“NO GREATER JOY”

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth” (3 John 4).

This expression of joy by the elder John of course refers to a report concerning his spiritual children, his converts to Christ who were walking in the truth of the gospel.

But certainly I do no injustice to John’s sentiment if I choose to apply it to my natural offspring—Rebecca and Mark and Beth.

What greater joy can Ruth and I have than to know that our children “walk in the truth”? That they all have found companions—Ted, Jr., and Janice and Mike—who share their faith and their love for Christ and the church? That my six grandchildren—Emily and Paul, Matt and Wes, Jeffrey and Kevin—are being nurtured in God’s grace and guided into the truth?

“No greater joy!” Surely this is life’s supreme joy for parents, and I find my heart framing this prayer:

“Heavenly Father, at this special time of the year when we celebrate the Christian family, I thank You for saving my children, preserving them from the destructive forces of evil, and helping them to establish Christian homes.

“As I look back, Father, I see how much better I might have done as a parent. I’m really not complaining, Lord, or justifying my mistakes, but I didn’t have instructive books on marriage and parenting like the ones James Dobson and others are writing these days. I now can see that many of my efforts were misguided, and it fills my heart with pain. Forgive me, Lord.

“But You were there, and as my Heavenly Father, You made up for my mistakes. For this I am grateful beyond my ability to tell You, Lord.

“And thank You for Your church, through whose ministry and institutions my imperfect efforts as a parent were supplemented. I think now of Sunday school teachers, pastors, college professors, and others You used to mold the growing minds and spirits of my children according to the pattern of Your truth. And I thank You for churches where Your Spirit was present in the tenderness and pungency of holy conviction, awakening their hearts to Your love and their need of Your saving health.

“Etched on my mind forever, Lord, are those sacred scenes when at the altars of Your church I knelt with those who were my own flesh and blood and saw the miracle of Your salvation happen within them! And today I have no greater joy than to know that my children walk in the truth. Preserve them, O Father, in Your ways.

“And bless every parent who reads these lines. In these troubled days when the very foundations are crumbling, give us more Christian homes. Help mothers and fathers to instill in their children those eternal verities which will hold them when the world’s aflame! I pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

by General Superintendent William M. Greathouse
I remember how Mama Prayed

SOMETIMES her face is lost in the shadows of time and her features are vague, but I remember how Mama prayed.

I remember the nightly prayers around the bed and how Mama prayed so long for everything and everybody, even for “black sheep” Uncle Joe, and for a husband for the spinster down the street, and how I fell asleep at Daddy’s feet to awaken the next morning in my warm bed. I could hear Mama in the kitchen as she sang “Amazing Grace” and fixed oatmeal because we couldn’t afford ham and eggs, but it didn’t matter when we bowed our heads in prayer around the table and Mama prayed.

I remember how Mama joined the other ladies of the church and prayed all night for the young girl who had given birth to an illegitimate child, in a day when unwed mothers were severely scorned, and how the baby’s father came back and married her.

I remember how Mama prayed as she sat in the third pew of the church, tears streaming down her face, concerned for the lost, and how she asked God’s blessing on the missionary who was telling us about Africa. That night Mama prayed for the children there as well as for her own.

I remember how Mama prayed as she pedaled the old sewing machine and made me a dress out of scraps and spruced it up with just a touch of rickrack, and how the strains of “Lily of the Valley” in soft, sweet tones followed me as I ran outside.

I remember how Mama prayed through the hardest times when she was sick and weak and tired and the sun was hot and the cotton rows long.

I remember how Mama prayed when the food was gone and I went to sleep with the sound of her petitions going up to God, and the next morning there was food all over the front porch.

I remember how Mama prayed for a pair of hose in a time when they were scarce and women didn’t go to church without them, especially a Sunday school teacher. The preacher’s wife was awakened late on Saturday night, and God told her to go out in the cold, across town, and take Mama a pair of hose.

I remember how Mama prayed when I came home from school upset because someone had laughed at my dress made out of feed sacks, and how she told me “man looks on the outside but God looks on the heart.”

I remember how Mama prayed when the sickness came and there was no antibiotic for pneumonia. Mama slipped away from the house where all the relatives were waiting for me to die, knelt in the old “outbuilding,” and promised God she would give me to Him if He would spare me. Mama felt Jesus touch her shoulder and she went back into the house and told everyone that I was going to live to work for the Lord.

I remember how Mama prayed and told me all the saints’ prayers were bottled up in heaven in little vials, and how I still feel the strength of those prayers seeping out.

I remember how Mama told me before she died, when I was 12, never to grow discouraged, because I belonged to God.

I remember Mama’s prayers and faith, and my own faith becomes richer and stronger for that heritage.

My own faith becomes richer for that heritage
GOD, who is good to us, gives us each a mother. Let me tell you a little about mine.

Her early life reads like a storybook of hardship and courage. The daughter of immigrant parents from Germany, she started life with few advantages. She had to quit school at age 9 and go to work 10 hours a day in a shrimp factory in Biloxi, Miss., where her father was employed. For it was company policy that when children of employees reached that age they too had to work full time for the company or the father lost his job and house!

Her father died in his early 30s of lead poisoning contracted on the job, and things got worse. At one point her mother started for the sea with all her children, intending to throw each one in and follow them herself. As she cut across a lot to reach the water, a woman in a nearby house noticed and invited them in for some food and warmth. (Mother said she gave them lima bean soup and she never forgot how delicious it was.) From that small act of kindness, grandmother took new heart. But all her life my mother knew deprivation and struggle.

Though she rued her lack of formal education, my mother read a great deal. It was mostly the Bible, the Herald of Holiness, the Other Sheep, and I would suppose that she read every one of the missionary “reading books” from her conversion in 1922 to her death in 1973. In talking to her or reading her letters, you would have found it difficult to believe her schooling had been so meager.

She lived in the same house for more than 50 years. It seemed adequate for the seven of us when I was a child. But as I grew older and we came back for our periodic visits, the house seemed to keep getting smaller!

Mother had a sense of humor. One evening her daughters-in-law were seated in the old house describing their own new homes. One lived in a house with a bath and a half, another said hers had two baths and a half, and so forth. After a bit, Mother passed through the room dressed for bed and carrying the “chamber pot” that she needed in her advanced years, saying, “Well, good-night, girls. I’m taking my half bath and going to bed.”

How she loved her home and family. We didn’t have much in those early days that money could buy, but we had all that love would provide. There was homemade bread baked every Tuesday and Friday. Our clothes were often patched, but they were always homemade. We wore homemade shirts, dresses, and even underwear. (Mother said she gave them lima bean soup and she never forgot how delicious it was.) From that small act of kindness, grandmother took new heart. But all her life my mother knew deprivation and struggle.

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God for those churchgoing principles instilled in me before I realized what was happening.

Raised in the Roman Catholic Church, Mother was "born again" some few years after marrying my father and dedicated me to the service of God before I was born.

Prayer was an important part of her life. On coming home from school, I would loudly announce my arrival and if I saw Mother nowhere in the house or yard, I knew where she was. If I listened a little, I would likely hear a conversation going on in the front bedroom with Someone. Should I eavesdrop a bit, I would usually hear my name mentioned. I guess I must have really enriched the prayer life of my mother when I was growing up!

I remember so very well from family devotions in childhood that time was no factor when Mother prayed. She prayed as she always did by calling each member of our enlarging family by name. Then she started on her daily trip around the world, mentioning missionaries, some of whom she had prayed for and had been writing to for 30 or 40 years.

On my last visit home, as we sat talking in the living room, she said, "Well, Son, let's have our devotions." She took her Bible and read (wish now I could recall the selection), then as we sat she bowed her head and prayed. In our early years we always went to our knees for devotions, but as she grew old, the knees didn't bend as well as once they did. For the last prayer that I heard my mother pray, I was seated in the very place where she sat when the Lord suddenly called her home a few weeks later, near the very spot where I was born!

When we received word a few weeks later that Mother had been called by God and we were on our way again to the little hometown, my wife remarked as we drove, "We have been coming up here for 25 years, and this is the first time that Mom is not at the old house waiting for us."

I didn't say anything because of the lump in my throat, but I was thinking. "True, the old house will never be the same without her in it, but she is at another house now, one that will not grow old and outdated. That's where she is waiting and by the help of the Christ to whom she early led me, I plan to continue on this road upward until we meet where partings never come."

Thank You, God, for my godly mother.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN said, "No man is poor who has had a godly mother."

William Thackeray in Vanity Fair wrote, "Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children."

Billy Sunday preached that "God pays a good mother. Mothers, get your names on God's payroll."

I read in the newspaper of a mother in Los Angeles who fed her baby a formula laced with lye in a scheme to sue the formula manufacturer. The mother, 19 years old, was convicted on charges of endangering a child. She had added a lye-based drain cleaner to her 5-week-old daughter's formula. The child began to vomit blood and was treated at a hospital for severe throat burns.

In another newspaper column I read of a mother who saw her son from a "vegetable" state to a bright college student. David's car smashed into a tree in July, 1972. The impact damaged his brain and hurled him into a deep coma. The neurologist predicted that he would live but would be a human vegetable. However, the mother refused to settle for that. She stayed at his hospital bedside for months, encouraging him, prodding him to fight his way back to health. She fed him by hand rather than continue his nourishment through tubes. Her constant communication with her boy paid off when he could blink his eyes at her urging. It was an uphill struggle all the way, but today David Landvater is an excellent college student who swims, gets about in a wheelchair and looks forward to a long, productive life.

Proverbs praises the rewards of the godly mother: "Her children rise up and call her blessed" (Proverbs 31:28, RSV).

The first duty of a mother is to care for the children. Community activities, salaried job, even church obligations cannot come before the care of the children. Nothing is more important in her life than overseeing the maturing of her offspring. Materialistic and secularized persons would have us conclude otherwise; however, their schemes will fail in the wreckage of the lives of their own young. For many it will be too late. Once this generation has smashed to smitherens the chances for the children, there will be no way to put the pieces back together.

I got a phone call at the church study from a young father whom I had never met before. He was asking if I knew some mature Christian woman who could care for his two children during afternoons and nights since he worked on the night shift. His wife had left him and the children, to run about from one disco to another. Another woman, herself divorced, had convinced her that she needed to be liberated, set free from the chores of motherhood. She bit the hook and left the husband and family.

Mother, if you do not care for the children, who will?

Be like Mary, the mother of Jesus. Even in the shadow of the Cross, she was there. Most of the men...
had fled; but a few women—Mary among them—braved the horror of Calvary in order to care for the young Man of Nazareth. She cared. Then He cared in response. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote: “Even he that died for us upon the cross, in the last hour in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of his mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last worldly thought—the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight for heaven.”

Mary watched over her Son. In His death, He watched over His mother. The love between mother and Son could carry the burden. That love had been built upon years of continued, faithful watchings.

Jennifer Selznick, daughter of an actress and a film producer, never had that kind of watching. Jenny often complained to close friends that she and her mother were not close. The mother was always too busy. Jenny envied her mother’s striking beauty and consequent fame. Though the 22-year-old had all that anyone could want in this life in the way of material pleasures, yet she missed that which we all need—mother’s love. The vacuum went deep, tragically deep.

One balmy afternoon in Los Angeles, Jenny rode an elevator to the top of an apartment building, undressed, folded her clothing in a tidy pile, then jumped to her death on the concrete sidewalk 22 stories below.

Godly mothers are gifts from heaven. There is no substitute for the kind of caring love a mother can give her children.

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“I WISH”

—Marion W. (Skip) Barber
Franklin, Ohio

I used to wake on a summer morning and stagger into the kitchen where Mom was heating water for the wash. She’d pause, dry her hands, and set a bowl of Wheaties before me. I’d dress in clothes she wished I didn’t want to wear and venture outside to sit on the edge of the porch in the sunlight. A turtledove would coo on a telephone line and I’d watch an ant wrestle a crumb. Those were good days.

Our home wasn’t always filled with luxuries, not even with what we now consider necessities. Sometimes the only running water was what you pumped, and it had to be boiled before you drank it. Our toilet was the kind you couldn’t flush and consequently was some distance from the house. Not so bad in summer but winter called for real bravery.

Would I go back? You bet I would! Not because I have any affection for pots, pumps, or potbellied stoves but because there was something in the home that money couldn’t buy. It was love.

I wish every child had a mother like mine. No, she never swam the channel or flew the Atlantic, but she was special nevertheless. I can never remember feeling unloved for a moment. Even when I was disciplined or punished, it was done with love. That love I never doubted. I wish that for every child.

When I woke her with a start in the middle of the night to sob out my boyish fears, she never yelled or scolded. We prayed together. I wish that for every child.

She taught me to carry my share of the load. I could never be slothful or lazy. I cleaned my room, made up my bed, and often helped in the kitchen. I knew how to run the clothes through the wringer and wipe down the lines. She made me do my part. I wish that for every child.

When I stole cookies from the neighbor’s kitchen table, she and Dad made me go make restitution. I cried. I was embarrassed. I didn’t ever want to steal again. I wish that for every child.

She taught me to be thankful for the little things in life. We often knelt together for prayer—in the kitchen, the bedroom, or at the couch. Sometimes we just bowed our heads where we sat at the table. I heard her pray and never doubted that God was listening. I wish that for every child.

She didn’t have to take the time, effort, and patience with me that she did; yet she did. I wish that for every child.
IT WAS camp meeting time. The evening service was just beginning. Mother sat near the front, her face beaming. All four of her children were on the platform participating in the service. One was leading the singing. Another was playing the piano. Her son was playing trumpet in the camp meeting band. The youngest daughter was singing in the choir.

Next to Mother sat her sister—her three sons also in the band. It was a glorious occasion for these two ladies whose mother had helped start the historic old camp. It was not far from the place where holiness of heart and life had first been preached in the community. My mother’s mother had been the first seeker.

The camp meeting preacher, Dr. R. T. Williams, was then general superintendent in our church. As a young Christian he had visited in Grandmother’s home. She encouraged him to stay true in spite of intense opposition. And he did. Once I heard him say that Grandmother was the first shouting Methodist he ever met.

On this camp meeting night Mother could remember with a twinge of remorse her resentment toward her mother for getting involved in an “emotional” religion. But Grandmother’s day-by-day victorious life eventually convinced Mother, and her brothers and sisters, of the power of a life committed to God’s will and filled with His Spirit. And it wasn’t long before Mother herself was enjoying the same deep experience.

Camp meeting singing brought Mother’s attention back to the present. “Do you realize,” she whispered to her sister, “that seven of our mother’s grandchildren are helping in this service at a holiness camp meeting? And all because our mother was committed to God’s will.”

Mother could have added, “And also because I was obedient to God’s will for my life.” For you see, Mother could have had a career in the preaching ministry.

When they ordained my father the board wanted my mother to apply for ordination too. She was an excellent speaker—had taken training. She was truly a student of the Bible and theology.

Mother’s reply was, “Oh no, my work is clear. God has already given me my congregation. And no matter how many others I would win through the preached Word, were I to lose those God has already given me, my ministry would be a failure.”

At the time of her decision Mother had two children. Two others came later. Her children were her first concern.

Of course she worked with my father in many ways—played the organ, helped with the singing, and sometimes brought a Bible message. And she was always alert to needs of people in person-to-person relationships. She helped many to experience Christ as their personal Savior.

All of these could rightfully be termed Mother’s congregation. But her primary concern was always her family. “Then what about her own personal needs for self-fulfillment?” people often ask. And of course mothers should think about that.

I don’t know how she did it, but Mother seemed to find fulfillment in working creatively through her family. She loved music, knew something of the basics, and had always wanted to study piano. Whenever she visited Grandmother, or visited any home where there was a piano or organ, she would show her daughter the notes and have a music appreciation session.
As the daughter grew, her love for music became obvious. When she was 10 years old Mother found a way to buy a piano.

Funds were short, but Dad always provided money to have the family laundry done outside the home. This was customary in the area where we lived. By doing the laundry herself, Mother could save the money and make the down payment on a piano.

They worked it out. Now Mother could give my sister lessons on her own piano. She loved it, practiced faithfully, and was soon playing simple hymns for church.

Another daughter loved to draw, to express her ideas in visual symbols. Mother found a way to provide resources for developing those skills.

Each child was different. And Mother’s ministry to her family congregation took note of the individual needs. But all were taught, both by precept and by example, concepts basic to Christian living. She worked carefully to lay the foundations for faith. And she prayed earnestly for God’s Spirit to bring each one to a place of surrender to His will.

Mother lived to see each child accept Christ as personal Savior, and each committed to a life of service.

The question comes, “Do you think your mother ever had regrets that she decided to major on her family rather than a larger career?”

I believe she sincerely felt that her choice to minister to her family was the larger career. In fact, she thought she reached a wider congregation through her investment in her children.

In her younger years Mother had longed to touch people through music. She was to experience that feeling of fulfillment as her daughter played her degree recital in piano, and as that same daughter traveled, played, and sang for revival meetings, and as she used her skills to write songs and compile songbooks for use with children.

Mother lived to see one daughter ordained into the ministry, traveling, preaching, visualizing messages, eventually serving our church headquarters through vacation Bible schools and filmed ministries.

A teacher-daughter trained many who are serving around the world, who in turn are touching hundreds, if not thousands, of lives.

One musical high point in Mother’s life came when an audience of several thousand people heard an outstanding metropolitan symphony orchestra play her son’s composition. She joined in the ovation which brought him back to the stage for four curtain calls.

I applauded too, not only for the orchestra and the composer but also for my mother. She had been her son’s first music teacher!

In fact Mother was the first teacher of each of her children. The same could be said of all dedicated mothers, for they are indeed the world’s first teachers of spiritual truth.

There would be no way to count the multitude in that wider congregation all mothers reach through persons my mother called her first “God-given congregation.”

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Take My Baby’s Hand

Hold my baby’s hand, O Lord,
Within Thy mighty hand;
May he early hear Thy voice
And follow Thy command.

Guide his toddling footsteps, Lord,
And may he never stray
Far from all Thy loving care,
Along life’s rugged way.

Keep the heart within him pure,
His childish eyes aglow
With the sweetness of Thy love,
And may he in wisdom grow.

Take my baby’s hand, O Lord,
And when to manhood grown,
Still beside Thee may he walk,
His hand within Thine own.

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Susanna Roma
Bangor, Pa.

May 1, 1979

H. Armstrong Roberts
I seldom travel by air, but have found it can be more interesting than land travel. One such time our destination was Nashville, Tenn. The connecting flight left Dallas in the late afternoon. We were to arrive in Nashville, after a stop in Memphis, in time for supper with our daughter. At Memphis our plane was delayed. Bad weather had closed in on the Nashville area so that landing was not possible. After considerable delay the pilot advised us that the weather seemed to be improving in Nashville, so we would proceed. We were soon airborne for the 200-mile jaunt.

After what I felt was much too long a time, the pilot advised us that we had been over Nashville for some time but the fog had again socked in the airport, and we would return to Memphis to spend the night. Well, I thought, I might as well be philosophical about it. Take one step forward and find yourself two steps backward! At 11 p.m., we were in the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, guests of the airline. A journey that normally takes about three hours had already taken nine, and we were still far from our destination.

Life is like that! With all of our planning, we sometimes find ourselves far behind our proposed schedule. Perhaps, as in our case, there is no one really at fault. We just put it on the loss side of the ledger.

The next morning we were at the airport at seven o'clock, when the flight was scheduled to leave. With the weather still unstable, it was about 9:00 before our plane again headed for Nashville. For the second time we were unable to land because of dense fog in the airport area. The pilot came on the intercom to report that we would begin flying a holding pattern in anticipation that the wind and sun would soon make a hole and we could get through to land.

What an experience! A trip of about 800 miles, that normally would take 3 hours, including a change of planes and a second stop, was to be about 20 hours long—we could have made better time on the ground!
Have you ever lived through such a period in life—days, maybe months, possibly years when it seemed you were getting nowhere? Your well-made plans became an endless monotony of apparent wandering. I learned that flying in a holding pattern may become boring. You may get irritable and edgy. As we flew through the morning sky, bursting through cumulus clouds, we could see other planes flying in the same manner. The thought occurred—there may be a danger of two planes meeting in midair. That didn’t make me feel better.

But then I reconstructed the whole experience. From the time we began our trip, up to that moment, and until we were safely back on earth, the resources of a large airline were concerned for our safety and comfort. Up front were the pilot and co-pilot in complete control of a $3 million plane. On the ground, dispatch operators in the control tower knew where we were. The pilot could be in instant contact with the tower. We were flying at an assigned altitude and pattern to avoid other planes in the area. When the fog dispersed sufficiently—and it did—we would land at our destination.

Have there been times—maybe now—when it seemed that you should have fulfilled a goal in life? Progress had been good up to a certain point, then you were stalemated. Don’t resort to self-pity. If you will look around, you will find you are not alone. It happens to most of us. My father used to tell me, “Misery loves company.” Love it or not, misery has company.

I had faith in the pilot, the plane, and those who controlled our flight from the ground. I was entirely dependent upon them. If we remember that God can and will guide us when we reach the limit of our resources, the going will be easier and more secure.

Are you living “in a holding pattern” in some area of your life? You may be there through no fault of your own. You probably will need help to resolve the situation.

These thoughts bring to my memory the chorus of an old song the founders of our church sang with faith and gusto: “Keep holding on, Keep holding on, The victory will soon be won; The longest day will soon be gone. Keep holding on, Keep holding on.”

BECOMING A SOCIAL PERSON

by LYLE P. FLINNER
Bethany, Okla.

Infants are not very socialized. They insist on their own way and demand “what they want when they want it,” which is inevitably “now.” They may emphasize their request by a floor-stomping, blue-faced temper tantrum, and you know they have a long way to go to really fit into society.

The whole world revolves around the infant’s wants and desires and needs. Infants are extremely self-centered. There is no orientation toward the future, no delaying of the fulfillment of their wants to a more appropriate time—only an intense insistence on immediate satisfaction.

As parents we accept this problem as a challenge and make every attempt to socialize the child. We try to temper this attitude of “self-centered satisfaction at any cost” so the child can learn to adjust and adapt to the concerns, desires, and values of others. We try to get the child to relinquish his demand for the immediate fulfillment of his wants and delay satisfaction to a more appropriate time. In other words, we recognize that this stage is temporary and that only proper training and learning can lead the child to the development of a socialized attitude toward the people in his world.

In a sense, our problem of “becoming” is just this process by which we graduate from self-centered tantrums (to get our way) to controlled demands and delayed satisfactions—moving away from purely impulsive reactions. By this process we develop and fit into our complex world with structured loves, loyalties, and interests. Our striving, which was before so impulsive and transitory, now becomes socially responsible, controlled largely by our self-awareness.

Of course, Christianity creates even more demands and expectations in relation to the process of socialization. The Christian not only learns to refrain from immature, self-centered actions, but takes positive steps toward others. He learns not only to delay his own wants and desires, but actually to forfeit them on many occasions in the interests of others.

In this way we move from an infantile concern with getting our own way to a primary concern that the needs of others are met first. This results from God’s Spirit working with our spirits.

POINT TO PONDER: Have I learned to sacrifice what I want in order to give you what you need?
at first, she finally regained her wits enough to touch the release button with her foot. By this time, she had suffered third degree burns. Her hand was baked almost down to the bone.

They rushed her to the hospital where she was to remain for several days. Both of her doctors told her that her hand was a total loss and would have to be amputated. She would never be able to use it again.

With all the grit she could muster, she told them, "You're not taking my hand off. I will use it again. I'll do everything I ever did before this happened."

She was adamant in her refusal to have it amputated. Finally, under pressure, the doctors gave in, all the while warning her how foolish she was acting.

They grafted skin from other parts of her body onto her hand. The healing process was slow and tedious, but at last she was dismissed from the hospital. She would remain under the doctor's care for many months. Her hand was a scarred ugly mass of flesh, just as the doctors had predicted.

By this time, Viola and her husband Bob had started attending church regularly and had been converted. She would often testify, "I thank God that my hand got burned. It took that to bring me back to the Lord. The doctors wanted to take my hand off. They said I would never use it, but by the grace of God, I will."

She began her campaign to regain the use of her hand by wadding up paper into balls with her stiff hand. This was slow and painful, but she refused to give in. She forced herself to use her right hand every day. With God's help and her dogged determination, she did regain its use.

Through the years the scars and redness faded. Now people barely notice that her right hand is any
DON'T ask me to dance!

Why? Because my church takes a firm stand against dancing.

Why does my church oppose dancing?

Would you expect to find Jesus at a dance, or involved in dancing? Can you imagine finding the apostles at a dance, or any of Jesus' followers? The honest answer would be "no." Followers of Christ make their decisions by asking whether Jesus would do it, or whether He would enter such a place. If Jesus wouldn't be there, neither should His followers.

As a police officer, I would receive disturbance calls to go to dances at schools, church halls, parks, clubs, and dance halls. The setting for the dances was always dimly lit rooms. Each time I asked, "Why is it so dark here?" the answer was always the same, "We can do our own thing in the mood of darkness."

As I watched, the dancers swayed, swiveled, gyrated, shimmied, contorted, and shook, sending messages of sexual fascination to the dancing partner. The pleasure of dancing is found in the messages sent and received through the body in tune to music. While at the dance hall, I have listened to the illicit comments made by young men about girls. I talked with 30 young men about what went on in their minds during and after a dance; most of them said they got turned on sexually and felt lustful; several commented, "But that's what the dance is all about."

I recall the days when I went to dances before I was a Christian. In all of my experiences at dance halls, I never met anyone who wanted to talk about the high standards of Jesus or the pure message of God's word. I have never met a person who wanted to dance and also work for the Lord.

Young people ask, "What is wrong with going to the dances?" And then they go to dances and lose their standards, morals, and virtue. Dancing never helps a person to live by the high ethical standards of the Ten Commandments.

After I became sanctified, I lost all desire to go to dances. Becoming more interested in Bible studies and Christian fellowship, I quit dancing for the things of God.

The Bible guided me away from dancing. Galatians 6:8: "He that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption." Colossians 3:2-5 advised me, "Set your affections on things above." And 2 Timothy 2:21 said, "Flee youthful lust." As a sinner I knew I was given over to the pleasures of the world and the satisfactions of the flesh. As a Christian, I realized the war going on between my spirit and flesh.

To avoid sinful pride, and wrong affections that stirred up sinful passions out of control, I could no longer attend dances.

God knows our emotions, our passions, and the temptations of the flesh. His advice is wise to avoid temptation.

Viola Thomas is still praising God for allowing her to almost lose her hand, because it was that accident that brought her back to Him. I thank God that she came back to Him also. If she had not, it is unlikely I would ever have been saved either. It has been my privilege to know this plucky lady all of my life. She is my mother.

different from the left. Her fingers are still stiff, but she writes, cooks, sews, and does everything with her hand that she did before. She has steadfastly refused to pamper herself.

For over 36 years she has remained true to God. For 28 of those years she has taught a primary Sunday school class at First Church of the Nazarene in Pekin, Ill. She has watched her earlier pupils grow up, marry, and have children of their own. Many of these children have, themselves, been in her class.

The years have taken their toll on her health. She is no longer able to get out to church services as often as she would like, but she is still serving the Lord. She never misses an opportunity to speak up for Him wherever she is. People will often share their heartaches with her because they know she is a great one to pray.

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LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart . . . these commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them upon your children" (Deuteronomy 6:5-7, NIV).
Trusting God's Hidden Reasons

by DOROTHY BOONE KIDNEY
Washburn, Me.

I spent a winter in North Carolina a couple of years ago. Every week while there I passed a large, surprising sign on my way to Raleigh. The sign was professionally neat and stated in bold letters BOWLING SCHOOL FOR DOGS. It stood in front of an attractive building on a busy highway. That sign intrigued me. I knew that some dogs are intelligent and very teachable. We owned a German shepherd once who possessed, I am sure, a very high “dog I.Q.” But teaching dogs to bowl? It didn’t seem possible!

And yet, that’s exactly what the sign stated.

In the spring, just before I left North Carolina, I met on the road near Raleigh a large truck, apparently from the same school for dogs. In big letters on the side of the truck were the words: TRACY BOWLING. And under his name: SCHOOL FOR DOGS. The mystery was cleared up! It really wasn’t a bowling school for dogs after all, but simply a school for dogs operated by Mr. Bowling.

After my return to Maine, I sat one day staring out my window at the high school building across the street. I wasn’t simply looking, I was staring in utmost astonishment. Driving along the narrow peak of the auditorium roof was a full-sized truck! This was an impossible thing! Even with my limited knowledge of mechanics, I knew that in all probability the truck’s axles would get hung up on that sharp peak, making it impossible for the wheels to move along on the slanted roof. And, of course, there was no plausible reason for a truck being on a school roof, and it was plain to see that on reaching the far end the truck would surely tumble to the ground. But there was that enormous truck moving easily and rapidly along the peak of the roof!

Then I recalled that there was a hill directly behind the auditorium, and along the crest of that hill there was a field road. From where I sat the road was on a level with the peaked roof of the auditorium. Both hill and road were blocked from my view by the large auditorium in the foreground. The truck looked as if it were traveling along the peak of a roof when, in fact, it was traveling on a road.

Within months I’d had two logical explanations for seemingly impossible situations. Today I read in the Bible, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28). And I thought, “Some situations we are passing through make no more sense to us at the moment than a bowling school for dogs and a truck on a peaked roof. We daily ask ourselves, “How can my sickness, my loss, my disappointment be working favorably in my behalf?” Many times we have no immediate answers, no logical solutions.

At those times we must cling to faith alone, to belief in the Scriptures. We must remember that an explanation of just how and why the situation is working together for our good is in God’s hands. The scripture does not state, “For we know how things work together for good” Instead it simply states, “And we know all things work together for good.” God may reveal the reason for seemingly unfortunate circumstances during the passage of time.

On the other hand, we may never understand the God-permitted reason behind our setbacks, but like a bowling school for dogs and trucks on high school auditoriums, the reason is there even if not apparent to us at the moment. The reasons and explanations and procedures are in His department. And to us He has assigned only the trusting and believing.

Unconditional Love

Dear Lord,
It’s almost Monday morning
and I thank you . . .
But Lord—
It’s hard being everything
for everybody;
To be understanding and patient
with my daughter this next 24 hours;
To smile at my husband at 6:00;
To keep an orderly home;
To represent You the entire day;
To welcome daily obstacles
as opportunities to grow;
To be “climate setter” at 32 Quince Court.
I’m going to fall short and fail to be
All you want me to be, Lord.
But being You, You’ll “pass” me . . .
And then give me Tuesday morning.

—DEBORA ZOLLO
Mount Laurel, N.J.
LOVE MADE PERFECT

by LOREN W. GOULD
Virginia Beach, Va.

In the first part of the fifth chapter of Romans, Paul draws a picture of the whole of Christian experience. But just as a rose gradually unfolds from a tiny bud to full beauty and fragrance, even so Paul’s message unfolds to its utmost beauty in verse five when he captures his whole concept of Christian experience in the words “…the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

Paul draws the same picture of Christian experience in Ephesians 1:4, where he declares that our holiness and blamelessness before God is due to a love relationship with God. Also in 1 Corinthians 12 and 13 he declares, after considering all spiritual gifts and experiences, that the most excellent of them all is the way of love. Without doubt, from the context of his writings, Paul equated holiness with the infilling and outworking of love in a person’s heart and life.

This same theme is also expressed in 1 John 4:16-18. There the apostle says that “perfect love casteth out fear.” He makes it clear in this scripture (as Paul infers on so many occasions) that love made perfect within us expels or casts out all fear and condemnation before the Lord. To expel fear and condemnation, “perfect love,” which is wrought by the Holy Spirit, must cast out the whole unruled brood of dispositional traits which cause fear and condemnation before the Lord—such as short-temperedness, unkindness, jealousy, pride, selfishness, touchiness, suspicion, lust, resentment, and faultfinding.

When perfect love has expelled from our hearts these unruly carnal traits, the law of love prevails within us. We can then truly love the Lord our God with all our heart and love our neighbors as ourselves. If this has happened, life can no longer be drab, sour, bitter, or burdensome, but has become joyous, radiant, and optimistic. There is little that can lift us and excite us more than to find that the love of God, “shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost,” has so refined, enriched and beautified our very nature that we are blameless before God, and are in harmony with our fellowmen.

An old sculptor once fashioned a model of a beautiful cathedral. Although it was an exquisitely finished miniature replica, nobody admired it as it lay there, covered with dust and filled with insect nests, in a dark corner of his studio. One day, however, he engaged an apprentice who began to tidy the room. He dusted off the model, cleaned out the cobwebs and insect nests, polished the stained glass windows, and placed a light inside. The rays of light burst forth from the cleaned and polished structure and transformed it into such magnificent beauty that all who entered the room stopped to admire this replica of God’s sanctuary.

Even so, when the Holy Spirit cleanses, polishes, and sheds abroad the light of “perfect love” within the heart and life of a believer, that Christian becomes a vessel of beauty and honor, fit for the Master’s use. He is sanctified, made holy, with perfect love shining forth through his whole life.

HELP TO HOLY LIVING

so refined, enriched and beautified our very nature that we are blameless before God, and are in harmony with our fellowmen.

An old sculptor once fashioned a model of a beautiful cathedral. Although it was an exquisitely finished miniature replica, nobody admired it as it lay there, covered with dust and filled with insect nests, in a

FREEDOM FROM WANT
Twelve unique, refreshing meditations from Psalm 23 make up the chapters of this inspiring book. Building upon the metaphor of the Palestinian shepherd, the author leads his readers through a consideration of varying experiences in the Christian life.

“It is a down-to-earth psalm,” claims the author in the introduction, “…to meet the needs of your life... in the home, the business office, the factory, and the store.” Thus he proceeds to apply to contemporary life the lessons of the Shepherd/Lord, Shepherd/Provider, Shepherd/Companion, and more.

Volumes have been written on Psalm 23, and scores of Christians have drawn hope, comfort, and encouragement from this familiar psalm. In our fast-moving, nerve-shattering world we do well to consider, and apply to our hearts, devotional thoughts on the Shepherd Psalm, such as this book offers.

FREEDOM FROM WANT
by E. E. Wordsworth
Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City

To order, see page 23.

BOOK BRIEFS

Reviewed by NORMAN R. OKE
Colorado Springs, Colo.

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WHAT IS LOVE? Does it come in all shades and colors? What about its effect? Who starts and sustains it?

When I was 15 years old my parents were going through some pretty turbulent times maritally. I was caught up in the midst of this conflict. The bickering and fighting left me taut, anxious, and upset. I was ready for love. I needed love—to bring peace to my hungry and distressed heart.

Love arrived in a person. It was a beautiful lady in her 40s who lived and breathed Jesus Christ. I believe very firmly that love can be embodied in people. My precious friends demonstrated in many ways how love can be effective and useful. She would listen to my problems and react with compassion, but focusing on God’s Word for solutions and answers. This just boggled my mind—a person acting and reacting to my sordid life-style with no rancor or hostility, but pure love and concern.

I was begging and pleading for someone to “Please pass the love.” She did it! Her characteristics, traits, and acts ultimately brought me to Jesus Christ. I saw Him in a most pronounced and indelible way in this lovely lady.

Her life and deeds that set her apart from others I knew in the community were:

A very strong, aggressive, and determined attitude. She had goals and objectives that must be accomplished—nothing could deter her;

An astute scholar of God’s Word. She literally lived in the Bible. She made it an integral part of her life;

A concern and compassion for others. This was evidenced by her teaching ministry—Sunday school, release time classes, Child Evangelism, etc;

Missionary minded—she had a son in Chile with the Christian and Missionary Alliance;

Tithing—she gave cheerfully above and beyond her tithe. This really impressed me and has helped me tremendously in my attitude toward giving.

As an impressionable teenager, I saw our Savior in this person. I knew the reality of Jesus Christ because I saw a person who was totally committed to Him in every area and aspect of her life. Too often we are content to live a shabby, substandard Christian experience, but once we have seen Christ embodied in a life, we can have a proper perspective. I now can delineate between the false and the true. My eyes have seen the glory of the Lord.

Paul said, “Follow me as I follow Christ.” This is a pretty bold statement, but shouldn’t our testimonies be such that we can echo the same truths as the apostle Paul? If our lives are centered in Christ and He controls and dominates our lives, then the abundant life should be ours.

I’m thankful for Elsie Barker and her life. I firmly believe I would not be a Christian today if I hadn’t seen the risen Lord in her life. God forbid that I deify and glorify a mere human. I don’t believe I am, however, because in Galatians 2:20, Paul says, “Christ liveth in me.” I saw Christ in her. My praise is to Him. He gets the glory—but the inescapable, and still relevant, fact is that I saw Him through a person—a very lovely and precious person who wasn’t afraid to pass the love of Jesus on to me. May we resolve to be torchbearers of His love in the winning of men and women, boys and girls, for Jesus Christ.
One of the seven terms used in 3 John to designate Christians is “strangers.” It occurs only once, in verse 5, and is used of some who are called “brethren” and “fellow workers” elsewhere in the letter. These “strangers” were traveling missionaries, and Gaius is commended for helping them.

1. All Christians were once “strangers” to God.

Paul writes, “Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19). His converts had been “strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world” (Ephesians 2:12). Alienated by sin from God, people are strangers. Christ rescues strangers from this hopelessness, this godlessness, by reconciling them to God and incorporating them into the church.

2. All Christians remain “strangers” to an unsaved world.

Peter addresses his first epistle to “the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, etc.” (1 Peter 1:1). He urges them “as strangers and pilgrims” to “abstain from fleshly lusts” (1 Peter 2:11). The world does not understand believers who differ in heart and life from the masses. This brings them into collision and causes suffering. But like the Old Testament saints who lived and died in faith, confessing that they were “strangers and pilgrims on the earth,” Christians seek “a better country” (Hebrews 11:13-16). At home in heaven, the trials of exile will be forgotten.

3. Some Christians are “strangers” to one another.

“Brethren” may be “strangers” because of racial, cultural, and geographical differences. These barriers should be overcome when they meet, however, because they are one in the Christ who saves them and in the cause that enlists them, which is the burden of verses 5-8.

(1) “Strangers” among brethren created the obligation for hospitality.

Traveling ministers were to be welcomed (v. 10) and supported (v. 8) “as befits God’s service” (v. 6, RSV). In New Testament times such missionaries would have no place to stay, no provisions for good, shelter, and laundry apart from being welcomed into Christian homes. They “went forth” for “his name’s sake,” and accepted nothing from the heathen lest the gospel as grace be misconstrued. So unless the church supported them in each place, they were sunk.

(2) This obligation for hospitality created the risk of being bamboozled by insincere itinerants. Love would prefer to run the risk rather than default the obligation. Not that Christians were to be gullible, the sure prey of religious con artists. Indeed, certain safeguards and guidelines are suggested in 3 John.

The itinerants must be doing “God’s service.” As 2 John makes clear, anyone who comes along who does not abide in “the doctrine of Christ” is not to be welcomed or supported (2 John 9-11). In this case hospitality would be complicity in evil.

Again, the itinerants must be without adequate support otherwise. There is obligation to help only those who “have accepted nothing from the heathen” (RSV).

Finally, the itinerants are sent “on their journey.” Those who settle permanently, expecting to be continuing recipients of the church’s welfare, should be told to work or not eat (2 Thessalonians 3:10).

“Strangers”—to God when in sin; to the world when in Christ; to each other when in strange places; but only shortly so!

As Shadows Fall

My steps are slower with each day
And dimming eyes greet each day’s light
But He is with me all the way
And heaven’s gates glow ever bright.
More toilsome seems the load I bear.
More days are short—though life grows long.
But in this valley He is there—
And in death’s night He’ll be my song.

—CHRIS GRAUMAN
Dwight, Ill.

MAY 1, 1979 17
MOTHER’S DAY

Some mothers are honored once a year and then ignored. Mother’s Day is a one-day orgy of sentiment followed by 364 days of neglect. Now and then critics argue for the abolition of Mother’s Day. They contend that the special attention paid to mothers on that one day is a salve for the conscience of those who do nothing to express appreciation on other days. But mothers may prefer one day in the sun to all days in shadow.

It’s like an old story about a church that decided not to have its annual revival. The only convert for years was the town drunk, and he always fell off the wagon and resumed his blurry, abusive ways after two weeks. When the no-revival decision was announced, to the surprise of everyone the drunk’s wife vigorously objected and tearfully begged them to have the meeting. The two weeks he was sober and kind were the highlight of her year!

Whatever valid criticism can be made of mawkish sentiment and gross commercialism, Mother’s Day is a good thing. But it ought to be special, not as a contrast to customary indifference, but as a heightened expression of constant affection and appreciation.

Scripture enjoins us to honor our mothers. Certainly, in the normal home, no one is more deserving of love and respect, for no one works harder, gives more, and complains less than our mothers. Mother’s Day does not fulfill the commandment, of course, for God calls us to cherish and respect our mothers constantly. But the special day is not inconsistent with the commandment, and Christian children should take the lead in showing love for mothers. Hi, Mom! Your son, the editor, is still sober, and loves you deeply!

A LIVELY DEBATE

There is a lively debate going on among Wesleyan scholars concerning the terminology of holiness. The focal issue is whether it is scriptural to use “baptismal” language (“the baptism with the Holy Spirit”) to identify or describe the experience of entire sanctification.

Because so few of us are party to the discussions, and because damaging rumors are the basis on which many are reacting to the discussions, I think a few comments here would be appropriate.

1. The debate is an old one. It goes back to Wesley himself, who did not use or approve “baptismal” language (“the baptism with the Holy Spirit”) to refer to the work of entire sanctification, and his friend John Fletcher, who did, but whose use of it does not exactly parallel much popular usage in today’s holiness movement. The issue has continued from Wesley’s day to ours, with ardent advocates of holiness on both sides.

2. Those who side with Wesley on this question are not denying the possibility of entire sanctification as a “second definite work of grace.” They are debating, not the reality of the experience, but the appropriate terminology for understanding and describing the experience. At least, this is true of every scholar involved in the debate with whom I have talked personally—and I’m cornering and questioning every one I can.

3. The concern of both sides in the debate, and of those seeking middle ground, is for integrity in exegeting Scripture and doing theology. Men with honest differences of opinion, as Wesley himself insisted, can disagree in love. Our scholars face this challenge and meet it well. Those of us who keep “hearing about” the debate must be careful not to spread rumors, credit innuendos, or jump to conclusions. We must seek the truth in love as well as speak the truth in love.
We learn from Jesus what it means to be a true child to a good mother. The right kind of obedience, independence, and enduring love are clearly demonstrated for us.

JESUS AND MARY

The church has always contended for the perfection of Jesus' life. He is our model in behavior and relationships. Let's look at His relationship to His mother, Mary.

In childhood He was subject to her (Luke 2:51). Obedience to parents was a rule of life for His growing years, as it was for every faithful Jew (Exodus 20:12).

In manhood He respected her, but He was no longer subject to her. Their exchange of words at the wedding feast in Cana makes this clear (John 2:3-4). His life was now directed, not by the wishes of His earthly mother, but by the will of His Heavenly Father. No son can more truly honor his mother than by doing the will of God.

Mary did not always understand Jesus (Mark 3:20-21, 31-34), but their love for each other remained unaffected by this fact. That love was beautifully attested when Mary kept heartbroken vigil at His cross, and Jesus spoke out of His intense agony to provide for her future (John 19:25-27). No scene in all of history is filled with deeper, purer pathos.

Of course, there are unique and unsharable elements in Jesus' relationship to Mary, for He was the Son of God in a sense that no other is or can be. Mary's Son became her Savior and Lord. He obeyed her as a child, but He commanded her as the Lord. She cared for Him in the earthly home at Nazareth, and He prepared for her an eternal home in heaven.

Beside these unique factors, however, we learn from Jesus what it means to be a true child to a good mother. The right kind of obedience, independence, and enduring love are clearly demonstrated for us. We can test our relationships in the light of His.

PERSISTENT INTEREST

I was flying to Oklahoma City. The woman in the next seat was at least 75 years old, even allowing for the adage that appearances are deceitful. She was so engrossed in a magazine article that my curiosity was aroused. I sneaked a glance at the title atop the page. It read, "So, How's Your Love Life?" Well, I thought, you are certainly to be commended for the persistence of your interest!

Lots of folks used to be interested in the Bible who seldom if ever read it now. They are like the illiterate Scotsman whose pastor patiently taught him to read the Bible. The pastor met the fellow's wife one day and asked, "How's Angus coming along with his Bible reading?" "Oh, my," she answered briskly, "he's been clear out of the Bible and into the newspapers for weeks now."

Lots of folks once were interested in the church who rarely attend its services now. They find it too convenient to lounge at home in front of the television set. If the resurrection took place and wasn't filmed they would never know it happened. Many have dropped out of prayer meetings and think the Lord should be flattered if they nod in His direction on Sunday mornings.

Jesus said, "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13). Only those who persevere through thick and thin will possess the kingdom at last. Those whose enthusiasm was immediate but whose commitment was shallow will be lost. We used to sing, "I'm going through, Jesus, I'm going through." Only the persistent will discover the immense joy of His presence at the victory banquet.

I admire a woman of 75 who is still concerned about her love life! How is your love life? Do you love the Lord now as you did when you first began to serve Him? Do you still love His house, His people, His Word, and His work?
Rev. Bradford A. Seaman was commissioned a United States Army National Guard Chaplain on October 28, 1978. He was appointed as a First Lt. to the 38th Division Artillery of the Indiana Army National Guard with its Headquarters at Indianapolis. He will attend the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Wadsworth, of Staten Island, New York this summer.

Rev. Seaman is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College with an A.B. in religion. He has two Master Degrees from the School of Theology of Anderson College. He is presently completing the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Drew University.

Rev. Seaman pastors the Indianapolis Central Church.

PARSONAGE FAMILIES ELIGIBLE FOR HOUSING ALLOWANCE

Pastors who are provided with a parsonage by the church may also be eligible for housing allowance. Generally, churches that provide a parsonage also provide all utilities. However, if utilities are not paid directly by the church, part of salary can be designated as housing allowance for utilities. This housing allowance can also be used for parsonage furnishings provided by the pastor, or other costs of providing a home which are not paid by the congregation.

The pastor’s housing allowance is not subject to U.S. federal income tax if: (1) the amount is designated annually in advance by the church board, and (2) it is actually used to provide a home (such provision includes furnishings, utilities, yard care, etc.). However, the housing allowance is taxable for Social Security purposes.

Ernie McNaught has accepted the call to pastor Hillsboro, Ore., church. He left his position as campus ministry coordinator in the Department of Youth Ministries, February 15, 1979.

While in the Youth Department, Ernie was dedicated to exploring and expanding the possibilities of an outreach ministry to the secular campus. He held workshops and fulfilled speaking roles that furthered work in this area.

He also played a key role in the annual summer ministry program sponsored by the Youth Department. Ernie led the Inter/Sect, the inner-city ministry teams, and Contact, the Home Mission ministry team.

He was a member of Kansas City Nall Avenue Church, where he served.

Winners of Southwest Indiana’s fall, 1978, Sunday school campaign toured Nazarene Publishing House, Nazarene Theological Seminary, and World Headquarters March 16. Rev. Gerald O. Green, district Christian Life chairman, and District Superintendent B. G. Wiggs accompanied the group of 32. Seven pastors, seven group leaders, and their wives were included. Their comments were: “We love our church... Thanks for making this tour available.”
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Life Grows Better with GOOD BOOKS

on the Church Board and taught a Sunday school class for singles. While he was the teacher, the class nearly doubled in size.

Ernie, his wife Jan, and their children Chris and Susan, moved to Hillsboro, Ore., the last of February.

WETMORE SPEAKS AT AWARDS CHAPEL

The annual awards chapel was held at 9 a.m. Friday, March 30, in the General Board auditorium to honor 34 Headquarters' employees who, as of December 31, 1978, had completed 2, 5, 10, 15, or 25 years of full-time service at International Headquarters.

Rev. Gordon Wetmore, pastor of Kansas City First Church and president of the General Board, spoke on the theme: "The Body of Christ at Headquarters."

Headquarters people receiving special recognition were:

- 2 years of service: Mabel Adamson, Nina Beegle, Leonard Budd, Shirley Church, Mabeth Clem, Rebecca Crawford, Sandra Cunningham, Sarah Denton, Dr. William M. Greathouse, Linda Hunt, Steve Miller, Marie Saville, Beth Scott, Julie Shelley, Ron Simers, Beverly Smith, Darrell Teare, Gene Van Note, Lois Van Note.
- 5 years of service: Jorge Barros, Eldora Browning, Claudia Curiel, Ron Denton, Donna Fillmore, Dr. Jerald Johnson, Mary Alice Medley.
- 10 years of service: Vivian Bruner, Robert Troutman, of the Department of Children's Ministries, received a watch for 25 years of service. He was presented by Mrs. Miriam Hall, executive director of the department, who gave a brief resume of his activities during that time. Troutman responded by saying that he felt his service at Headquarters was the way God wanted him to fulfill his call to preach.

Following the Awards service, refreshments were served in the first floor lobby of the General Board Building.

—NCN

CHURCH BOARD COLLOQUIUM

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. More and more churches are enrolling their pastor 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 will earn interest—9 percent compounded annually—on every penny deposited for him. And those deposits are sheltered from current federal income tax.

Your pastor deserves an adequate retirement income. The Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Program can help you see that he gets it.

May 1, 1979

21
A YOUTH IN MISSION PROGRAM designed to place a college student in your local church, on your district, or in a specialized ministry for the summer.

They could be:
- camp workers
- VBS workers
- youth ministers
- music directors
- bus callers
- children’s workers

They could do:
- drama
- crafts
- personal evangelism

They could work:
- with senior adults
- at day camps
- as preschool assistants
- as summer sports directors

For more information:
contact the Director of Summer Ministries for the college on your educational zone.
The General NYI Council is pictured front row: (l. to r.), Gary Henecke, Holland Lewis, Jesse Middendorf, and Bob Boden; second row: (l. to r.), Ron Lush, Bob Sturtevant, Phil Nelson, Ron Huff, and Daniel Cordova; third row: (l. to r.), Jim Paddock, Jan Spijkman, Ron Corbin, Bill Nelson, and Henry Chen; (not pictured, Mark Crofford, and Paul Fukue).

Conference where 2,500 teens and adults pledged themselves to a discipleship mission. It was also the year in which Holland Lewis was the first general NYI president to represent NYI in an overseas trip to Jamaica.

Committees met to brainstorm and evaluate different aspects of NYI as related to the staff responsibilities in the Department of Youth Ministries. Most of the ideas were presented as resolutions to the general session and passed to be implemented as soon as possible. Some of the resolutions included calling for a marketing study of youth periodicals, calling for a curriculum study, implementing ideas that will coordinate Quizzing with the discipling emphasis, and maintaining an NYI role in an ever-expanding campus ministry.

Much time and careful consideration was given to crucial structural changes in order to achieve the coordinating goal the Division of Christian Life seeks to fulfill. The proposal, passed by General Council, and subsequently passed by the General Board, identifies a leadership structure of adults with the purpose to fulfill ministry and resource roles in NYI. It also calls for parallel responsibility roles elected from the 12- to 23-year-old age-group. This structure is very similar to the local church relationship between youth minister/adult sponsors and teen council.

The weather added an unforgettable "P.S." to the council meeting when it covered the ground with six inches of snow. Despite cancelled planes, stuck cars, and treacherous driving, General NYI Council closed a successful and productive meeting.

MRS. DELONG SUFFERS BROKEN HIP

Mrs. Russell V. DeLong fell and suffered multiple fractures of her hip in mid-March. She underwent surgery, but is having a good recovery. By March 30, she was in medium-care hospital, expecting to go home in a few days.

Dr. and Mrs. DeLong live at 5062 48th Avenue N., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33709.

GENERAL NYI COUNCIL MEETS

The 1979 General NYI Council met January 10-13 at TWA Breech Academy. Part of this time was given to reporting on a successful year. Highlights included World Youth
ABBE, GARY, CARYNN, WENDY, & CHRIS: Carol, MI. May 1-4; Gothenburg, NE. May 13-20.
ATTLE, WALTER W.: Marysville, IL. May 1-6.
RHIKER, B.: OH. May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
BELL, RICHARD: May 1-6; Roanoke, VA. May 22-27.
BEECHER, LESLIE R.: May 1-6; Cranston, RI. May 22-27.
BARR, RAYMOND: May 1-6; Cedar Falls, IA. May 22-27.
BECKETT, C. FRANK: May 1-6; Cedar Falls, IA. May 22-27.
BERTOLETS, MUSICAL; Berman, AL.: May 1-6; Chillicothe, OH. May 22-27.
BOHI, JAMES: May 1-6; Cleveland, OH. May 22-27.
BROWN, ROGER: May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
BROOKS, GERALD & JUNE: May 1-6; Council Bluffs, IA. May 22-27.
BUCKLES-BURKE EVANGELISTIC TEAM: May 1-6; Council Bluffs, IA. May 22-27.
CLARK, GENE: May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
COLUMBUS, OH: May 1-6; Council Bluffs, IA. May 22-27.
COLLINS, LUCIUS: May 1-6; Cleveland, OH. May 22-27.
COOK, BILL & TERRI: May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
CONE, ANDREW F.: May 1-6; Council Bluffs, IA. May 22-27.
CRANE, BILLY D.: May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
CULBERTSON, BERNIE: May 1-6; Council Bluffs, IA. May 22-27.
DANA: May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
COLUMBIA CITY, IN (First): May 1-6; Columbus, OH. May 22-27.
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NOTE: The evangelists' slates are printed in the Herald monthly. The full directory is published quarterly in the Preachers' Magazine.
GET ON BOARD, CHILDREN
Makes the story of Noah and the Ark come to life in a child’s world of imagination. Written by Janette Smart and Terry Camsey — arranged by Otis Skillings. Children’s choir, cast of 6 and narrator. Easy to learn — fun to present. 25 min.
BOOK MB-410 $1.95 BOOK/ALBUM L-7137C $7.95
ALBUM L-7137 $6.98 ACC. TAPE MU-7137 $30.00

NO MORE RAIN
Delightful musical play by Paul and Donna Williams based on the story of the prophet Elijah and King Ahab. Intriguing — portrayed with captivating humor and music in 30 min. Perfect for children’s choir presentation. MP-604 $1.00

FINDERS, KEEPERS
Unique new musical for live-wire junior high singers, based on the Parables. In this imaginative work, the “finders” respond to Christ and share His blessings, while the “losers” are those who reject His way. Singable tunes and catchy rhythms by Eddie Smith, arranged by Otis Skillings.
BOOK MB-347 $1.50 BOOK/ALBUM L-7065C $7.45
ALBUM L-7065 $6.98 ACC. TAPE MU-7065 $30.00

RUNAWAY ROMAN
Musical drama for junior high age by Tom Zwiers and Paul Russell. Marcellus, a first-century Roman guard, accepts the crucified Christ as Savior while on assignment to the catacombs to arrest Christians. Four scenes with simple sets; 4 boys and 1 girl, plus youth choir. Selections from the book HE IS LORD, include “He Is Lord,” “Faith Is So Simple,” “Lord, We Praise You,” “God Loves You.” 35 min.
BOOK MB-444 $1.50 BOOK/ALBUM L-226C $6.45
ALBUM L-226 $5.98 ACC. TAPE MU-226 $30.00

NEW! PRAISE IS...
Delightful children’s musical on praise. Simple staging and props. Uses dialog, scripture and testimony. Arranged for unison or 2-part voices, piano and 2 flutes (optional) by Richard Hamilton and Bill Ingram.
BOOK MB-367 $3.95 ALBUM L-222 $5.98

RUNAWAY RAIN
Resource to Fill Kids Hearts With Music

SING WHILE YOU GROW
New songs for preschoolers and primaras . . . at home . . . in Sunday School . . . in nursery school . . . at VBS! Fun to learn for one child or many! Sixty-three original songs by Claude and Carolyn Rhea — parents, musicians, teachers. Based on Scripture and relating to real-life situations, such as “Always First,” “Bragging,” “Clean and Neat,” “What God is Like,” “God’s Love.” Entire contents recorded on sing-along stereo record.
BOOK MB-367 $3.95
ALBUM L-222 $5.98

HYMNS WE PLAY AND SING  Bk. 1
Why must a young pianist wait for months to be able to play the hymns he hears every Sunday? This first book in a new series of graded materials by Myra Schubert contains 31 pages of familiar hymns specially for beginners, engraved in large notes and staves for easy reading. One and two finger arrangements illustrated. MB-413 $1.95

HYMNS WE PLAY AND SING  Bk. 2
A sequel to Book 1. Book 2 adds a wealth of songs that are easy to play. 31 pages of music arranged in slightly more advanced style than Book 1. MB-414 $1.95

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Castle Rock, Wash.: The church had a revival with Evangelist Luther Collins. In our home mission church, we witnessed the power of God as 20 seekers came to the altar. The Holy Spirit moved and 7 people were sanctified, 8 people healed. Prayer and fasting for the preceding 4 weeks proved to be beneficial preparation.

—Dwain C. Zimmerman, pastor

Spencer, W.Va.: The church experienced a real holiness revival with Evangelist Dan Newton. He preached holiness every service in a 12-day revival where 12 were saved, 14 received spiritual help, and 25 were sanctified wholly. Some of the people in the church said it was the greatest revival in the history of the church.

—Carl D. Smith, pastor

Bay City, Tex.: The church recently had a revival with Evangelist J.C. Crabtree. Some souls were saved, others reclaimed and many entered into the experience of holiness. The preaching of Rev. Crabtree was biblical, doctrinal, and timely.

—Gaetane Franzese, pastor

Dallas, Tex.: The Casa View Church recently had a revival with Evangelist L. Thur and Mary Kay Mann. There were seekers at the altar every night, with the climax coming on Sunday night. Rev. Mann preached an outstanding message on the Second Coming of Christ. The altar was lined with seekers of all age-groups. Among these were two wonderful men the church has been praying for for a number of years. What a wonderful way to begin a new pastorate!

—H. Elvin Gilliam, pastor

Oklahoma City: Southside Church recently had a time of revival with Rev. O. H. Ballard, evangelist and member of our church. He brought outstanding messages from God's Word. The Ralph Wrights of Jacksonville, Tex., inspired each service with their spiritual singing. Each service, except one, was blessed with seekers at the altar of prayer.

—Frank B. Wittaker, pastor

Seagraves, Tex.: The church had a revival with Evangelist Brance Moyer. Rev. Moyer gave an object lesson for the children and was able to communicate to them as well as to the adults. Some of our young people took the first step in salvation.

—Tom Evans, pastor

Wichita, Kans.: First Church has experienced its greatest revival ever. Dr. Edward Lawlor was the evangelist, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Cork were the singers. Over 100 people received definite spiritual help at the altar. The crowds came to hear the Spirit-anointed preaching of Dr. Lawlor and the beautiful music of the Corks.

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MAY 1, 1979 27
COSHOCTON, OHIO: The church recently held an outstanding revival with Rev. Don Ballard, evangelist, and Rev. and Mrs. Tim Singlet, song evangelists. Over 30 knelt at the altar, some of whom the church had been praying for for a number of years.

—John W. Bruce, pastor

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION


NEW MEXICO—May 16-17. First Church, 2520 Silver, El Paso, TX 79930. Host Pastor: David A. Lamp. General Superintendent: Dr. George Couter.


NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS

June 11-17—WEST TEXAS. Camp Arrowhead, Glen Rose, Star Rte., Glen Rose, TX 76043. Special workers: Dr. Mark Wilson, evan.

SINGED ADULTS: Our Biggest Unmet Challenge

Ministering to Single Adults

By Gene Van Note

Whether an as-yet-unmarried youth, a divorced person, a widow or widower, or a chosen way of life there is an unmarried adult for every married couple in our country. The church, a family-oriented institution, tends to forget this one third of the adults.

Starting with the important point of awareness, the author discusses programs and support structures the local church may develop to minister to the needs of this special group. A new text. 112 pages. Paper. Price subject to change without notice.

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gelist; song evangelists David and Dana Blue. Gene Fuller district superintendent.

MOVING MINISTERS
DONALD J. BEECHER from Salinas, Calif., to district administrative assistant, Concord, Calif.
BYRON BLOOM from Charleston (S.C.) to pastor, Australia
MARCUS R. BRIGGS from Gettysburg, Pa., to Annapolis, Md.
JAY DICKS from Vinita, Okla., to Mannford, Okla.
THOMAS G. DOWNEY from associate, Whitefish, Mont., to Kinney (Wy.) Sunnyside
R. DANIEL FERGUSON from Guanah, Tex., to Vernon, Tex.
ROBERT B. FITZGERALD from Denton, Tex., to Hillsboro, Tex.
BILL W. FOWLER from Lufkin, Tex., to Fort Smith, Ark.
LONNIE HEIGHTON from Warrensburg, Mo., to Liberty, Mo.
DONALD JOHNSON from Sidney, Ill.
CURTIS KAPTEIN from Mahomet, Ill., to Amherst, Ohio.
WILLIAM A. LEWIS from Watkins Glen, N.Y., to Emletton (Pa.) St. Peterburg
R. J. NIKKEL from Mount Vernon (Wash.) Big Lake to Seattle (Wash.) Meacowbrook
DONALD D. ROSSITER from McAlford Bethany and Kolpaire Calvary, Ont., Canada, to St. Cammies, Ont., Canada.
ROBERT J. SHOFF Muncie, Ind., to Kingsville, Ohio.
GENE SIVERLY to Metropolis, Ill.
C. EDWIN WEST from Walnut Grove, Calif., to evangelist, Phoenix, Ariz.
DR. OWEN WESTON from Fairview Heights (Ill.) to Crestview to Louisville (Ky.) Broadway

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:
DENNY OWENS from Philippines, field address: P.O. Box 488, Hilltop City 9001, Philippines.
FRANCES VINE from Philippines, furlough address: 620 Lea Ave., Apt. 302, Coquitlam, B.C., Canada V3J 4H2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Sterling, Colo., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary May 26-27, 1979, beginning at 10 a.m. Rev. E. K. Bryant, pastor of the Visalia General Assembly, will conduct services. The Visalia church officiated.

RECOMMENDATIONS
I recommend REV. DANIEL NEWTON to our churches as an evangelist. He has been pastoring Greenfield, Ind. First Church and has reentered the field of evangelism. Rev. Newton may contact Rte. 1, Box 411-E, Farland, IN 46126, telephone 317-835-2569 — John F. Hay, Indianapolis district superintendent.

I am happy to give my support and endorsement of REV. ROBERT ANDERSON as he enters the ministry of full-time evangelism May 1, 1979. Rev. Anderson has pastored in the Church of the Nazarene over 20 years in California, Texas, and Ohio, and most recently is completing a very successful 5-year pastorate of the Toleda Oregon Church on the Northwestern Ohio District. Rev. Anderson not only offers a

strong pulpit ministry but, when desired, can give direction in the areas of church growth and personal evangelism. Contact him in care of N.P.O. Box 257, Kansas City, MO 64141 — James R. Blankenship, Northwestern Ohio district superintendent.

VITAL STATISTICS
PILOT POINT DELEGATE DIES
Mrs. Mary Godfrey, 103, died Sunday, April 1, in Muskogee, Okla. She was an attendant of the historic Pilot Point General Assembly in 1908. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 3, in Muskogee with Rev. F. M. Bolierack officiating.

REV. WEAVER SUCCUMBS
Rev. Edward Weaver, 28, died of cancer Sunday, February 25, in a Tulsa, Okla., hospital. He was a graduate of California State College, Point Loma College, and received the M.Div degree from Nazarene Theological Seminary. In the spring of 1978 he was appointed pastor of an English-speaking church in Frankfurt, Germany, but a routine physical examination preparatory to his leaving for this assignment revealed the presence of cancer. When he could not go to Germany, he accepted the pastorate of the Mannford, Okla., church and was able to minister there until just a few weeks preceding his death.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 27, in the Mannford church. On Wednesday afternoon a memorial service was held at Nazarene Theological Seminary chapel, and burial followed in Kansas church.

Ed Weaver is survived by his wife, Kandis, his parents, Edward and Patricia, a brother, Peter, of Oklahoma City, and a brother, Bryan, and sister, Linda, from the San Diego area.

SUPERINTENDENT'S GRANDDAUGHTER DROWNS
Becky Van Dyke, 12, granddaughter of Dr. W. H. Deitz, district superintendent of the Central California district, died Sunday, March 18, when a car in which she was riding with three other young people left the road and plunged into a river near Sacramento. All were drowned.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 21, in Miller Chapel, Visalia, Calif., at 11 a.m. Rev. E. K. Bryant, pastor of the Visalia church officiated.

She is survived by her mother, Judy Van Dyke, and a brother, Rick. Her maternal grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Deitz also of Visalia.

DEATHS
MRS. JESSIE BELLAMY BURGESS, 87, died March 26 in Columbia, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Jerry Frye in Eldon, Mo. Interment was in Mountain Grove, Mo. She is survived by her husband, Eric Burgess, two sons, Ray Toll and Navyan Toll, two daughters, Maxine Lakey and Mildred Toll, six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.
LOUISE BUTTS, 69, died Feb. 18 in Charles City, Iowa. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Charles W. Ellis and Rev. Ron Jordan. She is survived by her son, James, and two daughters, Mrs. Marilyn Jordan and Mrs. Linda Murdock.
ELLEN SINCLAIR CORNSH EDVENS, 88, died March 16 in Owatonna, Minn. Funeral services were conducted in Rochester, Mich., by Rev. Kenneth Roland and Rev. Ron Hathaway. She is survived by 2 sons, Samuel George and Harry F. Jr., 2 daughters, Mrs. Loyd (Dorothy) Cameron and Mrs. Clifford (Lillian) Johnson; 12 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren.

EARL G. FISHBURN, 47, died March 5 in Evans City, Pa. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Kerry W. Slivers and Rev. James Huggins. Interment was in Zellienople, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Faye (Painter) Fishburn.
LEE HUGH KIMM ONS, 60, died March 4 in Salisbury, N.C. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Howard Lay and Rev. Willard Holis. He is survived by his foster daughter, Louise Cass; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

LISA MARIE LEEWELLEN, 13, died Jan. 23 in Colorado Springs, Colo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Donald Freese. She is survived by her parents, Garry and Linda Lewellen, students at Nazarene Bible College; her brother, Andrew, her maternal grandparents; and a great-grandmother.
EDNA LOVELL, 92, died March 2 in La Harpe, Ill. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Howard Lay and Rev. Willard Holis. She is survived by her foster daughter, Louise Cass; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Sterling, Colo., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary May 26-27, 1979, beginning with a homecoming banquet the evening of the 26th. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend. For further information contact Pastor Marvin H. Carlson, 480 Logan St., Sterling, CO 80751 (phone: 303-522-2601).

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DOROTHY (DJAkovich) McKinney, 41, died Feb. 27 in Hobart, Ind. Funeral services at the Glen Park Church of the Nazarene in Gary, Ind., were conducted by Rev. Antie Whittsworth and Rev. Arthur Ervin. Survivors include her husband, Trent; eight children, one granddaughter, two brothers, and one sister.

MRS. LOUISE S. MILLHUFF, 74, died April 1 at Olathe, Kans. Funeral services were conducted at the Kansas City Nall Avenue church, by Rev. Bill Coulter and Dr. Paul Cunningham. She is survived by her husband, Gale E. Millhuff; two sons, Evangelist Charles (Chuck) R. Millhuff and Howard G. Millhuff; one daughter, Mrs. Marjorie L. Karman; 11 grandchildren; and 3 sisters.

ERNEST IRVIN MORGAN, 45, died Feb. 27 in Charlotteville, Va. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Blair F. Rorabaugh and Rev. James Sisk in Princeton, W.Va. He is survived by his wife, Frances; two sons, Greg and Ernie; one daughter, Cindy; and one grandson.

FRANK W. SAWHILL, SR., 52, died Feb. 13 in Wichita, Kans. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. W. T. Froggattie. He is survived by one daughter, Marsha Hannon; three sons, Frank, Les and Matthew; six grandchildren; his mother; four sisters; and two brothers.

MARY MARGARET SMITH, 48, died March 12 in Uhrichsville, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. John Howard. Surviving are her husband, Rev. S. Wayne Smith; one son, Mark Wayne; two daughters, Mrs. Gary Lee (Tamara Lynn) Orr and Renea Ardel Smith; her parents; one brother, and three sisters.

DR. ELLWOOD R. TAMÉ, 57, died Feb. 13 in Malton, Ill. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. John Ruzich. He is survived by his wife, Frances; two sons, Greg and Ernie; one daughter, Mrs. John (Ramona) McHenry; one grandchild; and one stepsister.

BIRTHS

to MELVIN AND MARJORIE (BOLEN) CUN-DIFF, Sesser Ill., a girl, Ammanda Rose, Mar. 13

to MAC AND JOYCE (THOMPSON) CHESNEY, Soldotna, Alaska, a boy, Eddie Mac, Nov. 4

to REV. TIMOTHY AND ARDITH (PLEYER) EYRING, Aliquippa, Pa., a boy, Warren Robert, Feb. 22

to CHRIST AND RAMONA (JACKSON) FOS-BACK, Richmond, Mo., a girl, Rebecca Leanne, Aug. 9

ONE-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS PREDICTED FOR NEARLY HALF OF 1978 CHILDREN. Some 45 percent of children born last year in the U.S. may live part of their childhood with only one parent because of the rising divorce rate, according to a Census Bureau prediction. Census analysts Paul Glick and Arthur Norton said 43 percent of black youngsters are already growing up in one-parent households. Their predictions appeared in the current issue of American Demographics magazine.

Because of the high divorce rate in the overall population, "we have estimated that 45 percent of all children born in 1978 will become members of one-parent families, for a while at least, before they reach the age of 18 years, if present circumstances continue," they said. "That is indeed a very large minority and the subject of concern for many about the potential damage to children and future society."

RELIGIOUS SPOKESMEN TESTIFY AGAINST REACTIVATING DRAFT. Two churchmen testified in the House of Representatives against legislation to reactivate the military draft.

Edward Snyder, head of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, told members of the military personnel subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee that a draft system "imposes more totalitarian controls over, and denies more civil liberties to, law-abiding citizens than any other institutions in our form of government."

Rev. Barry Lynn, representing the United Church of Christ, told the legislators his church opposes conscription at any time other than in "an emergency that requires the exceptional mobilization of the nation's resources and manpower . . . ."

"Many Americans are frankly baffled," he told the panel, "about how a nation with 2.1 million active duty personnel, 800,000 persons in the selected reserves, between 50,000 to 100,000 in the delayed entry program . . . . and a history of being able to recruit over 20,000 volunteers during such an unpopular war as Vietnam can be said to be insufficiently prepared for any real emergency."

There has been no draft in the U.S. since President Ford ended registration in 1975 in favor of an all-volunteer force. The Friends national legislation committee has published a paper which calls this year's round of attempts to raise the draft budget "a huge trial balloon."

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY TO OPEN IN GERMANY NEXT FALL. Germany will soon have its first Jewish Theological Seminary since the end of World War II and the first in history authorized to grant degrees, thanks to the vision of a German-born, American Jew who is now Chief Rabbi of the German region of Baden.

"Die Juédische Theologische Hochschule" is expected to open its doors in Heidelberg to 20 students at the beginning of the German fall semester, about October 1. The faculty of five is still to be selected from applications which have come from Jewish scholars living in Germany, the United States, Israel, and Great Britain.

Before the Hitler period, Germany had three Jewish theological schools. They were gradually closed and the fall of the Third Reich in 1945 found Germany with no center of Jewish theological education.

This situation became a cause of growing concern for Rabbi Nathan Peter Levinson, a native of Berlin who came back to Germany in 1958 as an American Air Force chaplain and stayed on, beginning in 1961 to help minister to West Germany's 35,000 Jews. Rabbi Levinson had been a student in 1941 at the last Jewish seminary on German soil, the school in Berlin. There are only 10 rabbis in West Germany, 2 each in West Berlin and Frankfurt, and the other 6 scattered across the country.
CORNELL
Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

Can a Christian, in light of scriptures like Romans 13:1-5; Titus 3:1; and 1 Peter 2:13-14, ever scripturally justify (not rationalize) exceeding the speed limit on a highway, other than in the case of an emergency?

I don’t think so. And isn’t it amazing how many situations become emergencies?

I have heard often the rationalization, “But these are man’s laws, not God’s.” But then, so are the tax laws. And some of the policy decisions of the church. If we are free to disregard man’s laws we will soon have chaos.

I am having difficulty with the image of God as presented in the Book of Job. Are we to believe that God would bow to Satan’s stakes in a seemingly meaningless wager? Or, are we to see this situation as an internalized drama between God’s side of justice and His side of injustice, as Paul Tillich and Carl Jung believe?

If, indeed, we Christians believe that God allowed his servant Job to be the “rope” in this tug-of-war, how should we interpret God’s testings of us? Are we, as Job, simply objects of God’s insecurities?

I don’t know anything about Tillich’s or Jung’s beliefs about Job, so I won’t comment on that subject.

The Bible does not represent God as having a “side of injustice” or having insecurities. It reveals Him as perfect in justice, power, wisdom, and love.

The Book of Job raises the question of why the righteous suffer, and does not give a complete answer. But it does something more important—it disclosed the triumph of faith in the midst of suffering which was inscrutable to the sufferer. It reveals the sovereignty of God, the decided limitation of Satan, the falsity of equating wealth with righteousness, the falsity of equating suffering with personal guilt and divine disfavor, and the ultimate vindication of the man who lives by faith.

Job assures us that God is worthy of our trust whether we understand our testings or not. And Job teaches that our position before God, given the Father’s love for the Son, is worthy of our trust.

With all the changes taking place in the world today, am I being “old fashioned” and not up with the latest fad?

I realize that as long as a person is willing to testify for the Lord, it is not so important whether a person stands or sits. However, we were taught to “stand and be counted” for the Lord.

Is it more respectable to stand or sit when testifying? Please comment.

I can’t see why the position would matter. Having a testimony is more important than your posture when you testify.

As for fashions, we should not be enslaved by them whether they are old or new.

As for being “counted,” it is more important to witness to the world than in the church if you prefer to stand, do so, even though others sit. They won’t mind, as long as they don’t feel you are being judgmental of them.
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On March 11, the Victoria, Va., church celebrated Pastor Clark Langford's fourth anniversary, and Rev. David Sloane, minister of visitation's first anniversary with the church. Rev. Langford is chairman of the Lunenburg Ministerial Association; president of the Victoria Ministerial Association; president of the Victoria Rotary Club; and Chairman of "Life Unlimited." Rev. David Sloane and his family came to the church from Crewe, Va. They work in all areas of the church.

The church purchased new property under Rev. Langford's leadership and now has 25 acres, debt-free, and the church is ready to build when the existing building sells. Mildred Arrington, chairman of the Board of Stewards, expressed words of appreciation to the Langfords and Sloanes for the work they are doing. Flowers and an anniversary cake were presented to both families.

Bucyrus, Ohio, First Church was dedicated Sunday, December 10. Rev. D. E. Clay, district superintendent, delivered the dedicatory message. The church is located on a 10-acre tract on a state route. The semicircular sanctuary will accommodate 450 with 45 in the choir, with a baptistry behind the choir loft. Accordion doors provide for overflow into the narthex. In the back of the sanctuary, across a hall, is a chapel, office rooms, choir practice area, classrooms, and rooms for baptismal preparation. One wing contains 11 classrooms for children, a library, fellowship room, and rest rooms. Another wing includes the nursery, adult classrooms, and rest rooms. The building contains 21,900 sq. ft. Dale Fruchling is the pastor.

The Oakridge, Ore., church dedicated their new sanctuary and fellowship center on March 11 under the direction of Pastor Robert Bauer. General Superintendent George Coulter delivered the dedicatory address and District Superintendent Carl Clendenen led in the prayer of dedication. The 14,360-sq. ft. facility includes a 500-seat sanctuary, a fellowship center to accommodate 350 people, a fireside room, a music room, and a large office area. Mr. Melvin Bergstrom was the builder. Donald Eby was the architect. The new facility is valued at over $600,000 and has been built on donated land adjacent to the older church facilities.

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For related items, contact your district Children’s Church director.
association: Moe Courville, Clarence Ro-deer, and Fred Gibson;
Representing First National Bank: Clarence Kopke, executive first vice-president; and Steve Stoecker, assistant vice-president;
Architects: Dick Wheat and Ward Haylett of Linscott, Haylett, Wimmer, and Wheat; Bill Waite, contractor, Pitman Building Corporation;
Major Robert Brown from the South Kansas City Police Force;
James Quinn, from the Barstow School;
Don Ong, of Woodbridge Home Owners Association; and
Mr. Robert Garrison from the South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

First Church has been worshiping in the chapel at Nazarene Theological Seminary for nearly two years while location and plans for their new home have been completed. Ground-breaking signals the beginning of construction, which is expected to be completed in 13 months. □

—NCN

WON THROUGH SUFFERING

by VIVIAN FELIX
Nashville, Tenn.

“. . . but we have the mind of Christ.” This was our theme at a recent women’s retreat. As we explored its meaning for us, the women began to relate personal incidents when faith in Christ carried them through difficult situations victoriously.

My friend Carole began hesitatingly. “I want to tell you a story. It didn’t happen to me, but whenever I think of it, I know that if I am faithful to God, He will be faithful to me. Most of you know that my grandfather died last year. Well, back during the depression he had a little farm in North Carolina. They didn’t have much and times were really bad.

“One winter a bad snowstorm hit. A black family lived down the road from my grandparents, and grandfather knew that they had no wood to keep warm, and very little food either. My grandfather went down to that little shack, got that black family, and brought them to his house.

“They shared their food and home with that other family until the storm broke and they could cut wood. I know this doesn’t sound like much, but this was back in the 20s in the mountains of North Carolina. I know that many of you would think I am dwelling on little things that aren’t important.

“Some men in town, who were friends of my grandfather, heard about it, and rode out to his house. They dragged him from the house and into the woods where they beat him up. They said, ‘This will teach you to take up with niggers!’ And then they left him there, battered and bleeding.

“My grandmother helped him back to the house and took care of him, but it was a while before he could work again.”

Carole continued through tears, “He wasn’t ever bitter about it, but he didn’t understand why it had happened. But he always insisted that God would show him why. I remember him saying, ‘Carole, God’s taken good care of me. I don’t know why He let me get beat up, but I know one thing for sure. He promised me that He would show me the answer before I die, and I believe He will. One day I am going to know why God worked that way.’”

“I glanced around the room. Everyone was listening closely. I wondered if anyone else was thinking as I was, that this was too much to ask of God.

Carole went on slowly. “Some of you know that my grandfather died this last winter. God was faithful. When he was in the hospital, three of the men who had beaten him up came into his room. Almost 50 years had passed. They told him how sorry they were for what they had done. They said that they had watched his life, and it had always been a rebuke to their own lives. Before he died they wanted him to know that they had suffered in their consciences and wanted his forgiveness.

“My grandfather said to them, ‘I forgave you a long time ago. I just want you to know that God has been faithful to me, and He loves each of you.’ Those old men then found the Lord. Their lives were changed and a revival began in that little town. When my grandfather died, he said, ‘I knew God would be faithful.’”

When Carole finished no one said a word. There were tears on many faces. I looked down at my open Bible and began reading, “Now I have given up everything else—I have found it to be the only way to really know Christ and to experience the mighty power that brought him back to life again, and to find out what it means to suffer and to die with him. So, whatever it takes, I will be one who lives in the fresh newness of life of those who are alive from the dead” (Philippians 3:10-12, TLB).

“I want the mind of Christ. I want to be a witness in my own life to that mighty power that brought Him back to life again and allows me to live in the newness of life.
NORMAN BLOOM RESIGNS

Rev. Norman W. Bloom resigned his post of district superintendent of the Minnesota District in a letter to the pastors April 8. His resignation is effective May 1. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland met with the Advisory Board to begin the process of appointment of a successor.

Rev. Bloom has served as district superintendent of the Minnesota District for 14 years. Prior to the superintendency, he pastored the Leavenworth, Kans., and Hastings, Neb., churches. He is a graduate of Nazarene Theological Seminary (1949).

Mrs. Bloom has been in poor health for some time. Recent decline in her condition prompted his resignation from the superintendency.

—NCN

TWENTY-TWO NEW MISSIONARIES SENT

The Department of World Mission has sent 22 new missionaries to various world areas. An impressive "sending service" was conducted Thursday, April 12, at the Grandview, Mo., church. General Superintendent Dr. William M. Greathouse was the speaker.

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, presented the class of missionaries who had just completed four days of orientation at the Ramada Inn in Belton, Mo. Dr. Greathouse officially commissioned them and prayed for their ministry to be fruitful in the service of Christ and His church.

New missionaries present were: Rev. and Mrs. Lindell Browning, assigned to Arabic language study; Dr. and Mrs. David Falk, Swaziland; Rev. and Mrs. Charles Gates, Republic of South Africa North; Rev. Dana Harding, Swaziland; Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Harris, general appointment; Rev. and Mrs. Steve Langford, Peru; Rev. and Mrs. Timothy Mercer, Korea; Mr. and Mrs. Warren Neal, Papua New Guinea; Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Perkins, general appointment; Rev. and Mrs. Bill Selvidge, Hong Kong; Rev. and Mrs. Michael Shelley, Trans South Africa; Miss Veora Tressler, Latin America.

Orientation sessions began with a get-together dinner and opening address Monday evening, April 9, followed by three days of intense sessions on Mission Strategy, Finances, NWMS services, Stewardship, Writing, Personal Relationships, Explanation of Department Services, and personal interviews with area coordinators and Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission.

—NCN

HEART SURGERY

Dr. Harold Reed underwent open-heart surgery for a blocked artery Wednesday, April 4, at Northridge Hospital, Northridge, Calif. Surgeons performed two bypasses.

The surgery was successful and Dr. Reed is making excellent progress. He is able to walk some and expects to be discharged from the hospital by April 14.

Dr. and Mrs. Reed are grateful for the many prayers and expressions of concern. They are rejoicing in the success of the operation and in his rapid recovery.

Dr. Reed retired in 1976 after 26 years as president of Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill.

—NCN

KITAGAWA NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF JAPAN

At the annual district assembly in March the Japan District was declared a regular district of the Church of the Nazarene.

Rev. Shin Kitagawa, director of the Nazarene Seminary in Japan, was elected district superintendent. He is the son of Rev. Hiroshi Kitagawa, who, with Rev. Nobumi Isayama, pioneered as pastors in Japan when the Church of the Nazarene was just beginning its work there. Rev. Shin Kitagawa lives in Yokohama.

Latest figures available indicate that Japan has a total membership of 5,625, and a Sunday school enrollment of 4,732. Four men and one woman were ordained as pastors in Japan at the district assembly; Dr. Charles H. Strickland was the presiding general superintendent.

Japan is the third Nazarene mission district to achieve regular district status. Guatemala Northeast was the first, and Peru North the second.

—NCN

ANNOUNCEMENT

With the approval of the Board of General Superintendents and in consultation with the District Advisory Board, I have appointed Rev. J. Ted Holstein (presently pastor of Roanoke First Church on the Virginia District) superintendent of the Wisconsin District, effective on or about May 15, 1979.

—George Coulter
General Superintendent

Dwight Douglas has accepted the position of general coordinator of training for the Division of Christian Life. He is presently serving as minister of education for the Seattle Aurora Church.

Prior to his ministry in Seattle, he was on the staff at Boise, Idaho, First, as minister of youth.

A graduate of Northwest Nazarene College and Nazarene Theological Seminary, Dwight committed his energies to Christian education, especially to the development of training programs for teachers in the Northwest. He has directed "Spring Training"—multi-district training experience for local church teachers and Christian Life workers—for the last several years.

Working under the executive coordinator of the Division of Christian Life, Dwight will give direction to the "Teaching/Learning Conferences" (TLC), an attempt by the Division of Christian Life to equip teams of teachers and workers (leaders) across the denomination. He also will lead in coordinating a program of training (especially teacher training) through the Division of Christian Life.

Dwight is married to Marita (Howard) Douglas, and they have one child, Danna, two years of age, and are expecting a new baby this month. He plans to begin his new assignment in Kansas City on June 1, 1979.

—NCN

TED HOLSTEIN TO WISCONSIN

General Superintendent George Coulter, after consultation with the Board of General Superintendents and with the approval of the District Advisory Board, has appointed Rev. J. Ted Holstein district superintendent of the Wisconsin District, effective May 15.

Rev. J. Ted Holstein is pastor of Roanoke, Va., First Church. Ordained in 1952, he has pastored churches in Illinois, Pontiac and Freeport; and in Ohio, Akron West, Salem First, and Springfield High Street; before moving to Virginia in 1974.

His wife's name is Geneva, and they have three children: a son, Ken, and two daughters, Sandy and Linda.

He succeeds Rev. Robert J. Clack, who resigned to accept the pastorate of the Dayton, Ohio, Parkview Church.
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CONFERENCE DATES: CNC, May 15-18; ENC, June 5-8; MVNC, June 12-15; ONC, June 26-29; MANC, July 17-20; BNC, July 24-27; NNC, August 7-10; PLC, August 21-24.

A COOPERATIVE VENTURE FOR MINISTERS' WIVES BETWEEN COLLEGES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE MINISTRY