night in a school building, and then completed the trip to the church by truck. They would repeat the same journey when the scarving ceremony was over.

“Seven hours for a scarf.” This became the symbol of the vision, enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work we saw demonstrated by the missionaries, the national workers and the Haitian children. We had seen it first as missionaries Steve and Linda Weber sought desperately for a way to tie their primary school children more closely to the church. Their God-given concern for children led them to explore the possibilities of using the Caravan program in the schools and then to spend countless hours adapting it to the Haitian culture and needs. Currently, Caravan is offered to 12,600 students enrolled in 110 Nazarene primary schools, and plans are being made to begin the program in the 29 additional schools, plus Nazarene Sunday Schools and youth groups.

We saw it next when over a hundred national workers gathered in August, 1980, for a week of intensive training with General Caravan Director Fred Sykes. For over six hours a day, the workers studied to complete the CST training course for the Caravan program. These workers now faithfully attend training sessions each week so they can effectively teach the boys and girls.

Now we were seeing firsthand this same kind of dedication and enthusiasm in the hundreds of Haitian children who gathered to receive their scarves. As we looked out upon them our minds were staggered by the realization that the more than 2,000 children we scarved represented only a fraction of the number enrolled in the program.

“Seven hours for a scarf.” Our memorable day began early when, after breakfast, we traveled three and a half hours from the mission station in Port-au-Prince to the church in Gonaives, Haiti. Although none of the 1,200 children present had traveled as great a distance as the children we met later, there

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(Above, l.) Children take very seriously the induction service; (r.) Pastor Duroe Placide, superintendent of the North district, praying for a Caravan leader.
was no mistaking their excitement. Special guests in the service included not only myself and Fred Sykes, but also Dr. and Mrs. Don Gibson, superintendent of the Eastern Michigan District and member of the General Board; students from Mid-America Nazarene College; and other missionary and Haitian church leaders.

I had been asked to give a brief message via interpreter—an experience in itself—emphasizing the importance of Caravan in Haiti. But I felt that the message was being preached to me as the children recited verse after verse they had learned. It was also deeply moving to see Rev. Duroc Placide, superintendent of Haiti North District, lay his hands on each Caravan guide and pray for him personally.

At last the big moment arrived! Picture, if you can, 1,200 eager, smiling children, lined up and waiting for their coveted scarf. Many of them were tightly clutching another prized possession—their Caravan caps. As we moved down the line of children, placing scarf after scarf, I was again reminded of the hours of work and sacrifice that had made this moment possible.

But there was little time for nostalgic reflection. Almost as quickly as the service ended, we dashed to our car for another thrill-a-minute three-hour ride—this time southward to the church in Duvalier-Ville. More than once, I was sure that we had seen the last of the Haitian countryside, or anything else for that matter; but always at the right moment the people, animals, and other vehicles scattered, narrowly avoiding disaster on the narrow, winding roads. Our ride was pleasantly punctuated with a dinner break at a hotel where we enjoyed a traditional Haitian meal of rice, beans, and creole chicken. Delicious! Then it was back on the road for the remainder of the trip to the Duvalier-Ville church where the most overwhelming sight of the day met our eyes.

Due to the crowded conditions, the difficulties in scarving these 2,000 children were almost insurmountable. But through the heat, dust, and confusion the children waited eagerly—yet patiently—for the scarves they had worked so hard to earn and traveled so far to receive.

Hours later tired missionaries and visitors collapsed in bed, weary in body but deeply moved and inspired by the events of the day. As I lay there in the darkness, I reviewed all that had happened—the hurried trips; the eager children; the brief visits with dedicated missionaries and national workers. “Lord,” I prayed quietly. “help me never to forget the boys and girls of Haiti. Back home, when the task seems too big, help me to remember that they ‘walked seven hours for a scarf.’”
FORGIVENESS

He sinned; he confessed.
He was happy and laughed.
I forgave him,
But wanted him
To look repentant.
He had caused
Heartache,
Tears;
He could at least
Bow his head
And look ashamed,
Subdued, apologetic.
But God said,
"I will put your sins away
As far as east is from west—
They are forgotten."
So who am I
To hold as a shadow
Upon him
That which God
Has wiped away?
And who am I
To expect
That he walk bowed
With the weight
Of that which God
Has lifted forever?

-LINDA BAGSHAW
Sioux City, Iowa

HARLAND SANDERS, "the Chicken King" died at the age of 90 on December 16, 1980. On November 29, 1980, I had my last prayer with this friend whom I had known for over 30 years. While in a revival at the Louisville, Ky., Farmdale Church, where Rev. Oliver Huff is pastor, an opportunity came to visit Colonel Sanders in a local hospital. On that day Colonel Sanders reaffirmed his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and his love for God. A good layman, Brother Richard Thompson of the Louisville Southside church, was also present to witness the victorious testimony of a man known throughout the world. Colonel Sanders was weak in body but strong in the faith. It proved to be my last visit and last prayer with him.

My family and I first met Colonel and Mrs. (Claudia) Sanders in 1950 when I assumed my first pastorate in Corbin, Ky. They often attended our services. Though they were not Nazarenes, they generously supported our struggling church.

My mind went back over the years. I remembered the Sunday morning when I tried desperately, but unsuccessfully, to raise the money needed to pay off the debt on the church building, so we could make plans to build a new sanctuary. Discouraged, I tried to enjoy the Sunday dinner my wife had prepared. The telephone rang. It was Colonel Sanders asking how much was needed to clear the debt. When I told him, he courteously asked for the privilege of paying it, and asked me to come by his motel and restaurant to pick up a check for the entire amount! I had a shouting spell! Upon receiving the check, I asked Colonel Sanders what had prompted him to do this. He answered, "The Lord told me to."

Our friendship continued, and when visiting him once at his beautiful restaurant in Corbin, the Colonel told me he had developed a recipe for a product he was going to call KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN. He predicted it would sell in Kentucky first and then throughout the nation. It did indeed, and even around the world! Today a marker stands in front of that restaurant which reads: "This Is Where It All Began."

His business took him on many travels, and God's leading took me to various pastorates, but not before a new building was erected in Corbin, Ky., as a result of his generous help.

We kept in touch with the Sanderses through the years, mostly by correspondence. Then, about three years ago, when the Lord led me into the field of

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A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL HARLAND SANDERS

by DON BALLARD

evangelism, I saw the Colonel and Mrs. Sanders more often.

I spent the night in the Sanders home in Shelbyville, Ky., in November, 1978. The Colonel invited me to conduct a family altar. The Lord led me to read from Romans 8:35-39 that evening. When I came to the promise that "neither death nor life" could separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, the Colonel stopped me and asked, "Does it say, neither death nor life would separate us?" I answered, "It does!" Tears came into the eyes of our brother who was 88 at that time. I noticed then that he had to use a magnifying glass to read his small-print Bible, and that with much difficulty.

Later, in the providence of God, I held a revival at the Frankfort, Ky., Capital Church at the very time Colonel Sanders observed his 89th birthday.

In the presence of Pastor Danny Brummett, it was my happy privilege to present Colonel Sanders with a large-print Bible, with his name inscribed in gold letters on the cover. Although he was now a multimillionaire, who gave millions to charities and made it possible for many young people to attend college, he was as pleased as a child to have his own Bible, one he could read despite failing eyesight. He did not forget the scripture I had read at the family altar, and asked me to mark Romans 8:35-39 in his new Bible that day.

Whenever I preached near the Sanders home in Shelbyville, this dear couple always attended the revival. On a visit during the revival in March, 1980, at the Louisville Southside Church, where Rev. Oren Thrasher pastors, the Colonel gave a victorious testimony of his love for God and for Christian people. I will never forget his love for little children. Seeing his love for them, they all loved him.

The world still has Kentucky Fried Chicken. Many friends and Kentuckians have the legend and memory of a kind, generous friend. I have the memory of a good and gentle brother beloved, who even in death is not separated from the love of God in Christ Jesus. On my last visit, and before my last prayer with him, the Colonel showed his concern for others by asking about my wife. Mrs. Ballard had lung surgery earlier, and he had kept up with her progress.

Colonel Sanders had his faults and weaknesses, as all of us do. But he loved the Lord and loved people.

He often referred to the mercies and grace of God. I believe he walked in all the light he had, and one day in the City of God, I will see him again. I will always thank God that, in His providence, my family and I crossed paths with Colonel and Claudia Sanders in this life.

THE HONORED PLACE

Lord, help me see the beauty
Of serving those in need.
Let caring not be duty—
Let love surpass the deed.
Help me attain Your favor
And with the chosen meet.
Then kneel beside You, Savior,
As one who would wash feet.

—CHRIS GRAUMAN
Peoria, Illinois

MAY 15, 1981
Chickens
DON'T FLY
by RICHARD A. MILLER

Chickens have wings but do not fly. Occasionally they ceremonially flap their wings as though testing the law of gravity. But instead of flying high and free, they spend their lives in a chicken coop of unrealized potential, feeding on seeds and insects. No wonder chickens are notorious for fearing everything from sudden noises to sudden noises to Sunday dinners. In fact, the boldest chicken recorded in Scripture is the one who crowed after Peter denied Jesus. Even that was done at a distance and under the cover of darkness.

God's plan for His people does not include crouching, pecking, and roosting. Isaiah proclaims, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles . . ." (Isaiah 40:31). What business, then, do we as Christians have living at ground level, accomplishing only what can be done without wings?

It is the desire of a holy God that we "mount up with wings as eagles." Christ suffered outside the gate for our sanctification and God now offers to the believer the gift of His Spirit's full purity, power, and presence. This offer is our wings; we ought to fly. A Christian cannot be content to live within the confines of carnality's corral. The call to holiness is a call to "fly!"

Speaking of the Holy Spirit, Jesus declares that He comes not to cuddle or camouflage sin, but to convict of sin (John 16:8). The Holy Spirit goes after sin and its source with all the fury of God's wrath. Jesus himself knew nothing of a Band-Aid theology where sin is disguised but not defeated (John 8:11). The apostle Paul makes it clear that we do not walk in the flesh and produce evidence of the Spirit at the same time (Galatians 5:13-26). Every Christian is expected to bear the fruit of the Spirit. We are born of God to fly, not to live at ground level. Our ethics, our morality, our language, our commitment, and our attitudes must not be of the barnyard variety.

The sanctified Christian soars high above the pet-tiness that causes others to squawk as though the sky were falling. God shows him a challenge and he says, "Why not?" instead of "Why me?" He gives all and wishes he had a little more to give instead of giving a little and wishing he could keep all. He plants seeds instead of eating them. He uses the winds of adversity to soar higher instead of as an excuse to hug the ground. He flies high, drawing attention heavenward instead of crowing as though the sun would not rise without his help. He flies to live instead of living to fry.

Before he can fly, however, the eagle must dare to risk all on the wings God has given to him. The justified heart must do the same if it is to realize the purifying and empowering fullness of God's sanctifying grace.

Shading their eyes with slightly used wings, many Christians gaze skyward admiring the victorious soaring saints. At best the sight inspires them to defend their mediocrity by saying, "If I had that bird's opportunities . . ." "If I had his talents . . ." or "If I had it as easy as he does, I too could fly."

Actually, soaring Christians are not super-Christians. They are simply those earthen vessels who by faith have taken God at His word. In full surrender they have waited upon the Lord for the purifying and empowering work we call entire sanctification. They utilized their spiritual wings.

Jesus promised, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8). God promises power because the holy life and task He calls us to is humanly impossible. We need strength beyond our own. We need the Holy Spirit. We can no more live a holy life for Christ without the help of the Holy Spirit than an eagle can fly without feathers. We cannot witness effectively to Christ without the Holy Spirit any more than a chicken can make the sun rise by crowing.

God expects us to use what He gives us. The Holy Spirit came not as a museum display. He came to do battle against sin by empowering and guiding willing human hearts. Through the Holy Spirit, we have the needed resources of heaven at our disposal to live a victorious Christian life.

One sunny spring morning I watched a small bird unexpectedly end his maiden flight against my screen window. In desperation he clung to the screen. He was off balance and his feathers were crumpled. Nervously he scanned the ground—his next anticipated stop. He was losing his grip. Suddenly, the bird remembered his wings. Briefly, flapping them, he regained his balance, improved his grip on the situation, and aligned his tail feathers. He no longer studied the ground for a possible crash site. Now he studied the sky, spread his wings, and climbed the breezes.

When the tempests of life fling us against a screen window, our hope is not in how long we can keep our panicky grip. Rather our hope is in remembering we have wings and in waiting upon the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide. We can fly. We must fly, if we are to fulfill our role as part of the redemptive community of the redeemed.

Chickens don't fly, eagles do.
In the Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma, a group opposed to holiness forced a small fellowship from the tabernacle they had used for meetings. Determined not to be defeated, this group of believers obtained a small, dirt-floored blacksmith shop and with J. B. Chapman as their first pastor, organized into a church with 14 charter members. The date was 1905. In 1980 this church, now the First Church of the Nazarene in Durant, Oklahoma, celebrated its 75th anniversary with 226 members. Their present fellowship hall stands on the site of the old tabernacle.

Rev. J. B. Chapman would become one of the outstanding leaders of our church: college president; editor of the Herald of Holiness; and from 1928 to 1947, general superintendent. □

—STEVE COOLEY, archivist

**Book Brief**

**NAZARENES AND THE WESLEYAN MISSION**

TIMOTHY L. SMITH, author

A HIGH POINT of the 1979 Nazarene Leadership Conference was an address by Timothy L. Smith on the causes of Methodism’s drift from John Wesley’s original definition of its mission. Of genuine interest to Nazarene leaders was Dr. Smith’s emphasis upon how our own denomination might avoid the same mistakes.

This address has been published under the title, *Nazarenes and the Wesleyan Mission;* with the cogent subtitle, “Can We Learn from Our History?” In the preface, author Smith declares, “The purpose of the following . . . is simply to ask what lessons learned from the long history of Methodism’s relation to the doctrine of Christian holiness will help Nazarenes keep it in its central place in our faith and fellowship.”

Smith has written about his reaction to preparing the manuscript: “I was pleased to prepare this for two reasons: first, I thought we needed a refresher course in what both Wesley and the founders of our denomination thought the mission of a holiness communion should be. Second, I was certain that spiritual decline or doctrinal divergence are not inevitable as a church grows larger, but are subject to the choices and decisions of key leaders.” And so it is! *Nazarenes and the Wesleyan Mission* is prescribed reading for every person in leadership on every level of the church. The book should be made available to and discussed by every lay person in the Church of the Nazarene. The attractive quantity price makes this possible.

Here is another facet of our denomination’s concern for “Proclaiming Christian Holiness.”

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
To order, see page 23.
Are we listening to what our teenagers say? Do we hear what they're asking? Are we ready to give an answer?

Teenagers in our communities and in our churches are asking a crucial question—"What has happened to our society?" Many are pleading that enough is enough in terms of the moral decay of our country.

A recent survey of 125 southwest Missouri teens, ages 13-15, revealed some startling facts. These young teens, some just one step beyond childhood, beg for the merry-go-round of moral disintegration to stop. They appeal among themselves for answers, for directions and standards. Here, in capsule form, is what they are saying to us in general, and to the pastors and laymen of the Church of the Nazarene in particular.

In answer to the survey question, "What do you feel is the greatest problem facing our nation today?" more than 90 percent of the responses said morality. Particularly, such items as divorce, premarital sex, and abortion placed high on almost all questionnaires. Drug abuse followed immediately behind.

One girl commented, "Adults make things too easy. Divorce is a cinch. People don't try to work out the problems they have. They leave them for someone else." This young lady is 14.

Another said, "People do not take marriage seriously anymore. If it doesn't work out, just leave. We kids are the ones that suffer. What is it going to be like when we're old enough to marry?" He's 13.

These teenagers loudly voice the feelings of less verbal teens who perhaps cannot express their inner emotions. These teens have grown up in a society that has loosened its hold on a strong moral structure and they call for our attention.

One young girl involved in the survey recently went for help concerning a premarital relationship. The answer she received was no answer at all. "Instead of telling me what is the best birth control method to use," she wrote, "why can't they tell me it's wrong? I'm only 14."

A boy 15 commented, "I believe teens should wait for marriage for deep relationships. Nobody says that anymore."

One teenager has insight into her problem, but needs help to cope with it. "I know why kids get too involved with each other. It is because of popularity and self-image. Without someone giving them strong principles to stand with, the pressure is too much and

Jayne Schooler, wife of the pastor of the Branson, Missouri, Church of the Nazarene, is a junior high school teacher.
ARE THEY COMING BACK?

they'll do almost anything to be accepted. I know because I am a teenager.

One of the problems that was most often addressed was the question of abortion. Here are several responses:

"I think the greatest problem facing our country today is the murdering of our babies."

"I think abortion is totally wrong. It isn't right to take a little baby's life because the mother and father made a mistake."

"I am really against abortion. I think it is awful to take a person's life. It is murder and should be illegal."

One 15-year-old girl perhaps summarizes the core of the problem. "The major problem facing America today is respect. People do not respect their bodies, their minds, other people, or God. People today do not care to strive for the things that are really important."

Southwest Missouri teenagers are not the only teenagers that feel as they do. A Gallup poll entitled "The 1979-80 Religion in America Index" stated that Americans feel that this country is facing a moral crisis of the first dimension. It went on to say that there was a powerful surge of undirected spirituality among young people. It concluded by saying that the people involved in the survey said they would respond to a creative, innovative ministry that offered something to them.

What a challenge for each of us as part of the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene! Teenagers in our community may be searching for the thing that could change their lives. Why should a teen give up something he desires to do, unless we offer him something better? That something is a relationship with Christ, and the adoption of His purpose and standards as their own.

Are we listening to what our teenagers say?
Do we hear what they're asking?
Are we ready to give an answer?
Or do we say, "Go ask a friend"?

THE YOUNG IN OUR COMMUNITIES MAY BE SEARCHING FOR JUST THE THING THAT COULD CHANGE THEIR LIVES.
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED!" the lady at the gas station screamed and ran to a camper parked at the pump. My friend was about to pay her for a soft drink when the interruption occurred. He followed her outside and found a little girl lying unconscious in the back of the camper.

Almost without thinking, he pulled the child from the camper, laid her on a nearby ledge, and began artificial respiration. He ordered the mother to blow in her mouth. As the two continued to work, suddenly the little girl began to cry.

All around us are pitiful, crisis needs pleading for spiritual help. There can be no answer to the cry unless God's people become involved.

Involvement demands commitment.

Sunday School teachers who remain aloof from the lives of their classes cannot expect to win them to the Lord. It is too far to reach a helping hand from the pulpit to the pew unless pastors are willing to get involved in the heartaches and heartbreaks of their congregations on a one-to-one basis. Parents who are too busy or too indifferent to get involved in their children's lives will not bring them to Jesus. Teaching, pastoring, parenting call for lifetime commitment, when the going is easy and when it is tough; on the back roads of life as well as on the super highways.

Commitment cannot be turned on and off at will. Usually it is arrived at by a crisis, or a call, or a deep, vital concern. If one is committed to teach, he must teach on bad days as well as good ones. A preacher must preach however he feels. A pastor must shepherd whatever it costs. A parent must get involved daily in the encounters that have to do with the business of living.

Without genuine commitment there can be no going on or keeping on. The moment it lags or lapses is the moment when indifference and failure set in.

Involvement demands confession.

Why is it that 95 percent of Christians are said not to win a soul in a lifetime? Is it lack of training? Is it fear? Whatever hinders us from confessing Christ to others, there can be only one real answer: the lack of positive involvement.

There are many soul-winning plans, and all of them are good, but none of them will work automatically. Christians must be willing to confess Christ to their fellowman by direct intention. This is necessary if they expect to maintain a bright and clear relationship with the Lord. He said, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

To confess Christ takes courage, but a holy boldness results when the tongue has been set afire by an overwhelming relationship with the Lord. It is no wonder that many are reluctant to witness out in the world when pastors have to "prime the pump" to get them to testify in prayer meeting among friends.

All will agree that it is not the method of witnessing that counts most, but the act. Sharing the news of genuine experience will result in winning souls. After all, the program given by the Lord to the 11 disciples in the Great Commission was not long nor complicated. It is contained in two verses of Scripture and may be condensed into one word, "Go" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Involvement demands consecration.

The church's number one need lies here especially; in consecrated involvement; in presenting our bodies "a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God" (Romans 12:1).

Sanctified people must get involved or they fail. The experience in the Upper Room drove the people out of the building to witness in the streets. A church of 120 grew to a church of 3,120 in one day. At the risk of oversimplifying, we might ask what would happen if the church doors would burst open this Sunday morning with flaming evangelists bent on witnessing to those with whom they come in contact. Holy witnessing is inspired by hearts wholly sanctified.

Sanctification as an experience and doctrine does not survive because it is in the Bible. It continues in the lives and on the lips of holiness people. God does not work independently of man; His work progresses by Spirit-filled people. If the Good News is told, it must be by holy men.

Nor is a Spirit-filled person holy because he is spiritual; he is spiritual because he is holy. His confessing and witnessing are the compelling but normal outgrowth of his consecration and cleansing.

As the little girl was saved from asphyxiation by my friend, people are won to the Lord by sanctified involvement. In fact, the Great Commission depends on it.

JOHN W. MAY is superintendent of the Eastern Kentucky District and lives in Mount Sterling, Kentucky.

THE CHURCH'S NUMBER ONE NEED

by JOHN W. MAY

Helps to HOLY Living
SOME PEOPLE believe success is having a large house, a pool, and being on the go all the time. Others measure success by some rung on the social ladder, while still others strain for a certain kind of automobile along with a boat and summer cottage. The yardsticks vary from community to community and time to time.

Today, with such emphasis on money and the things it can buy, more and more Christians are becoming confused as to what they are to live for. Is it the car? the boat? the trip to Europe? the rambling house? the wardrobe? The lures of the world are forever bombarding the ethic of the Christian in an attempt to blur the temporary values into the permanent.

With the world’s emphasis on material success, there is a harvest of nervous breakdowns; an increase of the generation gap due to heightened tension in the homes; mounting legal separations and divorces—even among evangelical Protestants; physical disorders due to edgy nerves; lack of personal fulfillment and meaningful interpersonal relationships, etc.

At a marriage counseling seminar, I sat with ministers of various denominations around a large table. At the conclusion of the seminar a social worker—J. GRANT SWANK, JR., pastors the Walpole, Massachusetts, Church of the Nazarene.

One of the reasons why our families are botched-up is our warped definition of success. As long as we allow the catalogues, store windows, TV commercials and newspaper ads to dictate that definition, we will be as off-balance as the worldlings. When we keep listening to the devil whispering in our ears that the neighbor got a bigger car than ours, and so it is time we got one larger than his, then we will be just as messed up in our inner selves as the rest of the status seekers.

One of the most common diseases among Bible-believing Christians today is the “two-sides-of-the-mouth” malady. It is speaking out of the right side with the orthodox lingo of New Testament Christianity while speaking also out of the left side with the jargon of the world. When the believers start talking one line—the gospel line—then their heads and their hearts will be mended. Till then we will continue on our crippled ways as the disease creeps farther and farther into the inner sanctums of our lives, and those of our loved ones.

Why are we not content with the success of being in the center of God’s will—as individuals and families? If God’s will provides a small car, then so be it. If His plan provides a modest but comfortable home, then so be it. If His blueprint provides a decent wardrobe—not terribly expensive, but clean and tidy—then praise to His name.

Could it be that by finding God’s will concerning material and spiritual things we just might find ourselves calmer persons, more loving and understanding toward our families, spending more time with the children rather than beating the bushes for another buck? Could it be that we might end up being one of the rarities at the end of the 20th century—a Christian family with a family altar, all children saved and in church, marriage intact, and all persons concerned filled with the Spirit? Such families and persons are truly successful, whatever material privations they suffer in comparison to affluent neighbors.

J. GRANT SWANK, Jr., pastors the Walpole, Massachusetts, Church of the Nazarene.

Harold M. Lambert

MAY 15, 1981

15
IN FEBRUARY, Trevecca Nazarene College sponsored “The City Experience—The Christian Response.”

This urban ministry conference was jointly planned by Dr. Jim Quiggins, head of the college Communication Department and member of the denominational Urban Studies Committee; Christian Counseling Services Director Mike Malloy; Prof. Hal Cauthron of the college religion faculty; and pastors Millard Reed of First Church and Bill Allen of Metropolitan Church.

Registrants included students taking the course for credit, district superintendents from the Southeast, and urban specialists and workers from across the nation. Over 110 registered officially for 28 hours packed with information, dialogue, and challenge on ways to impact American cities.

Several themes emerged throughout the presentation and panels.

1. The heritage of urban ministry for holiness folk. Millard Reed (Nashville First) and Roger Bowman (Los Angeles Grace) both referred to “city missions” as a primary activity of the “holiness movement.” That movement was represented in the South by J. O. McClurkan who was suspicious of organization, but was interested in hospitals, homes for “wayward girls,” orphanages, city missions, and “foreign and home missions.”

In the West, Bresee was engaged in “refugee ministries,” city missions, and ministry to the poor. Bowman reminded us of the 1972 “Commission on Church and Society” adopted by the General Assembly to commit resources, recruit the young, and impact cities. Yet, as Reed said, “Our passion as a denomination is generally not to serve the poor.”

Bill Boggs (Los Angeles First), in a discussion on “fruitbearing,” stated that the answer for our cities is a “rebirth” of the holiness movement. “Christ does not need more salesmen, but more samples.”

2. An effective holiness ministry among American Blacks is essential. Jerry Hull (professor, NNC, and chairman, Urban Studies Committee) profiled the “urban personality.” Barry Cunningham (Ph.D. candidate, University of Michigan) stated repeatedly that Whites can minister effectively to Blacks.

Roland Chopfield (pastor, Richmond Woodville) cited in eloquent terms the inner-city dilemma of
poverty and pain, but reminded us that “God is in the inner city” and “people are determined to survive.”

C. R. Smith (Orlando, Fla.—Tom Skinner Club) is living testimony to a white businessman impacting an inner city of Blacks. One of his first “converts” was Charles Johnson (Meridian, Miss.) who now pastors the largest American Black Nazarene congregation, now launching out into a TV ministry.

Keith Wright (Atlanta First) told of the birth of “Georgia Urban Ministries” and his local church support of it. Ed Husband (Gainesville, Ga.) is now searching for the right location and will head up a major Nazarene impact in Black church planting on this dynamic city.

Nazarene Black leaders agreed that “things are better than they used to be but not as good as they ought to be.” There is an important ministry to and among Blacks by a denomination which preaches and lives holiness. But perhaps greatest of all is a feeling of being a part. As Charles Johnson said about District Superintendent Talmadge Johnson when he was in Mississippi, “He made me know that I belonged and made me feel a part.” This was reinforced by Cunningham’s admonition to Whites who want to “win” Blacks, “Don’t try to win a Black if you are not willing to take him home with you.” And that means to your home church, not a “Black church” in the city.

3. Urban ministry involves social concerns. Tom Nees (Washington, D.C.) reminded us that “compassion” is what “hits your inner parts” and shared some startling examples of suffering and tragedy in the nation’s capital. He stated that the holiness church needs to recover a “care for people,” much as John Wesley cared. “Why can’t we establish centers of compassion in all our major cities?” he asked.

Gilbert Leigh (Chicago Ingleside), founder of New World Christian Ministries, told of the “wide range” of workers needed, including pastors, social workers, dieticians, teachers, etc. He eloquently insisted that “things must be done which preserve people’s dig-

(Right) Rev. Oziel Flores, pastor of the Los Angeles First Church Spanish congregation, ministers with senior minister Rev. Bill Boggs. (Middle) New Nazarene churches in Atlanta’s communities is the goal of Rev. Edward Husband (l.), coordinator of Georgia Urban Ministry. Here he discusses the project with Rev. Dyke Marshall, pastor of the Institute, W.Va., Church. Nazarene VBS children have given $30,000 for Sunday School equipment for the children of Atlanta. (r.) Rev. David Kwon, ordained by Dr. Hugh C. Benner in Korea, is pastor of a second Korean congregation in Los Angeles sponsored by L.A. First Church. Dr. Victor Peters (r.) is a First Church staff member.

Ultimately, though, as Nees reminded us, “The city needs more people who will get out on the streets where the action is.”

The conference themes were summed up by Pastor Johnson who implored the conference not to leave with feelings of guilt, but of challenge to “get on with it.”

A final luncheon featured Dr. Raymond Hurn, Home Missions executive, portraying the harvest field and challenging each one to get involved.
YES AND NO

The Lord wants His people to be holy in speech. Part of what this involves is to say what you mean and mean what you say, so that your word is immediately trusted by others.

"I swear on the beard of St. Hirsute!"
"I swear on my mother's marble drawer at the mausoleum!"
"Cross my heart and hope to die, if what I say shall prove a lie!"

Such oath-taking is needless. If people won't believe your unsupported word, neither will they be persuaded though a hundred oaths rise from the dead. Establish a reputation for truth-telling and a simple statement will suffice.

This is what Jesus taught. "Do not swear at all . . . Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes of evil" (Matthew 5:34-37, RSV).

Yes or No. Honesty, integrity, simplicity, decisiveness. These are marks of holiness in speech. Stating the truth, with no intention of deceiving and no attempt at impressing, is the speech pattern commanded and modeled by our Lord.

My kid brother, when we were growing up, had an aggravating habit. Well, it aggravated Mother; to tell the truth, it amused me at the time. When she demanded a straight "yes" or "no" he would answer, "yo." He did it to tease her, and occasionally to sidestep an issue. But lots of people have difficulty in saying yes or no because they habitually practice deception and cannot be morally decisive.

To say "yes" and stick by it is the essence of commitment. When Peter said, "Not so, Lord" (Acts 10:14), he uttered a contradiction. Until we say a hearty, unreserved "yes" to the will of the Lord, we are really denying His lordship.

To say "no" and not budge from it is the secret of victory over temptation. Too many say "no" with their lips and "maybe" with their hearts. The devil doesn't take "no" for an answer if he knows he can get a yes by pushing a little.

Plain, unfeigned, decisive speech produces conviction, and people come to accept your word as your bond. Then no oath-taking is necessary or desirable.

LIFE'S BASIC CONCERNS

I was at a prayer breakfast the other day and it suddenly occurred to me that such an event fuses three of life’s basic concerns.

The first is bread.

Bread is basic to life. Man must eat or die, it’s just that simple. He can get along without many things, including his teeth, but he must have food. The Bible recognizes this truth, declaring that "Men do not despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy his soul when he is hungry" (Proverbs 6:30).

When Jesus was tempted to turn stones into bread, He countered the tempter by saying, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). This oft quoted answer does recognize that man lives, in part, by bread. Bread is basic to life.

A second basic concern is prayer.

Prayer is basic to bread. Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11). Bread is God's gift. It is not produced without man's work, to be sure, but no measure of human labor will produce bread if God withholds His gifts of sun, rain, soil, and strength.

Vital to prayer is our thanks for the Father’s gifts. To break bread without giving thanks reduces man to an animal. It makes him who should be the son of God brother to a hog. It perverts life by debasing and dehumanizing people. There is no true life without prayer.

A third basic concern is fellowship.

As prayer is basic to bread, so fellowship is to prayer. To pray aright, we must be on speaking terms with God and with one another. The broadest prayer promise in the Bible is followed with this admonition: "When you stand praying, forgive, if you have aught against any, that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses" (Mark 11:25). That is why we pray "Give us . . . our bread." Plural pronouns remind us that being genuinely human means living in relationship with others.

Every breakfast should be a prayer breakfast, combining bread, prayer, and fellowship!
If people won’t believe your unsupported word, neither will they be persuaded though a hundred oaths rise from the dead.

A MINISTRY OF DRAMA

Courage to innovate and experiment will always separate healthy churches from dying ones. New ways to affirm our message are required or the message will become an orthodox epitaph.

This is why I applaud the one-man drama being presented by D. Paul Thomas, “The Sun Never Sets in the Morning.” It is based on the life and ministry of Phineas F. Bresee, who founded the first Church of the Nazarene in Los Angeles in 1895.

The drama was the brainchild of Pastor Bill Boggs, who now serves our “mother church.” Paul Thomas served as writer and actor, Boggs as producer, and Gary Bayer as director. Janet Thomas provided the musical score, arranging a number of Bresee’s favorite hymns. A financial grant from Mr. and Mrs. Horace Bresee and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Bresee made it possible to convert Pastor Boggs’s dream into reality.

The drama had its premiere showing at the mother church during their 85th annual Founder’s Day celebration. A packed sanctuary was deeply moved by a piece of heritage designed to impact the present, and to strengthen the commitment of Nazarenes to the message and life of full salvation.

Most of our pastors will experience this drama as they participate in PALCON II this summer. Mark Moore, our education secretary, will supervise these showings at the pastors’ leadership conferences. Beyond PALCON II, I hope that all our people will have opportunity to see “The Sun Never Sets in the Morning.”

We heartily commend Pastor Boggs and all who labored with him to make this presentation possible. And we earnestly pray that something of Dr. Bresee’s spirit will be caught by every viewer, helping to precipitate a holiness revival that will engulf our entire movement.

There are many legitimate and powerful ways to proclaim the gospel. God grant that our pastors and people everywhere will find them, seize upon them, and capture the eyes, ears, and hearts of this generation for Christ.

VERY BIG STUFF

I got a letter last August from Donald Boesel, pastor of our First Church in Harlingen, Texas. In his exuberance he began the letter, “Dear World”! Because it concerns vacation Bible school, I wanted to share it with our Herald family as summer comes on this year.

“We had an old-fashioned Nazarene vacation Bible school during the week just past. We had a high of 139 children to attend during our week of sacrifice. That is 47 more than ever before; 38 children accepted Christ as their Savior.

“But there is more! On VBS Sunday, we had nine brand-new families in our Sunday School and set a new attendance record with 303 in Sunday School and 312 in the morning worship service. This eclipsed our old record by 13. This also happened on a Sunday following a hurricane, in the midst of summer, in August.

“Praise God! He still does and always will bless the work of His people. The simple things still work best. Churches that visit and care still grow. Our church is experiencing a 16 percent growth rate during the summer months, after showing a 20 percent growth last year. We are doing this with things like visiting, teaching Sunday School lessons, and knocking on doors—all of these things that some say will not work for churches today! It’s just not so! It does still work. Praise God.”

Well, you can understand his joy. Let’s hope that increasing numbers of churches will share the task and reap the harvest which produced that joy.

VBS, vacation Bible school, is very big stuff. It is big stuff because it deals in our most precious commodity, our boys and girls. It provides a context for teaching our own and reaching others. Its dividends are eternal.

Pastor Boesel is right in calling it a “week of sacrifice.” An effective VBS doesn’t happen easily. It demands investments of time, energy and love from people who could easily excuse themselves from it. But the profit makes the investment worthwhile. VBS is very big stuff!
Certainly one should not enter heaven saying, "Christ purchased salvation for me but I maintained it all those years!" Even entire sanctification is wrought by God for us. In Christ we do have spiritual victory. We must not lose sight of His purpose.

Karen L. Onesti
Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania

Editor's Note: Restitution won't save; but disobedience will damn. Faith saves; but "faith that works by love.

RISING STANDARD

I have just finished reading my May 15th [1980] edition of the Herald of Holiness and I thought I would just drop you a note of praise on the fine job that is being done. I read quite a few Christian magazines and I want you to know that for the subscription price, there is no magazine in its class. There is spiritual nourishment to be found in every article.

I started receiving your magazine last year and from the beginning of this year I noticed a definite rise in the standard of the magazine, especially in the case of impact. I can definitely say that my spiritual life has benefited. This very moment I am reading "The Aging Christian Prays." Praise God.

I pray that you will keep up the good work.

Kwame Payne
St. Augustine, Trinidad, W.I.

GREETER COMMENDED

Layman Ralph White serves our First Church in Panama City, Fla., as the welcome minister. He not only greets each visitor but presents them to the congregation. After receiving their names and welcoming them personally, during the service he walks from the back of the church to the front, stopping at each row and calling the visitor by name. Mr. White has done this for several years, and as a result he can recall people who have previously visited Panama City. He does this simply by keeping a record of all visitors and with a good memory he can recall various thoughts about them. This makes the visitor feel that somebody cares. I was one of those visitors. It would be nice if many of our churches would adopt such a plan. I have not found it in any other church in my forty years as a Nazarene pastor. Rev. H. G. Snellgrove is pastor.

Rev. Oliver C. Huff
Louisville, Kentucky

The Missionary Banquet

by FRED WENGER

CHAPLAIN WENGER, our church is having a Missionary Convention next weekend and my husband and I would like very much to have you attend the banquet as our guests."

Behind this invitation were some special circumstances. I remembered back several months earlier when the office secretary called to my attention that there was a Nazarene in Medical Intensive Care here at Bethany Medical Center of Kansas City, Kansas. Since as a supervisor I had no assigned area, I often visited Nazarene patients regardless of where they were.

The first visit was memorable. I found out that this woman was regularly attending the Metropolitan Church with her husband and though they were very interested they had not yet joined. One of her problems was smoking. And her doctor was telling her that smoking was one significant life-style change she needed to make to help her physical problems. In that visit I assured her that both my wife and I would support her by our prayers in her efforts to break free from this bondage.

During her stay I visited her often, along with the faithful visits of her pastor and associate pastor. We coordinated our efforts so that she wasn’t visited by all of us the same day. In our final time together she admitted that going home would be the test. It had been reasonably easy to quit smoking while here. She had great fears of staying off the cigarettes once home. I assured her that added to the prayers of pastors and church friends would be those of the Wengers.

In the months that followed we would occasionally hear from the pastor or associate as to what progress “our” patient was making. The news seemed encouraging. First, she was able to break the life-threatening habit at home as well as she had done at the hospital. Later word told of spiritual progress. Then one day we heard that she and her husband became members at Metropolitan. There followed a period of time when we didn’t hear much more. Then the phone call. I checked with the pastor and with his encouragement we attended the Missionary Banquet as guests of this ex-patient and her husband. It was humbling to have her introduce us as having been so helpful during the hospital stay. It was exciting to see the special glow of victory she and her husband seemed to have. It was gratifying to realize that here was one of many times when as chaplain I had the opportunity to support a patient who was attending a nearby Nazarene church and to have worked as a team with the pastor and associate pastor. The chaplaincy has its rewards. Not all of them are as denominationally related as this one.

FRED WENGER is clinical chaplain at Parsons State Hospital and Training Center, Parsons, Kansas.

“By ALL MEANS... Save Some”
Linda Crow, missionary to France, has been chosen as keynote speaker for the 1981 Annual Training Conference of the European organization of the Protestant Women of the Chapel. This training conference will take place at the General Walker Hotel, Berchtesgaden, Germany, May 11-15. The theme is “Behold Your God.” Expected attendance is 450 women. Former speakers include Corrie ten Boom.

Walter Crow, missionary to France, while completing his Ph.D. in sociology of religion at the University of Paris, has been requested to give lectures in the Department of Sociology at the University of Paris concerning the “Social Change Produced by the Church of the Nazarene in Haiti.”

Rev. David L. Grimm has been elected director of substance abuse preventive education services of Christian Civic Foundation in St. Louis, according to Dr. Roger L. Abington, executive director. Grimm came to CCF from the staff of Chandler, Ariz., First Church. He assumed his new position March 1.

Grimm, 48, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was graduated from Haverford College, Haverford (B.A., 1954), and the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Philadelphia (M.Div., 1957). He received the Th.M. degree in Christian education in 1962 from the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He also is a graduate of the National Institute of Scientific Studies for Prevention of Alcoholism, American University, Washington, D.C.

David is married to the former Joanne Frantz. The Grimms have five children; Beth (24) a missionary in Nassa, Tanzania, East Africa; Carolyn (23) a travel consultant in Chandler, Ariz.; Mary Jo Ocker (22) a recent graduate of Talbot Theological Seminary in La Mirada, Calif.; Esther (20) a nursing education student at Azusa Pacific College in Azusa, Calif.; and John David (18) a senior at Chandler High School.

Chaplain Kelman Honored

Prior to his transfer to West Germany, Captain Marvin C. Kelman, Sr., Chaplain Corps, United States Army, served as Battalion Chaplain, 70th Ordnance Battalion. For his ministry in this relationship he received The Army Commendation Medal. His commendation reads as follows: “For exceptionally meritorious service while assigned as Battalion Chaplain, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 70th Ordnance Battalion. Chaplain Kelman’s unceasing efforts to increase morale and esprit of this unit was evident in all unit support operations. His concern for the spiritual well-being of service members produced consistently high chaplain support training through classes in personal relationships and instilled in the soldier a professional approach to assigned duties. Through a unique counseling method, he improved the quality of life for the soldier and impressive was his ‘one-on-one’ counsel-

— Earl C. Wolf
Chaplaincy Services

Manc President Leads Revival

Dr. Curtis Smith, president of Mid-America Nazarene College, preached the spring revival at the Olathe, Kans., College Church, March 1-8. The church held 6:00 a.m. prayer meetings in preparation for the 16-service meeting, and many students held prayer meetings in the dormitories.

Dr. Smith has been president of MANC since it was founded in 1966. He is called for a revival at College Church every four years so that every student that graduates from MANC may sit under his anointed ministry.

Harlan and Barbi Moore served as the musicians for the spring revival. Moore is the minister of music at the Denver Lakewood Church. Dr. Paul Cunningham, pastor, recently celebrated his 17th anniversary at College Church. The congregation is preparing to occupy a new 4,000-seat sanctuary this spring.
NNC BOARD OF REGENTS MEETS

The Board of Regents of Northwest Nazarene College approved a $7.31 million Operating and Debt Service Budget for 1981-82 at their spring meeting held March 12-13 on the NNC campus.

Included in the budget was a 10.7 percent increase in faculty salaries, based on $12,400 per year for a teacher with a master's degree and no experience. Student charges for the 81-82 school year will be increased 12.1 percent, from $1,445 to $1,620 per term, or $4,860 per year, which includes tuition, room, board, and fees.

In other action, the regents recommended that representatives from the board and representatives from the local board of College Church make a feasibility study in reference to a request from the college to purchase the College Church building and property for long-range development of the college.

Mr. Howard Olson, assistant to the president for communications and development, was granted emeritus status by the regents commencing with the 1981-82 academic year. Mr. Olson retires June 15 after 11 years at NNC.

Replacing Mr. Olson will be Dr. Ray Lindley, currently chairman of Lower Division. Mr. Lewis Suiter, a member of the Regents from Roseburg, Ore., has been appointed as full-time director of planned giving, replacing Dr. L. Wesley Johnson.

Two new full-time faculty members were appointed: Rev. Ralph Neil, philosophy and religion, currently pastor of Portland, Ore., Central Church, and Mr. James Tursa, mathematics, currently teaching part-time in that department. Mrs. Susan Bunker, admissions counselor, was approved for a full-time contract.

"WORD ACTION" CURRICULUM WELL RECEIVED

Two new publications from Youth Ministries have been field tested and are being warmly received, according to Gary Henecke, director of Youth Ministries.

The new Word Action junior high and senior high curriculum materials have been used in the Sunday Schools of churches ranging in membership from 35-800 on an experimental basis. Both series are scheduled for release in the fall quarter of 1981.

ENC OFFERS NEW MASTER'S DEGREES

Eastern Nazarene College was voted authority recently by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to grant three new master's degrees effective immediately, according to Dr. Cecil Paul, director of graduate studies at ENC.

New graduate degree programs to be offered in the fall include the M.A. in family counseling, the M.A. in pastoral counseling, and the M.Ed., with an emphasis in elementary education, early childhood education, or moderate special needs education. ENC also offers the M.A. in religion, giving the college four chartered master's level degrees.

The college has been in process of securing these new degree charters at the graduate level for the past 18 months. The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education sent a team to visit the campus in November, 1980, and the college has been in process of completing all documents of response up to the time of the public hearing, which was held on February 4, 1981. The Collegiate Authority Committee
The four key ENC faculty members involved in the master's programs (l. to r.) are:
Dr. Cecil Paul, director of graduate studies; Dr. Robert Norton, coordinator for the M.Ed. in education; Dr. Richard Fish, coordinator for the M.A. in family counseling; and Dr. David Stryker, coordinator for the M.A. in pastoral counseling.

MVNC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETS
The Board of Trustees of Mount Vernon Nazarene College met for their annual spring meeting on March 4-5. Dr. William Prince, president of MVNC, and Dr. M.E. Clay, superintendent of the West Virginia District, presided over the meeting.

Dr. Stanton Parry, vice-president for Finance and Management at MVNC, reported to the board that MVNC will have a balanced budget for the 1980-81 school year: the seventh consecutive year of balanced operations. The board approved a total operating budget of $6.2 million for 1981-82.

The board also approved three construction projects for the MVNC campus. The first is an addition to the teacher education complex to provide approximately 1,250 sq. ft. for a developmental skills classroom.

The board also approved a small addition to the second floor of the Lakeholm Administration Building to allow the financial aid office to better serve students. The admissions office will be expanded to provide space for an additional admissions counselor. These projects will be completed during the next summer break.

Further action by the Board of Trustees included promotions for numerous faculty. Promoted from associate professor to full professor were Dr. Robert Kirkpatrick, Dr. Alvin Lawhead, Dr. Ron Phillips, and Dr. William Youngman. Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor was Dr. David Liles. And promoted from instructor to assistant professor were Mr. Stephen Self, Mr. Robert Sevier, and Mr. Henry Smith.

Book Briefs

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See page 11 for description.

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MAY 15, 1981 23
HAWAII PACIFIC DISTRICT ACHIEVES "DOUBLE-DOUBLE COVERAGE"

Rev. Darrell Teare, superintendent of the Hawaii Pacific District, recently received congratulations from General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland and Dr. Dean Wessels, director of Pensions and Benefits Services. His district has become the first to achieve “Double-Double Coverage” under the Basic Group Term Life Insurance Program for ministers.

Coverage under this insurance program is provided by Pensions and Benefits Services at no cost to the enrolled minister. With the recent approval of the General Board, the insurance program was improved. It provides “Double Coverage” for ministers on districts having paid 90 percent or more of their Pensions and Benefits Fund. “Triple Coverage” for 95 percent and above districts, and “Double-Double Coverage” for 100 percent and above districts.

Since the Hawaii Pacific District has achieved 100 percent payment of the Pensions and Benefits Fund for the 1980-81 assembly year, their district-licensed ministers have $4,000 of coverage and their ordained ministers will have $6,000 of coverage. (Maximum coverage for enrolled ministers age 70 and over remains at $3,000.)

It is not surprising that Hawaii Pacific was the first to achieve the highest amount of coverage available under the Basic Group Term Life Insurance Plan since they have maintained the outstanding record of paying 100 percent and more of their Pensions and Benefits Fund for 14 consecutive years!

DIVORCE RECOVERY '81... A REAL SUCCESS!

Divorce Recovery '81 became a reality March 6-7 at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in North Hollywood, Calif. One hundred and twenty-five people from across the Southwestern United States gathered for a two-day conference that put them in touch with the leaders in the field of divorce recovery and related topics. There was an enthusiastic reception to the conference’s theme: “A Journey Towards Wholeness.” Most of the people attending had recently experienced the shattering impact of divorce.

The featured speakers included Jim Smoke, author of Growing Through Divorce; Dr. A. Loy McGinnis, author of The Friendship Factor; Harold Ivan Smith, executive director of Single Adult Ministries for the Church of the Nazarene; Bobbie Reed, author of Stepmfamilies: Living in Christian Harmony; Tom Wilson, pastor of the Lompoc, Calif., Trinity Church; and William Boggs, senior pastor of Los Angeles First Church.

The conference was sponsored by...
ENC DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AWARDED NSF SUMMER GRANT

The National Science Foundation has announced the award of $12,883 to Eastern Nazarene College for Undergraduate Research Participation under the direction of Dr. Lowell H. Hall, head, Department of Chemistry. The project, in conjunction with the GTE Laboratories of Waltham, Mass., will involve junior-year science majors performing research in association with scientists in the GTE labs. Chemistry professors Hall and Stark will supervise the work of six students, at least three of which will be ENC students.

The total program involves 60 students from across the United States doing research in chemistry, physics, biology, electrical engineering, and computer science. Other supervising faculty come from the four other grantee institutions, Brandeis University, Tufts University, University of Nevada at Reno, and Washington State University.

The projects begin June 8, 1981, and run for 10 weeks. The stipend is $1,200 for each student with free room and board supplied by GTE at the Tufts University campus in Medford, Mass. Participants will be selected jointly by an ENC faculty panel (Hall, Stark, and Dr. John Free of the Physics Department) and the GTE scientists who will be working directly with the students. The ENC project is only one of five to be granted in conjunction with the GTE Laboratories.

Mrs. Peters has inherited some stocks and would like to put them to work for the cause of Christ. But, with living costs rising, she also could use more income herself.

What should she do?

Arrange a Gift Annuity with the Church of the Nazarene! It will pay her a guaranteed regular income for life, and it will benefit her church. Find out more about this double-blessing gift plan. Just use the coupon below to request our free booklet. No obligation.

Rev. Crew: Please send me a free copy of “Giving Through Gift Annuities.”
KOREAN ASSEMBLIES HELD

During the first visit of General Superintendent and Mrs. William M. Greathouse to Korea, March 10-16, Dr. Greathouse conducted the assemblies for the Korea South and the Korea Central districts. Dr. Donald Owens, regional director of Asia and the South Pacific, was also presented to the assemblies. Dr. Owens, first Nazarene missionary to Korea, was again used by God in ministering to Korean Nazarenes.

At the South District Assembly, held in Taejon City under the leadership of District Superintendent Oh, 11 men were ordained to the ministry, and 3 had their ordination credentials recognized. During the closing service of this assembly, the organization of the Honam District was announced. Rev. Jung-moon Suh was appointed as the new superintendent for the Korea Honam District.

The Central District Assembly, held in the capital city of Seoul, saw 10 men receive ordination from Dr. Greathouse. Rev. Moon-kyung Cho was elected as the superintendent for the Korea Central District. This district now has “regular” status. During the closing service of the assembly, the organization of the East District was announced. Rev. Ki-suh Park was appointed as the new superintendent for the Korea East District.

—Ken Schubert, reporter

NEW CHURCH PLANTED IN ALASKA

Rev. and Mrs. Carl Cady held the first Nazarene services in Valdez, Alaska, on Easter Sunday. They had gone as church planters, with the Anchorage Jewel Lake Church as the parent church.

The Jewel Lake Church held a “sending service” for the Cadys. The service was led by Rev. Lyle K. Coblentz, pastor, assisted by District Superintendent Robert Sheppard and Rev. Dave McNutt, home mission pastor at Chugiak, Alaska.

Rev. Coblentz and Rev. Cady had visited this target city, and found a warm welcome from the city officials, as well as the businessmen and residents of this pipeline terminus city. When the city officials were asked if they felt that Valdez was over-churched, they responded, “Not for the Church of the Nazarene.”

—NCN

BOOK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS

The Advisory Committee to the Book Committee met on Friday, March 27, to review and project plans for the book publishing program of the denomination. The meeting was led by Dr. Paul Cunningham, chairman of the Book Committee, and was organized by Mr. M. A. “Bud” Lunn, chairman of the Division of Communications, and members of the Nazarene Publishing House staff.

The Advisory Committee is composed of the directors of all divisions, ministries, services, committees, or commissions which initiate and are responsible for the publication of books or tracts. It meets to assist the Book Committee of the Division of Communications in suggesting and determining publishing priorities.

The Book Committee members are elected by the General Board.

—NCN

NAZARENES ENTER 240 NEW COMMUNITIES

The office of Church Extension Ministries reports that already in the 1980s, the Church of the Nazarene has entered 240 new communities with churches or church-type missions. Of this number, 61 have been registered with Church Extension Ministries as fully organized local churches, and 179 are operational church-type missions (CTM). (A CTM is a mission holding regular Sunday services.)

An additional 536 communities have been targeted by Nazarene district superintendents and by local pastors for the launching of church-type missions by 1985; 162 Nazarene pastors are involved in church-type mission projects in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain.

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—NCN
Here is your opportunity to move up to a “top of the line” quality Bible from the world’s oldest Bible publisher—CAMBRIDGE.

THE PLAN: Have a “tired old Bible” lying around? Send it in with coupon below.* It’s worth $10.00 toward the purchase of one of the deluxe Cambridge Bibles described below.

NOTE: When received these used Bibles will be given to an appropriate organization to distribute among the impoverished people of the world eager to have a Bible.

*If unable to send Bible, coupon still honored for $10.00 rebate.

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A Unique Opportunity to SAVE $10.00—Apply this coupon towards the purchase of a quality Bible.

A Bible
You Will Enjoy
Personally for Many Years

The Perfect Gift for Someone Special

NOTE: If your district has its assembly during the month of May, you may see these Bibles at the Nazarene Publishing House Bookstand otherwise order from your NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE.
BRITISH ISLES SOUTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland presided at the 28th annual assembly of the British Isles South District, held March 28-30 at Salford.

District Superintendent T. W. Schofield reported the organization of a new church at Skelmersdale.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Leslie Evans and Len McNeill, and laymen Percy Davies and Peter Warman. Rev. Ernest Eades was re-elected NWMS president and Mr. R. D. Morrell was re-elected Chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

—Reginald Heasley
Reporter

FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION


NEW ENGLAND—June 18-19. Church of the Nazarene, 37 E. Elm Ave., Wollaston, MA 02170. Host Pastor: Russell Fox Metcalfe, General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.

EASTERN KENTUCKY—June 24-25. First Church of the Nazarene, 201 Bath Ave., Ashland, KY 41101. Host Pastor: John W. Dennis, General Superintendent: Dr. Jerald D. Johnson.


SUNDAY SCHOOL

WOON'T BE THE SAME...I’LL BE BETTER...I’LL AM BETTER...I’LL DO BETTER...I CAN NEVER BE THE SAME...I WON'T BE THE SAME: BECAUSE, PALCON HAS HELPED. IT WAS A RICH TIME IN CHRIST.

We hope you’ll say it about PALCON II


July 24—Aug. 3—CANADA CENTRAL (Cedardale). Cedardale Campground, Rte. 2, Pefterlaw, Ontario L0E 1N0. Special workers: Arnold Airhart, and Dwayne Hildie, evangelists; Doug Alexander, missionary speaker; and Chuck and Mary Jackson, singers. Lorne V. MacMillan, district superintendent.

July 11-19—MICHIGAN. Indian Lake Camp, Indian Lake Dr., Vicksburg, MI 49097. Special workers: P. L. Liddell and Albert Lown, evangelists. Bible teacher, Ralph Earle; and song evangelists Jonathan and Iona Welch. C. Neil Strait, district superintendent.


July 14-17—COLORADO. Lakewood Church of the Nazarene, 1755 Dover, Denver, CO 80215. Special workers: V. H. Lewis and singer Tharon Daniels. Camp services nightly 7:30 p.m. M. Harold Daniels, district superintendent.

MOVING MINISTERS

GALEN D. BENNETT from associate, Shawnee, Okla., to Quincy (III) Emmanuel.

WILLIAM T. CARR from Geneva, Fla., to Orange, Tex.
CORRECTION
The 50th anniversary of the Kimberly, Idaho Church of the Nazarene will be celebrated on June 7 with a strong holiness emphasis. He will serve any church and pastor well. He may be contacted at 6771 N.W. 48th. Bethany, OK 73008, phone 405-787-7859 — Bill E. Burch, North West Oklahoma district superintendent.

This is to recommend REV. LEONARD DAWSON, who entered the field of evangelism May 10. His address is: 3286 Wyoming Dr. Xenia, OH 45385. — Bill E. Burch, North West Oklahoma district superintendent.

RECOMMENDATIONS
I recommend REV. PAUL DOWTY as evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene. He is an able preacher of the Bible, with a positive commitment to revivals and spiritual enrichment.
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR AMERICA: A PROJECT OF THE AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF EVANGELISM. A spokesman for the American Festival of Evangelism is urging all pastors and church leaders around the nation to set aside the week of May 31 to June 7, 1981, as a Week of Prayer for America.

Norval Hadley, chairman of the event, said, "The Week of Prayer, ending on Pentecost Sunday (June 7), is designed to bring about a national vigil of prayer with special emphasis on repentance and confession of sin in our great land. We are urging all Christians to unite in prayer for America. We want God to help us see our condition as He sees it."

The Week of Prayer is a prelude to the American Festival of Evangelism—a conference to be held July 27-30 in Kansas City.

MAJOR BIBLE DISTRIBUTION IN BRAZIL. Brazil, the fifth largest country in the world, after the Soviet Union, U.S.A., Canada, and China, plans to distribute a record-breaking 70 million Scriptures this year, according to the American Bible Society.

Geographically, Brazil covers one half of South America and is large enough to incorporate the whole of Europe. Its population, which is 89 percent Roman Catholic and 10 percent Protestant, presently exceeds 120,000,000 people and is one of the fastest growing populations in the world.

Bible Society work, which began there in 1822 (159 years ago), has been expanding rapidly. The Bible Society of Brazil will spend nearly $9.5 million in distributing Scriptures throughout that huge land this year.

CENSUS FACTS. Some interesting facts are beginning to surface as the 1980 census material is analyzed. Median age is now 30 years, up 2 years from 1970.

Percentage-wise, nonmetro population outgrew metro populations for the first time in U.S. history. But cities gained more people; 9.4 million to 5.4 million for nonmetropolitan areas.

Central city populations declined 0.4 percent . . . 6 percent of suburban population is now Black.

SUNDAY ELECTIONS? House and Senate committee hearings on proposed legislation to move federal elections from Tuesday to Sunday, as well as other election law changes, are expected by the end of May. Spokesmen for the House Administration Committee and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee said hearings are definitely planned, though no firm date has been set by either panel.

READING, WRITING, AND RELIGION: THE SCHOOLS AREN'T RESPONDING. Even though it has been encouraged by the U.S. Supreme Court, teaching about religion in the public schools is at a low level in the nation's classrooms, and any change for the better is likely to come at a slow pace, according to two experts in the field.

Dr. William Collie and Dr. David Barr, codirectors of the Public Education Religion Studies Center at Wright State University, reached that conclusion in "Religion in the Schools: The Continuing Controversy," in the March issue of Church & State. "Lacking legislative mandate, judicial order, outspoken public demand, or governmental or private funding to foster its growth, public education's response to the opportunity to help students examine religion in an academic setting has been, and probably will continue to be, lukewarm at best," they said. "The development of public education religion studies will continue to take place slowly, largely in piecemeal efforts as individual classroom teachers recognize the need to deal with the religious dimension in their teaching as they attempt to help their students understand the complexities of our social world."
REV. I. ROBERT WANNER, 50, died March 29 in Plattsburgh, N.Y. Funeral services were conducted by District Superintendent George Teague, assisted by a number of ministers from the district. Rev. Wanner had pastored at Port Elizabeth, N.J.; Lancaster, Pa.; Bloomings, Pa.; and Plattsburgh, N.Y. Survivors include his wife, Lois; two sons, R. Andrew and Todd; four grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters.

BERNARD WILLIAM YORK, 61, died January 13 in Montague, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. John Keil. Survivors include his wife, Claudia; three sons, James, Dennis, and Richard; one daughter, Joyce McDowell; four grandchildren; his mother; one brother; and two sisters.

JESSE SAULS, 74, died March 27 in Omaha. III. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Cecil Wiending and Rev. Bud Sork. He is survived by six sons, Jesse (Bud); Bob; Rick; Dean; Truman, and Mike; four daughters, Aileen Crane; Gail Henderson; Genevieve York, and Deanna Hunt; 33 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters.

MORIN B. SCHAEFFER, 65, died Feb. 7 in Monmouth, Ill. Rev. Bob Hale and Rev. Don Porter conducted the funeral services. He is survived by his wife, Vaunceil (Keller); and three sons, Jesse (Bud), Bob, and Richard; one daughter, Joyce McDowell; 39 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one sister.

Laurel G. Hart of Dayton, Ohio, were honored with a 50th wedding anniversary reception at Dayton Grace Church. They were married February 26, 1931. The Leipharts have two daughters: Mrs. Joann Lykins of Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; and Mrs. Alice Lovins of Xenia, Ohio. They have eight grandchildren: Rhonda Lykins, Nashville; Frank Lykins, Trenecca Nazarene College; Cynthia Lykins, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; Peggy Jewett; Diana, Karen, and David Bowers; and Lisa Lovins, all of Xenia, Ohio. The Leipharts have one great-grandchild.

DIRECTORIES

What is the meaning of “the firstborn of every creature [all creation]” in Colossians 1:15? Why the use of the word “Son” in Scripture? What answer can you give to satisfy the minds of some of my Jehovah’s Witness friends—and to strengthen my personal convictions about the matter which certainly are adverse to theirs?

Paul uses this phrase, “firstborn of all creation,” to declare that Christ outranks all creation. As someone has commented, He “towers above the whole creature world.”

The phrase has been used, anciently and modernly, to deny the deity of Christ, and to affirm that He is a creature, the first one created, who then created all the rest.

The whole testimony of the New Testament opposes this heresy, however, and plainly asserts the oneness of Christ with the Father as divine. And the language of this very passage is contrary to such a lowered view of Christ. Paul says “first-born” (prototokos) and not “first-created” (protoktistos). He also calls Christ, in this same verse, “the image of the invisible God.” According to Genesis 1:27, man is created in the image of God. He was not born in God’s image. Man was in the image of God, but Christ is the image of God, eternally so. The nature and being of God are revealed completely and perfectly in Him.

“Firstborn” may denote priority with respect to time or supremacy with regard to rank. Here the emphasis is on rank. The phrase means that Christ is Lord over creation, and He is such precisely because He is the Divine Creator.

Why the use of the word “Son” in Scripture? Because there is no better term to denote our Lord’s identity with, distinction from, and subordination to God the Father.

True, the term “sons of God” is used of angels, and “son” of Israel, and probably of Israel’s kings. But careful attention to such passages as Mark 1:11; 13:32; John 10:30-36; and 20:17 make it clear that Jesus is the Son of God in a sense that no other can be. Neither men, angels, nations, nor kings. As Vincent Taylor wrote, “It belongs to the self-consciousness of Jesus that He believed Himself to be the Son of God in a pre-eminent sense.”

How does a Christian (saved and sanctified) handle anger?

Very carefully!

A good guide is Ephesians 4:26-27: “Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil” (RSV). Be angry only at sin. Don’t allow even righteous indignation to persist very long. Extended anger can betray you into saying and doing wrong, foolish, and damaging things. When you feel angry, ask the Lord to place a sentry at your heart and tongue.

I am reading a book about the U.S.A. in prophecy. The author identifies the United States as the Babylon spoken of in Revelation 17:15. Your comments please.

P.S. There could be a similarity.

I disagree with his interpretation, and I agree with your postscript. The long-standing identification of “Babylon” with Rome seems much sounder to me.
Lakeland, Fla.: First Church recently concluded a great revival meeting with Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Wallace and the Sounds of Faith. The revival, which was scheduled to run for one week, was continued for a second week due to the great response. Under Dr. Wallace’s penetrating, Spirit-anointed Bible preaching, a host of people were saved, sanctified, and reclaimed. The church is more unified than ever, with a deeper commitment to Christ and the building of the kingdom. □

Newcomerstown, Ohio: The church had one of the finest revivals in eight years. There were seekers at the altar each night, and there was a mini personal evangelism clinic held with over 40 in attendance. DeVerne Mullen, the song evangelist, had a fine musical presentation, and Evangelist John Cayton was instrumental in bringing people to Christ by preaching with enthusiasm and depth each night of the meeting. □

—Ray Hassinger, pastor

Tallahassee, Fla.: First Church recently had a revival with Rev. Don Ballard as the evangelist. Many of the church members were revived and new people were saved and are preparing to join the church. Rev. Ballard’s messages were anointed of the Lord and spoke to the needs of our people. Several received help at the altar in every service. □

—H. P. Cooper, pastor

Terra Bella, Calif.: The church had a revival with Evangelists Bob and Ida Mae Mickey. We had good attendance with 90 on Thursday night. There were 11 seekers, mostly children and youth, including one Spanish-speaking teen who was sanctified. This is an important step in reaching the predominately Spanish-speaking community. □

—Lowell S. Keene, pastor

Waverly, Tenn. First Church had a revival with Evangelist D. F. Hail. It helped fulfill the objective of people being rooted deeper in holiness. Great lasting victories were established around the altar of prayer as well as in the home with 18 saved, 9 sanctified, and 3 reclaimed. □

—Richard D. Wagoner, pastor

Chandler, Ind., church had a meeting with Evangelist Keith Bundy. The people had been praying for an old-fashioned revival in the church. The Lord answered prayer. We called Rev. Bundy for a teen revival and it continued for two weeks. There was not one service that people did not find help and victory at the altar, resulting in 46 victories. Many were saved and many were sanctified whole. □

—Dennis King, pastor

East Point, Ga.: The church recently had one of the greatest revivals in the history of the church with Evangelist Calvin Privett and Song Evangelists Chuck and Mary Jackson. There were seekers at the altar every service, with a number converted and many sanctified. Every person in the services received some spiritual help. Entire families were reclaimed. □

—Herb Zuercher, pastor

Grand Rapids, Minn.: The church had a great revival with Evangelist Homer Max. Our objective was a week of “new beginning” for every Christian and unsaved person. God answered prayer and revival came. This week was a significant point in the course of the church with the average meeting attendance of 97, and 30 seekers coming to an altar of prayer. □

—Tom A. Hunter, pastor
On November 30, 1980, over 200 people attended the dedication services of the new sanctuary and offices of the Springfield, Ohio, Maplewood Church. Dr. Raymond Hurn was guest speaker. Rev. M. V. Scutt, district superintendent, brought the morning message and the Crusaders Quartet provided a concert in the evening service. The new sanctuary will seat 250. The facilities were designed by Ted Kelly, architect. Rev. William E. Blain, Jr., is the pastor.

Jacobs and Dad Miller felt led of the Lord to turn the church property over to the Spanish ministry, and they joined Westside's Anglo congregation.

Pastor Enrique Coira, First Latin pastor, plans to start other Spanish missions from the DeSoto Park location.

Dr. Archie Williams, pastor of the Orlando, Fla., Gorman Memorial Church in Orlando's Black community, plans to start two churches per year in an attempt to impact the Black communities of Central Florida.

The first two church-type missions are already functioning; one was organized February 8.

An important part of the plan is the ministerial training school being operated at the Gorman Memorial Church to train ethnic minority pastors.

The Olds, Alberta, church, celebrated its 50th anniversary on February 22, 1981. District Superintendent Alexander Ardrey addressed the congregation in the morning service, and Rev. Rudolf Pedersen (1968-71), spoke to nearly 200 in attendance for the afternoon service.

Greetings were brought to the church from the mayor of Olds, the Olds Ministerial Association, and from several former pastors and members. Among those sharing in the service were: Mr. Cameron Kirk; Rev. Howard Griffin (1971-77); Mrs. William Baptiste (William Baptiste 1951-54); Rev. Norman Falk (1943-44); Rev. Trevor Morgan (1931-32). Mrs. Helen Morgan, a charter member of the Olds Church, shared a special solo as well. Rev. Larry Dahl is the present pastor.

Throughout the past assembly year the congregation invited several former pastors to share in services. Rev. Trevor Morgan in September; Rev. Dan Derksen (1956-59) for a week of meetings in October and Rev. Glen Follis (1963-68) in February.

Historical displays, pictures and artifacts centered on the 50th anniversary of the work done in Olds and on the 10th anniversary of its present facility (built under the leadership of Rev. Pedersen). Assessed value of the building at completion was $140,000 and the congregation has succeeded in its goal to pay off the mortgage within 10 years.

Fifty Nazarenes met on a cold January 4 afternoon to turn the first spade of dirt for construction of the new church in Wichita, Kans., to house a growing Black congregation.

Over $94,000 was pledged during the 1980 district assembly for the North Ash project, according to District Superintendent Marselle Knight.

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Southern California District Superintendent Robert Scott reports a new Spanish ministry is being led by Rev. and Mrs. Joaquin Rodriguez who are pastoring a group which meets in the facilities of San Diego First Church of the Nazarene.

Rev. Scott also reports that Dr. Jonathan Salgado will be working with the district in development of Hispanic ministries. He will be giving half of his time to Anaheim First Church and half to the district assignment.

MEMO to church board members:

Is your pastor enrolled in the Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program? This program, which supplements the “Basic” Pension, is part of the total retirement plan for Nazarene ministers.

Did you know that this program is available for all your ministerial staff and lay church employees as well? More and more churches are enrolling their pastor and staff in this tax-sheltered annuity.

While most annuities charge for administrative costs, there is no such cost for participation in the Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program. Instead, your pastor and staff will earn interest, compounded annually, on every penny deposited for them. Furthermore, the deposits and interest are sheltered from current federal income tax! The program is designed especially for Nazarene ministers and church employees, and is continually reviewed to assure the best return with the most flexibility.

Your pastor and staff deserve an adequate retirement income. The Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program can help you see that they get it.

— Pensions and Benefits Services

Shown (l. to r.), Pastor Dennis S. Boel receives the keys from church treasurer Hunter March, to the automobile the Birdsboro, Pa., church purchased for his use in pastoral ministry.
MANC NURSING PROGRAM ACCREDITED

Mid-America Nazarene College has just received word from the Board of Review of the National League for Nursing that their baccalaureate degree nursing program has received full accreditation.

The MANC nursing program is in its fourth year. This recognition enables MANC's first class of nursing candidates to graduate in 1981 with fully accredited degrees, according to Paul Clem, director of Public Relations.

RILEY ELECTED TO DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

Rev. Phillip Riley, superintendent of the Dakota District, has accepted the election of the General Board as division director of Christian Life and Sunday School. He has been serving as district superintendent for eight years. His successor will be elected at the district assembly to be held in Ellendale, N.D., June 24-25.

Rev. Riley is a graduate of Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville, and Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City. He had served pastorates in Lawson, Mo.; Decatur, Ga.; and Topeka, Kans., before being appointed to the Dakotas. He also served as district NYI president of the Kansas City District.

He and his wife, Shirley, have three children: a daughter, Sondra, and two sons, David and Paul.

EUROPEANS SPONSOR FIRST WORK AND WITNESS TEAM

Recently, the Middle European District completed a work and witness mission to Pernier, Haiti. It was the first work and witness project by a non-North American Nazarene District.

Their team was composed of 15 members and represented social workers, artists, contractors, mechanics, engineers, pastors, and electricians. West German and Swiss Nazarenes donated more than $8,000 for materials to construct a church. Elaine Danker, district missionary president and wife of District Superintendent Hugh Danker, was the project leader. A Nazarene from the Netherlands also took part in this European Work and Witness first.

A complete videotape report was presented to the district assembly of the Middle European District, which includes the countries of West Germany and Switzerland.

GERMAN VERSION OF "THEY CRY IN THE NIGHT" HAS DEBUT

The film, THEY CRY IN THE NIGHT, had its first foreign language debut during the assembly of the Middle European District. The 16-mm. version of the life and ministry of Harmon and Lula Schmelzenbach in Swaziland was dubbed professionally into the German language by a film studio in West Germany.

District Superintendent Danker reported that the film was enthusiastically received and may be aired over German television soon.

DUTCH NAZARENES REPORT GAINS

The Netherlands District just recently closed their 1980-81 assembly season, reporting significant gains in all areas, according to District Superintendent Cor Holleman.

In 1980, membership in Holland increased by 18 percent from 168 to 200. Giving increased from $84,000 to $105,000. There are five ordained elders on the district serving three fully organized churches, plus two new church-type missions organized within the last 10 months.

NSLC MEETS AT OLIvET

The Nazarene Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) met for its annual meeting from Wednesday, April 22, through Friday, April 24, at Olivet Nazarene College. The 69 registered delegates included current and newly elected student body presidents, deans of students, and other student officers from the nine Nazarene liberal arts colleges in the United States and Canada, Nazarene Bible College, and Nazarene Theological Seminary.

The NSLC meets yearly to address a wide range of issues confronting student leadership and methods of improving the quality of campus life at Nazarene institutions of higher education.

Discussions in the 1981 sessions focused on stress, administrative communications, on-campus ministries, urban ministries, and evaluations of the new college-age-oriented magazine, ONE.

The three-day meeting was highlighted by a spring concert of the Orpheus Choir and a tea reception at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Parrott.

Student officers elected to serve for the 1981-82 year are: Kevin Ulmet, president-elect from Trevecca, co-chairman; Juli Crabtree, president-elect from Olivet, vice-co-chairman; and Dave Blaney, president-elect from Eastern, treasurer.

NEW PRESCHOOLER CARAVAN PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Children's Ministries has announced a preschool Caravan program to be called the Chippewas, projected for implementation in the fall of 1982. This two-year cycle is designed as a midweek program for four- and five-year-olds.

The general Preschool Caravan Committee—composed of Miriam Hall, director of Children's Ministries; Robert D. Troutman, editorial director; Fred Sykes, general Caravan director; and Lynda Boardman, preschool ministries director—met recently to discuss the details of organization and production.

The Chippewa program is an experience-based curriculum featuring the learning center approach and contemporary stories. A packet of visual aids will accompany each of the two teachers' guides.

The Preschool Caravan Committee is shown (seated, l. to r.), Lynda Boardman and Miriam Hall; (standing, l. to r.), Fred Sykes and Robert Troutman.
MY PRAYER

Make me a channel
through which You can work
In all I do and say...
Swift to see that worthy trait
That praise will nourish and cultivate
In those I meet each day.

Make me a channel
through which You can bless
In all I do and say...
Ready to lend a listening ear,
Offer encouragement, words of cheer
to lift someone today.

Make me a channel
through which You can love
In all I do and say...
Reaching out to those in need
in comfort or a kindly deed
lead them to the Way.

—GERALDINE NICHOLAS
Abbotsford, British Columbia
In Answer to a Vital Need

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