CELEBRATING CHRISTIAN HOLINESS

September 1 marks the launching date of our quinquennial theme, “Celebrating Christian Holiness.” We earnestly believe that these words must become more than a theme or slogan. They must become the cry and passion of our hearts; they must have prominence and emphasis in all of our church services, in all that we do throughout the church and in our personal daily living. “Celebrating Christian Holiness” must become a vital obsession with Nazarenes at every level of church life.

The first year’s emphasis, 1980-81, will be the year of the minister, “Celebrating the Holiness Ministry.” We are urging every minister to major on holiness preaching throughout the year. Every revival and camp meeting should be a holiness campaign. We need a revival and renewal in strong, biblical, holiness preaching which will result in a great holiness conflagration that will surge through every local church, across every college campus, and through our seminaries and Bible schools, and fill our pulpits around the world with unctionized preachers who have a burning passion for souls!

The Lord is desirous of pouring out His presence, Spirit, and blessing upon us, but He must have our full cooperation, yieldedness, and submission. Through Jeremiah, God promises, “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13).

Are we willing to be the people whom God can bless, use, and work through in these days? Are we willing to seek Him, search for Him, and find Him with all our heart?

My heart is hungry for God’s outpoured blessing—hungry for His blessing upon the church which I love and of which you and I are a part. Preachers and laymen, let us unite together in prayer, faith, and labor to make “Celebrating Christian Holiness” a vital reality in our ministry, in our churches, and in our personal lives.

by General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins
"Worth raising pigs for!"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS

Outside the air was humid and hot. Streets beside the convention center were crowded with Nazarenes from around the world. Most were well dressed in western clothing. Some gave in to the blazing heat and carried their suit coats on their arms. Indian women wore saris.

Inside, and grateful for air-conditioning, the Church of the Nazarene was doing its business at its 20th General Assembly.

Who could ever forget the Chinese family who, after 40 years of absolutely no communication with the general church, stood before 17,000 Nazarenes to testify of their faithfulness to God, and holiness, and the Church of the Nazarene?

After five ballots, the church elected its 24th general superintendent, Dr. Jerald D. Johnson. The sight of him kneeling at the altar, being prayed for by his fellow generals, is a mental picture that we will carry the rest of our lives.

Friends meeting friends made it difficult to walk across the floor. One person said, "The thing about General Assembly that's so special is, seeing old friends makes it like a big family reunion." But a new Nazarene said, "What makes General Assembly so special is that it's like a big family reunion even if you didn't know anybody before you came!"

Delegates worked hard from early in the morning until late at night. Big issues were at stake; restructuring the church dollar, reorganizing the general administration, reaffirming our general and special rules, restating our historic church position on the equality of women and their inherent right to be ordained, and extending pastoral calls indefinitely. Throughout it all was the constant unified forward motion to completely internationalize the Church of the Nazarene.

Sitting high in the second balcony, I looked down on the convention floor to the 800 delegates seated at long white tables with big red notebooks in front of them.

I knew many of them personally, mere men like myself, and ordinary women. I watched their raised and lowered hands as they voted to adopt or reject resolutions that would affect my life and the lives of others around the world.

The thought entered my mind, "What right do these people have to tell me how to live my life?"

But just as quickly Hebrews 13:17 entered my mind, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls..."

In that moment I became aware of the unseen One whose presence filled that giant room and guided the direction of our church. Those ordinary people were elected delegates, chosen in due process to speak for us all.

I joined the church voluntarily. I had my vote at the local church meeting and again at the district assembly. These General Assembly delegates were raised up from among us all to represent us all. Their privilege and obligation was to find the will of God and set the mandate for us all.

And from Kansas City in June, 1980, the Church of the Nazarene, tired, but better for it, went out to the whole world. Stronger, better equipped, filled with inspiration, the church gathered became once again the church scattered. Scattered physically, but united in purpose and Spirit. United to tell the people everywhere that Jesus saves, and the Holy Spirit completely sanctifies and keeps.

After the final prayer was prayed, and as final good-byes were being said for another five years, the organ played its last postlude, "Take the Name of Jesus with You."

To those who were not in Kansas City in June of 1980, save your money! A little every week will be enough to get you to Anaheim, California, U.S.A., in June of 1985.

We will never forget the heartwarming testimony of the lady pastor from the Philippines who determined four years ago that she would come to this General Assembly. She raised pigs in the backyard of her parsonage and saved every cent. Four years she lived with pigs in her backyard... for one purpose... to come to the General Assembly. If she could find a way, chances are you can too.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTIONS

A RE YOU going to General Assembly?" This question has been asked often in preceding months. I have given almost a decade of service to the Church of the Nazarene, including six years as a full-time evangelist. Yet I had never attended a General Assembly. Until this year, that is.

With excitement building, our family began planning and saving in order to attend this momentous function. To hear about General Assembly is one thing; actually be there is quite another. Words seem to be so inadequate vehicles to express the effect of General Assembly on my own life. Perhaps three words describe the effect most clearly: Inspiration, Information, and Involvement.

What was most inspirational about General Assembly? I cannot put my finger on one event over another. A combination of inspirational events clamor for the attention of my heart. I cannot forget the Sunday morning Communion service. The realization that Nazarenes the world over were celebrating the Lord's Supper via the miracle of cable television was certainly inspirational. What inspiration to be a part of the Sunday night service of evangelism! As General Superintendent Strickland gave the gospel invitation, many crowded around the front of the auditorium, seeking spiritual victory. That scene inspired our hearts tremendously! Even the business sessions proved inspirational. Thank God these men and women were not seeking their own; rather, they were seeking the very best for the church for the glory of God. Yes, my heart was inspired!

For an evangelist at his first General Assembly, my heart was not only inspired, my mind was also informed. I have been privileged to see the church at work in various parts of this country. Now, however, I have seen the various parts come together in a marvelous way to form the whole. Now I better understand the workings of the different segments of the church. The missionary arm of the church is now more important in my thinking. The machinery of...
MORE DEEPLY COMMITTED!

by LEE ELLINGSON
Slidell, Louisiana

the Sunday School is clearer to me. Even budgets take on added significance due to the informational way in which they were debated and presented. I feel I can now better serve my church with the education I have received at General Assembly.

Yet, I wonder if inspiration and information can really have much value without practical involvement. What am I to do with the inspiration and information gained at General Assembly? To paraphrase the thought of Joshua, as for me and my house, we are going to involve ourselves even deeper in the work of the Church of the Nazarene! Our world provides us with a great harvest field. I am reminded that the harvest can be successful only as we do involve ourselves with every fiber of our being. I am, as a result of General Assembly, more deeply committed to the task of holiness evangelism. There continues to be a great need for revival in our hearts, our homes, and our churches. To this end, I shall be involved! Won’t you join me?

I HEARD ONE PREACH

I heard one preach
God’s saving Word
That just because
The Just One died
And rose again
I can receive
Life from above
And journey from
My nowhere place
To paradise,
Surprised with joy.
I saw him stand
Twixt God and me
Behind that desk
Raised up to show
The place he holds
As speaker for
The living God
Whose name is Love.
I felt with him
The things he felt
From deep within
His bones that burned
To tell what seems
A fairytale
That God would help me
Start from scratch
And build a life
That’s filled with faith
And helped along
By springs of hope
And one that’s lost
In selfless love.
I did the thing
He told me to
And what he said
Was fleshed in me
So I’m so glad
I heard one preach
God’s saving Word
And saw him stand
Twixt God and me
And felt with him
The things he felt.

—J. KENNETH GRIDER
Kansas City, Missouri
Almost 35,000 of us overflowed the Kansas City Convention Center for a week of worship, reunions, business, instruction, and celebration. We graduated a general superintendent to emeritus status, and elected a new one; we unanimously declared our commitment to biblical holiness; we gave opportunity for 800 lay and ministerial delegates from around the world to work together in setting the church's course for the 1980s.
EVER WONDER WHY wild geese fly in Vs? Well, a group of scientists did, and armed with a tax-dollar grant, they checked into this curious matter. What they discovered was that by flying together in Vs, the birds can fly 71 percent farther and longer. The uplift from the wingbeat of each bird makes it easier for the following bird to fly. Isn't there a lesson here for us Nazarenes? By coordination, cooperation, and teamwork, we can fly farther toward our ministry goals mandated by Christ.

Flying together, or coordinated teamwork, is the call to which the Church of the Nazarene is responding during the 1980-85 quinquennium. The theme set aloft to soar is “Celebrating Christian Holiness.” Our international church is celebrating the very thing that binds us all together—Christian holiness. Cultural pluralism creates many barriers, but scriptural holiness gloriously reaches over cultural barriers in its irreducible essence. What we have in common in Christ, and in our Wesleyan-Arminian heritage, is far greater than all our differences.

Each year has a particular theme through which holiness will be celebrated:

1980-81 The Year of the Minister
1981-82 The Year of the Layman
1982-83 The Year of the Young (Youth)
1983-84 The Year of Diamond Jubilee
1984-85 The Year of Church Growth

The “Year of the Minister” is the focus for 1980-81. This theme will be celebrated on the general, regional, district, and local levels.

A. General Plans

Geese, by instinct, organize, plan, and cooperate in flying. However, man with will, individuality, and conscious decision must plan to work together. In the “Update” section of the fall issue of the Preacher’s Magazine, the leaders of the church have outlined various programs and suggestions for working together in “Celebrating Christian Holiness.” Mr. M. A. Lunn, manager of Nazarene Publishing House, will make this section available in reasonable quantities for a nominal cost to pastors and church boards for church planning sessions. They may be requested through the Nazarene Publishing House.

1. Continuing Education. The new program of continuing education for ministers and laymen, centered in the Leo and Mattie King Conference Center, will be launched this year in Kansas City. A brochure outlines 22 seminars and workshops designed for individual enrichment. These are available through the Department of Education and the Ministry upon request.


3. The Ministers Tape Club. This ministry development tool will continue to bring rich resources to our ministers. Upcoming editions will be useful in light of “The Year of the Minister.”

4. PALCON II. The biggest plan for “The Year of the Minister” centers on PALCON II. PALCON II is open to all ministers: pastors, evangelists, chaplains, staff ministers, and educators. We believe that a church board that assists its pastor in attending will be amply rewarded with a more vibrant ministerial service. Here’s where and when PALCON II will happen:

Canadian Nazarene College May 18-21, 1981
Bethany Nazarene College June 1-4, 1981
Mount Vernon Nazarene College June 8-11, 1981
Olivet Nazarene College June 22-25, 1981
Eastern Nazarene College June 29—July 2, 1981
Trevcca Nazarene College July 6-9, 1981
Mid-America Nazarene College July 13-16, 1981
Northwest Nazarene College August 3-6, 1981
Point Loma College August 10-13, 1981

B. Regional Plans

On the regional level, all our colleges and the seminary will continue their vital service to the church with plans to honor, assist, and develop ministers and ministry.

C. The District Plans

On the district level, each district will build the Preachers’ Meeting, District Assembly, and other meetings and events around “The Year of the Minister.”

D. The Local Level

The “flying farther together” teamwork will also be celebrated at the local level. Hopefully, all our local churches will devise ways and means for honoring, praying for, and helping our ministers fulfill their call. A good start for implementing “The Year of the Minister” would be helping ministers financially to be able to participate in Continuing Education and PALCON II.

It has been said that certain local churches are “bishop builders.” The truth is that laymen in the local churches do help mold men and women of God. Thank God for the great host of Spirit-filled laymen who, under God, find their ministry in working with their pastor, the man of God.

The holiness ministry has served with distinction; most of our preachers have proved that they are willing to do whatever is necessary to preach scriptural holiness. Let’s join with them to “Celebrate Christian Holiness”—it’s the only way to fly.
VERNA WAS DISGRUNTLED. “My boss is most unreasonable,” she grumbled to her friend May. “No matter how well I work he never gives a word of appreciation. What ought I to do?”

What is the Christian attitude to an unreasonable boss? The apostle Peter explains: “Submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh” (1 Peter 2:18, NIV). Our work is not done for our personal benefit, nor primarily to please the boss. Rather it is done in the spirit of “whatever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him” (Colossians 3:17). The work is not done to get so much money, but with this thought in mind: “Whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Does our attitude to our bosses depend upon how they treat us? Not all bosses are kind. Some are most unreasonable, perverse, and awkward. How difficult it is for us to do our best work for that kind of person!

He can be unreasonable for causes which are far removed from both work and worker. A domestic problem could upset him; he reacts by treating us unfairly.

One boss had a daughter who wanted to marry a man who was unacceptable to her parents. They advised her to wait. Six months later she came home announcing that she had married him and that she was expecting a baby in a month’s time. The father’s subordinates at work then learned what an impossible boss was! The executives did their best to avoid him. Those he met were bullied, shouted at, and endured absurd demands. How difficult it is to work well for such a boss!

Peter tells us we are to submit to such a one with complete respect. The King James Version uses an older phrase, “all fear.” This fear is not a dread of the punishment he could inflict on us. That sort of fear we are always to reject (1 Peter 3:14). Our “fear” is the fear of God, the awe and reverence we feel toward Him.

How can we work well for an unreasonable boss? Though not easy, we can do it when we are rightly motivated in our work. We recognize God’s purposes of good for us and for the boss, so we seek to work well in all circumstances. We do our work to please God. Paul gives us the clue: “Whatever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men” (Colossians 3:23). We do our best work, not because we have a worthy boss, but because we seek to please God. Paul urges: “Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God” (Colossians 3:22). We aim to do our work so well that we can take it to Him and present it to Him without the slightest trace of shame.

This attitude is “acceptable with God.” Because it is a kindness shown to the undeserving, it is a Christlike action, and so it is good in God’s sight. It will attract His favor.

Yet is it not asking a lot of us to tell us not to complain when our boss is unfair? Did anyone, anywhere, who has consistently received bad treatment while doing good work, not resent it?

Yes, said Peter, Jesus Christ. Look at Him. Jesus left us “an example.” This word can refer to the top line of copperplate writing which is put in the exercise book for a child to copy on the lines beneath it. Jesus made a track for us as He left His footprints in the earth. We seek to follow that track and go the same way as He went.

Jesus Christ was perfect: He “did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.” He showed no deceit, guile, or trickery. His life was examined by friend and foe alike, and none of them could ever contradict this assertion. He “went about doing good,” Peter tells us, “and healing all that were oppressed of the devil” (Acts 10:38).

Jesus’ perfection did not exempt Him from suffering. That was contrary to His deserts. How much He endured! Indeed, Peter in describing that treatment makes five quotations and allusions to the 53rd chapter of Isaiah, a chapter that portrays God’s suffering servant.

Jesus was reviled. How did He respond to this ill-treatment? “When he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not” (1 Peter 2:23).
HOLINESS is practical Christian living in everyday circumstances. The New Testament sets forth the holy life as an expectation for the Christian. Our attitudes toward God and our fellowmen set the pace of our day-by-day life. When we make full surrender to His Lordship, then the Holy Spirit will help us to keep right relationships with our fellowmen.

We can find the secret of Christ’s holy life in the gospel accounts of His day-by-day activities. On one occasion when His disciples asked Him to eat food, He told them, “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me” (John 4:34). Again, in John 8:29, we hear Him saying to some of His critics, “I do always those things that please him.” His life was one of complete obedience to and compliance with the will of His Heavenly Father. This is the concrete example of the meaning of a holy life. We do not need an abstract theory; we have before us the perfect pattern. “Follow me,” said Paul, “as I follow Christ.”

As we examine our Lord’s perfect life, our own imperfections stand out boldly before us. We become more keenly aware of our inability to imitate Christ. If we are to live a life of obedience, we must seek to know the will of God and be wholly dedicated to the idea of doing this will. How can we, as human beings, arise to this great task? The indwelling Comforter has promised to reveal God’s will to us and to enable us to carry out this will in our lives.

The only way that we can have His guidance and power is to put our lives completely under His control. This control is not alone for the cloister or place of spiritual retreat. It operates in the busy mart of commerce and the humdrum of everyday life. If we are possessed completely by the Holy Spirit, He will guide our lives into the channels of His divine choosing. Through Him we can have the mind of Christ. Guided by the mind of Christ, we can live the life of Christ.

Our world will still stop to look upon the life of the man who, having given up all for Christ, has received all from Christ. Those rich in material things will behold it and see by comparison how really poor they are. Even though poor, ignorant, and unschooled, the man who has been with Jesus and has learned of Him can make his impact upon our godless age. Holiness is practical!

He did not burst out with passion against those who ill-treated Him. He did not curse those who hurt Him as crucified men usually did. He did not seek revenge on their wickedness. Instead, He prayed: “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

We are to adopt the same attitude as Jesus did. If we receive only insult and ingratitude for our good work, then we are receiving only what Jesus received for His perfect work.

Even so, we are not to ignore abuse or treat it as if it never happened. Jesus did not do that; He “committed himself to him that judgeth righteously.” Jesus took His cause to God. That is what we are to do. Retaliation in any form is always wrong for a Christian. Paul urges: “Recompense to no man evil for evil” (Romans 12:17).

Our enduring of unfairness does not mean that the injustice vanishes into the air. God does not overlook it. No, the abusive one is answerable to God for his actions to us. God will give adequate recompense. He will see that justice is done. “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord” (Romans 12:19).

The unreasonable boss may not change, but the Lord can keep him in check. Possibly our kind actions will lead the boss to surrender his life to the Lord. Anyway, we shall have demonstrated that Jesus Christ is alive today and living in us.
APPROPRIATE PASTORAL CARE is an area insufficiently discussed in most local churches. The matter of pastoral care is probably as laden with misconception and unexpressed frustration—among both laity and clergy—as any other single area of church life. This is unfortunate because proper pastoral care is an essential aspect of each congregation’s stewardship. Further, a congregation’s approach to pastoral care reveals many of the underlying attitudes they have toward their pastor, and tells a great deal about their own spiritual maturity.

Scripture teaches that the Levites—the tribe of priests—were to be dependent upon the other tribes of Israel for their material sustenance. Another way to put it is that the 12 tribes were responsible to care for the priestly tribe. We see then, that the Levites’ care was adequately provided for by God according to the faithfulness of the 12 tribes. When Israel’s spiritual life was vibrant and responsive and obedient, the Levites would be well cared for. On the other hand, were Israel’s spiritual life to drop to a low ebb, the Levites would probably be poorly cared for.

Against this sketchy backdrop, Joshua 21 gives us some important insights. Foremost is the fact that adequate pastoral care is commanded by God: “The Lord commanded through Moses that you give us towns to live in, with pasturelands for our livestock” (21:2, NIV). Notice that the Levites did not dream up this scheme; the stewardship of Levite care was given by divine command. However, the “family heads of the Levites” were bold in reminding Israel (the community of faith) of the instructions given them by God regarding the care of the Levites. Cynics say the religious leaders stood to gain the most from this admonishment, and held Joshua and Israel accountable to fulfill their “pastoral care” obligation.

This is important because it often seems to be considered proper for pastors to avoid all talk of pastoral care in order that they not appear self-serving. I am concerned that a great deal of frustration exists among a devoted, conscientious laity because pastors are so reticent to approach the subject. Thus the laity is uncertain what is expected of them—yes, uncertain of what God expects. Conversely, pastors are sometimes thought to be selfish and too preoccupied with money if they discuss the matter, even if their approach is solidly biblical. Perhaps it is time that we develop a holy openness about this.

It is true that pastors should not be self-serving. It is true that one should never enter the ministry because of the promise of financial remuneration. It is true that salary should never be a primary consideration in the making of ministerial decisions. It is true that the primary reason for being in the ministry must always be the call of God upon one’s life. It is
equally true that biblical instruction about the stewardship of pastoral care should be provided in an objective, biblical, prophetic manner—reminding the community of faith of what God has said about their responsibility.

Now the family heads of the Levites approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of the other tribal families of Israel at Shiloh in Canaan and said to them, “The Lord commanded through Moses that you give us towns to live in, with pasturelands for our livestock.” So, as the Lord had commanded, the Israelites gave the Levites the following towns [48 in all] and pasturelands out of their own inheritance (21:1-3, NIV).

According to the Scripture, these 48 cities were to be provided for the Levites out of the tribe’s “own inheritance.” So the provisions made for the Levites were cross-sectional; that is, they were representative of the tribal inheritance. For example: if the particular inheritance were desert, a portion of that desert was set aside for the Levites; if the inheritance were rich pastureland, an appropriate portion of the rich pastureland was presented to the Levites; if the inheritance were rocky hill country, then rocky hill country was set aside. The Levites were not to expect to live above the means of their tribal constituents; neither were they to be expected by their tribal constituents to make do with less. The cities provided were to represent a fair cross-section of other cities in the tribal territory.

This concept should help us. Marvin T. Judy has stated that “literature in the field of personnel management emphasizes fair pay rather than good pay.” I think it follows that most pastors do not demand a good salary; only a fair salary. What is fair and representative in a low income community where the total raised for all purposes is $10,000 will not be fair and representative in a church that raises $45,000. The reverse is true as well.

A valid rule of thumb is that each and every church (board) ask the question, “How has God blessed us?” It doesn’t matter so much about whether their particular “inheritance” is the equivalent of desert or fertile pastureland. It does matter that, in view of the “inheritance” they have identified, they share a representative material portion of that blessing with their pastoral family—not one penny less and not one penny more than what is representative and fair.

It is never a church’s task to keep the pastor humble via unnecessary or contrived financial deprivation. It is God’s job to keep him humble! It is not the church’s task to test his devotion and perseverance by withholding part of the “inheritance” that ought to be shared with him. Such actions more often reveal carnal selfishness than they do true spirituality.

Remember: God commanded that Israel’s devotion to Him include fair care for the Levites. Certainly this is still the case. Perhaps congregations fail to understand that their devotion and obedience to God is being tested by the fairness of their pastoral care. In the final analysis, the community of faith is essential to God’s caring for parsonage families. God will care for them. But, by His own design, a major portion of this care is to be provided by devoted congregations which are more concerned about fulfilling their own responsibilities and obedience than in testing the devotion and obedience of their pastor.

So the Israelites allotted to the Levites those towns and their pasturelands, as the Lord had commanded through Moses . . . The towns of the Levites in the territory held by the Israelites were forty-eight in all, together with their pasturelands (21:8, 41, NIV).

With what “inheritance” has God blessed your church? What are your pastoral care responsibilities in view of His blessing?


TO WORSHIP

To worship
is to have the levels of life lifted,
the love for life clarified,
the light of life focused.

And all of this for life’s journey—
its serving,
its sharing,
its stewardship.

To worship
is to see God more clearly,
to seek His will more courageously,
to serve His cause more consistently.

And all of this for life’s good—
today,
tomorrow,
and for eternity!

To worship
is to prepare life for eternity!

—C. NEIL STRAIT
Grand Rapids, Michigan
MINISTER’S JOB is people-centered. His whole life is centered in ministering to the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of people. The relationship of a pastor and his wife to their laymen determine to a great extent what his future as a pastor will be.

As each pastor and wife have different personalities and areas of ministry, each church also has a different personality according to the makeup of its people. As laymen, there are many things you remember about former pastors and wives—either about their preaching, or their relationships to you, or their family, or maybe that they were responsible for leading you to the Lord. In the same way, your former pastors have things they remember about you. You have contributed to their ministry and you are contributing to your present pastor’s ministry now.

When our pastors graduate from seminary or Bible college and take their first church, they have been trained in theology, sermon preparation, and conducting a worship service, but they have not had practical experience in person-to-person relationships. They have no opportunity to learn how to apply practical common sense to many situations that they are faced with immediately. But they are forced to learn fast, and you, as laymen are helping them to form some of their first concepts of the pastor-people relationships as you face these situations together. Be mature enough to give them the benefit of the doubt, and do not tune them out at their first mistake.

As district superintendent and wife, we bring our pastors and wives together two or three times a year and try to give them inspiration, information, and tools to help them be effective in their work. We try to tell them what some of their responsibilities are, but you do not become a mature pastor and learn all there is to know about the ministry in one month, or one year, or five years, or sometimes even a lifetime. A pastor and wife are continually learning how to have good pastor-people relationships.

My husband began his ministry at the age of 22 in a small country church in Missouri. The church was almost all family, but we found a congregation that loved us, accepted us, and contributed to our ministry in a special way. Of that church, as of every church we have pastored, we have many memories of how our laymen have influenced our ministry and left lasting impressions on our lives.

What kind of impression are you making on your pastor and wife? Will you be remembered as the layman that accepted your pastor and family as part of your family? Most pastors and wives are not fortunate to live close enough to Mom and Dad to be able to visit them very often. Many pastors and wives get to see their family once or twice a year. We were one of those, but our laymen always made us feel like part of their family and loved and cared for us just like one of their children. In fact our church family has become our family down through the years. Our children have adopted grandparents in every church we pastored. The people loved them and took an interest in them and remembered them on their birthdays, Christmas, and holidays, and really became “adopted grandparents” to them.

Accept your pastor and wife as part of your family.

Will you be remembered as the layman who tells his pastor:

“I appreciate you,” or “I’m praying for you,” or “Your message was good, that’s just what I needed,” or “you are doing a good job”?

These words are magic to your pastor. Pastors and wives are human and, like you, they get discouraged—especially if the Sunday School attendance is low, or if the offering did not cover the necessary bills, or if he felt like he did a poor job preaching that day. But the more you encourage him and let him know you appreciate and support him, the harder he will try.

Will you be remembered as the “saint” in the church?

When a special need arises, are you the one the pastor calls for special prayer? In every church we pastored, there were one or two that we knew we could depend on to pray for us or for any needs in
the church. We just knew they had a direct line to God always open, and when a need arose a phone call is all it would take and that person would take it from there. Every church needs such a person. Your pastor really feels the prayers of such a person when he is preaching on Sundays.

**Will you be remembered as the layman who is always dependable?**

You can always be counted on to be there when a workday is called. You’re always at prayer meeting. You’re always at revival meetings. You can always be counted on for your financial support. You are faithful to visit those sick and in hospitals. You welcome new people to your church and have them in your home for a meal or coffee. You baby-sit for the pastor when he and his wife have to be gone. You are a dedicated Sunday School teacher. Whenever there is a job you are always available, if you are needed, and you will give it your best.

A few years ago, our daughter had to prepare a speech for her speech class in high school. The teacher told her that because she was always so happy and seemed to have such a happy home life that she should give her speech on the “privileges of Growing Up in the Parsonage.” She did so and she devoted one whole section to the laymen who had made impressions on her young life. She talked about Grandpa and Grandma Atkins, Edna and Howard, Uncle Emery, Medford, George and Rosella, Hazel and Roy, Mrs. Anderson, Robin, Grandma Malin. All these people had influenced her life in many ways—with words of encouragement, birthday cakes, testimonies, and as her Sunday School teacher. They had shown genuine love and concern for her and had been true examples of what being a Christian really meant. The laymen had loved her and she had a lot of happy memories of being a “preacher’s kid”!

Laymen, you are important to your pastor and his family, and you are a crucial part of your church. God has made you like you are with your varied abilities and gifts, and you have a job no one else but you can do. With your love for God, and your love for your pastor and his family, and your deep concern for the growth of your church in your community, faith will see the way to some exciting things for you as you and your pastor work together. The lasting impressions you make on your pastor and family will influence them for years to come.

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**THINK ON THESE THINGS**

**JOHN MAXWELL, author**

In 33 chapters (actually sketches), comprising 128 pages, author John Maxwell talks about a much-discussed subject—principles of success. His premise is based upon the familiar words of Philippians 4:8, “Think on these things.”

In each of the divisions, Maxwell invites the reader to consider one essential aspect of achievement necessary to any worthwhile field of endeavor. The approach is lively and persuasive. The relevant illustrations prod the reader to apply the truth to himself.

Not only is there psychological and philosophical truth in these pages, but there is a generous lacing of spiritual emphasis.

In reflecting upon his reason for writing *Think on These Things*, John Maxwell says: “The idea first came to me from two sources; first, many of my messages at Faith Memorial Church center around the theme of attitudes and positive thinking. These sermons were a great encouragement to the congregation. Secondly, while conducting Pastors’ Conferences, I would share concepts and principles of right thinking. It was from the suggestion of ministers and laymen that this book finally took shape.”

This is a book that recognizes man as he really is, and as he can be through God. Too many self-help books sold by bookstores overlook the basic factors of worthwhile achievement, faith in God, and commitment to His service.

Here is a readable book that is especially recommended for young people, but not without considerable appeal to the mature.

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Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
To order, see page 23.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1980
Thank God for Dedicated Laymen

by LOLA M. WILLIAMS
St. David, Illinois

The Church building may be the most impressive structure for miles around; the pastor may be the most eloquent preacher in the country; but without the laymen there is no church. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

It is the sheep, not the shepherd, that bring forth the lambs. It is the laymen, not the pastor, that bring the people in.

Harvey was a new convert; he was bubbling over with enthusiasm for the Lord. Soon he began to bring relatives, friends, and neighbors into the church by the carload. They began to get saved one by one; the church experienced revival. They were brought into the fold by a dedicated layman. Most of them would probably never have been reached for the Lord without Harvey’s hard work. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

It is largely the laymen who teach the classes, pay the bills, and fill the pews. No pastor could do that all by himself. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

It was laymen who held up Moses’ hands during the battle against the Amalekites. As long as Moses’ hands were up, the battle went in favor of the Israelites. When he became weary and his hands began to slip, the battle seemed to favor the enemy. Then two dedicated laymen, Aaron and Hur, took it upon themselves to hold up his hands. Victory came.

It is the laymen who hold up their pastor’s hands, by holding him up in prayer both while he’s in the pulpit and out of it. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

One Sunday morning, my pastor husband, Walter, struggled in vain to deliver his sermon. The longer he preached, the more difficult it became for him. Finally, in weariness and discouragement, he brought the service to a close.

That evening when he preached, what a difference! He preached a powerful sermon and felt great freedom as he spoke. The sweet presence of the Holy Spirit was near; hearts were blessed.

A few days later we learned the reason. That Sunday afternoon, Jerry, one of our laymen, said to his wife, “Our pastor was having a hard time preaching this morning. He was really in the brush. We need to pray especially for him this afternoon.” They knelt together and spent a good part of the afternoon petitioning heaven in behalf of their pastor. They had sensed the need, held up their pastor in prayer, and victory came. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

It is primarily the laymen who provide the music for the church, with their instruments and voices blended together in praise to God.

When the pastor calls, people feel he’s just doing his job. When the laymen call, people feel they must really care. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

It is the laymen who provide a “family of God” for the pastor and his family. In our own family, when we have had sickness, accidents, and death, it was our dedicated laymen who comforted us with their prayers, their kind words, and by taking on added responsibilities until we could carry our share of the load again.

When my husband was hospitalized for eight weeks because of an accident, two of our laymen kept our car in good running condition for me. Without their help, there were times that winter I would not have been able to make the 50-mile round trip daily to the hospital.

When I’ve been sick occasionally, our laymen (or laywomen) have brought in hot food, taken care of...
our children, and cleaned our house until I was back on my feet. Thank God for dedicated laymen.

At Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthdays, and anniversaries, our laymen have remembered us lovingly with food poundings, gifts, and extra cash.

When our older sons graduated from high school, went away to college, married, and later became parents themselves, our laymen rejoiced with us. They offered words of encouragement, loving concern, and many gifts to help make these happy occasions even happier for our parsonage family. So many times, our own families were so far away we could only share these events with them by letters, pictures, and phone calls.

In times of joy and times of sorrow, our laymen have followed Paul’s admonition to “Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep” (Romans 12:15). Thank God for dedicated laymen.

Without dedicated laymen filling places of responsibility in the church, the wheels of progress would soon grind to a halt. The late Dr. J. B. Chapman once said, “No man should seek a place of responsibility in the church, but he should not refuse when such a place is offered.” Thank God for dedicated laymen.

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The Common Experience

The date was June 22, 1980. The place was Kansas City, Missouri, U.S.A. The time was Sunday morning. The occasion was the General Assembly of the international Church of the Nazarene.

The crowd was everywhere—from everywhere. There were hundreds of people that knew each other from other times and other places. There were thousands of people that were unknown to each other. The six great escalators running upward into Roe Bartle Hall were six rivers of people. The crush of the crowd extended outward on 13th Street. These people came from Africa and India, from Germany and Italy, from Japan and Korea, from South and Central America and Mexico, from Canada and the British Isles, from the Near East and the Far East and the islands of the sea, and from other places too numerous to mention here. What a crowd! What a family!

However, it is possible to be lonely in the crush of even such a friendly crowd. Suddenly my heart leaped with joy as I realized that all these people, personally known and unknown, had one very common experience. I speak of something more particular than a universal experience in Jesus Christ, and our unity of belief in the doctrines of the church. That is good, very good! Music creates a common bond, too, but even in that, cultural differences and training leave some unmoven, while others are highly blessed.

I moved through the crowd, alert, watching for a dear friend or casual acquaintance, making new friends, or passing hundreds whom I did not know at all. What was the common, specific, intimate experience?

If I could have talked to each one personally, I believe that every one of us there would have affirmed that at some time or place, we had knelt at a public altar in a Church of the Nazarene. That is it! . . . the altar.

We had knelt there, either for forgiveness, or cleansing, or comfort, or guidance, or help in moments of bewilderment. We had knelt there, either to pray for ourselves or to pray for and with others. What a great idea it is to put a place of prayer, easily accessible, between the pew and the pulpit.

Our altar is not a place high and removed from the people, a place to be seen and admired, but not approached. Our altar is a common and convenient railing where people and preacher come together on common ground, where the Word proclaimed becomes a life experienced.

I know that our real spiritual altar is Jesus, and that the piece of furniture in our churches which we call the altar is not an absolute necessity. What I’m saying is that for Nazarenes around the world, it has become the common experience for us all. Often we come to pray . . . to renew . . . to enjoy His presence.

It has been my privilege to build four pulpits and four sets of altars in Work and Witness missions. We did not have to explain what that piece of simple furniture was. It was as natural to kneel and pray there as it is here or anywhere.

What a heritage we Nazarenes have in the altar, this piece of furniture where preacher and people meet together at the mercy seat, the place of prayer!

—KENNETH VOGT
Renton, Washington
Beginning September 1, the Church of the Nazarene will observe "The Year of the Minister" as the first phase of its five-year theme, "Celebrating Christian Holiness." Emphasis upon the preacher of holiness will be made throughout the year. It seems to me that a good place to begin is with the excellent statements from our Manual about the minister.

"The minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene must know that he has peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and that he is sanctified wholly by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He must have a deep sense of the fact that souls for whom Christ died are perishing, and that he is called of God to proclaim to them the glad tidings of salvation."

"The minister must likewise have a deep sense of the necessity of believers going on unto perfection and developing the Christian graces in practical living, that their 'love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment.' He must have a strong appreciation of both salvation and Christian ethics.

"The minister must have gifts, as well as grace, for the work. He will have a thirst for knowledge, especially of the Word of God; sound judgment and good understanding; clear views concerning the plan of redemption and salvation as revealed in the Scriptures. Saints will be edified and sinners converted through his ministry. He must be an example in prayer."

The lofty ideals expressed in the paragraphs above are born out of two essential convictions of our church concerning its ministry.

We believe in a God-called ministry. "As our Lord called unto Him whom He would, and chose and ordained His 12 apostles 'that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,' so He still calls and sends forth messengers of the gospel. The church, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, will recognize the Lord's call."

We further believe that "the perpetuity and efficiency of the Church of the Nazarene depend largely upon the spiritual qualifications, the character, and the manner of life of its ministers." A holy ministry is vital to a holiness church.

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FUND RAISING

How should funds be raised in the Church of the Nazarene? I receive quite a few letters which raise that question. When my personal opinion is sought, I have two simple answers: (1) tithes and (2) free-will offerings.

But wisdom will not be buried in my casket, and I must admit that the Manual does not restrict the churches to those two methods. The Manual does say that "all who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene are urged to contribute faithfully one-tenth of all their increase as a minimum financial obligation to the Lord and freewill offerings in addition as God has prospered them for the support of the whole church, local, district, zonal, and general."

But the Manual also says, "In the light of the scriptural teaching concerning the giving of tithes and offerings for the support of the gospel, and for the erection of church buildings, no Nazarene church should engage in any method of fund raising which would detract from these principles, hinder the gospel message, sully the name of the church, discriminate against the poor, nor misdirect the people's energies from promoting the gospel."

That paragraph opens the door to other methods of fund raising, while it seeks to keep unworthy methods from coming through the opened door. It becomes the responsibility of the local church board to examine its fund-raising activities and methods to make sure they do not conflict with the principles stated.

I received a thoughtful letter from one of our pastors, who says, "Many youth groups use various fund-raising methods, such as bake sales, walk-a-thons, carwashes, garage sales, etc., to finance their activities. The youth group in my former church very successfully used a walk-a-thon to raise nearly $2,000 for their annual youth budget. I personally do not feel that article 37:2 would be violated in such situations, other than when it detracts from or takes the place of our normal giving of tithes and offerings."
He reminds us that youth are limited in income, and after paying tithes would not have, under most circumstances, enough left over to underwrite their youth budget. They need other ways to raise funds for their activities.

This pastor also writes, “I believe that a church should not hold such fund raisers for the purpose of raising monies to pay local expenses, district budgets, or general budgets.” The only exception he makes is related to youth activities.

His point about the limited resources of our young people is well taken. And if the older people of the church are unable or unwilling to underwrite the youth budget through freewill offerings, some other methods become necessary and justifiable.

There are still many among us who object to all methods other than tithes and freewill offerings. Those who do should not be expected to participate in these other fund-raising methods, nor should they be judged harshly when they refuse. Their convictions ought to be respected.

On the other hand, precisely because the Manual does not legislate against other methods, but only establishes principles and safeguards by which all methods are to be governed, I have no right to sit in judgment upon those who resort to other methods. Here is another area when unity, liberty, and charity need to be respected.

I do feel that when a church begins to explore and utilize any of these other methods, some warning voices need to be raised. From other denominations we can clearly see how fund-raising methods have been abused. And we can clearly see how these dubious methods arose because churches were desperate for funds and the members were unwilling to tithe and give freewill offerings above the tithe.

There will never be a more effective method of increasing church income than increasing the number of tithers. I seriously doubt that we would ever be pressed for money to do the Lord’s work if all of our people faithfully tithed.

In all our ways of raising money, let us aim first of all at pleasing the Lord, and only secondly at meeting the need for money.

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AN INTERESTING POLL

Evangelist Harold C. Frodge is not a man to take things for granted. In the May 15 issue last year, I stated that “the plain truth is that more of our people read and study one of the modern English translations of the Bible than they do the King James Version.” Frodge questioned the accuracy of my remark, and proceeded to poll the congregations wherever he conducted revival meetings.

During one church year he polled congregations on 12 districts. His question was, “Which version of the Bible do you read more than any other?” And in his letter to me he says, “The response was amazing. In every place, at all times, the King James ran well ahead of all others. In fact, it ran four to one against all versions combined! The nearest contest was in Logan, W.Va., with 35 members reading King James, 28 NIV. In all other places, no contest. The survey showed that for each person reading NIV, six others read the King James!”

Frodge’s survey revealed this “popularity order” —KJV first, NIV second, TLB third, Phillips fourth, NASB fifth, Amplified sixth.

He is continuing his survey and has promised to share the results with me again. He admits that the geographical limitations make this independent survey inconclusive. It also compels me to admit that my statement may have been too broad. I was guilty of projecting what was true in places where I had served for the past couple of decades upon the whole church. I look forward to his continuing polls. And I wonder what difference such factors as age, location, schooling, serious study as over against devotional reading, etc., would reveal.

Anyhow, Evangelist Frodge, you are a man after my own heart! If I were a pastor, I would call you for a revival meeting. Two fellows who do not swallow whole everything a knotheaded magazine editor says could have some great fellowship challenging one another’s statements and explaining one another’s positions, and joining together in prayer and Bible study to promote real revival in the church.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1980
FEELINGS of anger, aggression, and assertion are legitimate emotions given to you by your Creator—they are not carnal stirrings.

Anger is defined as “a feeling of sudden and strong displeasure and antagonism directed against the cause of an assumed wrong or injury.” The Bible shows that God expresses anger as well as love. We who are in God’s image may also express anger that is thought out, appropriate, and short-lived. God asked a bitter Jonah, “Doest thou well to be angry?” Think before you act.

The Amplified version of Ephesians 4:26 reads, “When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath—your exasperation, your fury or indignation—last until the sun goes down.” We Christians are to express indignation against evil, but we must not hold on to it, even righteous indignation. Verse 31 of this same chapter refers to wrath and anger which are selfish and not righteous. As expressed through Christ and His apostles, true holiness includes a capacity for moral indignation. One who is not angry against sin will never do much to resist or remove it.

Indignation and anger can sometimes act as liberators from false ideas and bad self-images. One person became angry at himself and his grade school teacher and was enabled to throw off a negative definition of himself. Another man who was a chain smoker got angry at himself for his habit and threw away his cigarettes—never to smoke again. God can become angry when people won’t correct bad habits. Remember Moses’ foot-dragging?

Aggressive means “of or characterized by aggression or attack. Disposed to vigorous activity; assertive.” Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, as well as others I have conferred with, feel that internal steam and drive is needed to reach goals under the leadership of God. Aggression becomes wrong when it is misdirected towards people merely to expel pent-up energy; not to be confused with agreed-upon competition between equals. As Micah would say (6:8), the goal-directed person “does justly,” and “loves mercy” and walks with God in humbleness of spirit.

The holy person is a disciplined, self-controlled individual. God will teach you these graces if you don’t have them. He will not accept the excuse, “That’s just the way I am.” He will send adversity, problems, even sufferings to refine you, to prune off rough abrasive edges from your personality, so that you may live in the world as “an example of the believers.” Frequent occurrences of interpersonal conflict is an indication you need more grace, not that conflict is wrong per se. Christians should be warm and supportive, not harsh and obnoxious. Assertive people are goal-directed; they are not determined to ride roughshod over others, or to seek personal advancement at the expense of other people.

Our Lord was goal-directed. The devil couldn’t deter Him through the wilderness temptations. Evil men couldn’t stop His progress. Well-meaning friends (Matthew 16:22) or kin could not stop Him. “He steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem” and death so that we may live. Paul’s goal-direction paralleled our Lord’s, taking him through beatings, storms, jailings, and verbal abuse. He also neared Jerusalem steadfastly, though well-meaning friends tried to stop him from reaching his goal (Acts 21:4-14).

God can work miracles through angry and aggressive people, who are determined to challenge sin and proclaim Christ in the world. Holy anger, holy aggression, is part of vital Christianity.

PETITION

O God, give Thou, through passing years,
a vision greater than my fears,
a love that nullifies all hate,
dimensions that make service great,
an upreach far transcending storm,
a steady gaze when troubles swarm.
Help me, O God, to dwell in Thee,
then certain is my victory.

—CHARSTEN CHRISTENSEN
Calgary, Alberta
Five things you need to know about where church dollars go:
Some 80% of local church income is invested in local interests.

The church succeeds at the grass-roots level. Accordingly, about 80% of monies raised by a typical Nazarene church are spent on the local church programs and ministries. This division of income helps ensure that we are evangelizing the communities and cities in which we live as well as spreading the gospel to foreign lands. Ironically, successful investing of funds at the local level will increase the amount that a growing church is able to give to world evangelism, even though the allocation percentages remain about the same.

Local expenditures include pastor’s salary, staff salaries, church mortgage payments, operational expenses, advertising and promotion, special meetings, etc. Discretion in how these funds are applied allows a local church to develop unique ministries of its own that will effectively evangelize, nurture, train and equip people in the community.

Approximately 6% of local church income is contributed to district interests and approximately 3% to zone educational interests. District funds cover the district superintendent’s salary, administrative costs of running the district and operation of a home missions program for the development of new churches. New churches are continually being developed by the 72 locally-supported U.S. districts.

Approximately 11% of local church income is contributed to general interests. More than half of these dollars are allocated directly to missionary support and field operations around the world. In addition, general interest dollars underwrite development of foreign radio broadcasts, television work, publishing foreign literature, home missions programs that include inner-city work, and world evangelism promotional and administrative expenses. In all, more than 85% of general interest funds are invested in world evangelism ministries.

The church now has active ministries in more than 60 countries with nearly 600 missionaries and 3,000 national ministers, teachers and medical personnel. In addition,
television work and publication literature in 21 different lan-
guages, Nazarene radio broadcasts heard on more than 1,000 sta-
ions around the world. Nearly a
million patients are treated each
year by World Missions hospitals
clinics.

A portion of general
interest
dollars also supports
the work at home.

Nearly 15% of general interest
funds are allocated to the Depart-
ment of Evangelism, the Christian
Life Division (which includes
Youth, Adult and Children’s min-
istries), the Department of Educa-
tion and the Ministry, the primary
administrative work of the Board
of General Superintendents and
other headquarters expenses. This
enables denomination-wide pro-
grams to assist local churches in the
discipling of laymen, provides sup-
port for ongoing education and care
of ministers and evangelists, and
allows efficient administration of
the general church.

These functions play an impor-
tant role in the success of the local
church. Interestingly, because of the
international direction the church is
taking, they also are important to
our worldwide evangelistic endeav-
ors. For example, our seminary and
Bible colleges are serving foreign
students and preparing missionaries
as well as preparing ministers for
the work at home.

Investing at the grass-
roots level is
yielding the best
results.

It is no accident that 80% of
church income is spent on local in-
terests and more than half of district
and general funds are allocated for
world and home mission field work.
By spending 90¢ out of every dollar
"where the action is" and utilizing
the remaining portion in direct sup-
port of these "action areas," the
church has been able to fulfill the
Great Commission as effectively as
possible.

Where General Interest Dollars Go

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Evangelism</th>
<th>Functional Departments</th>
<th>Headquarters Administration</th>
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<td>86%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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World Evangelism 86%
Functional Departments 8%
Headquarters Administration 6%
"For from him and through him and to him are all things . . ."

Romans 11:36, RSV, Zondervan
PEOPLE AND PLACES

Rev. Carlos H. Sparks, pastor at Portland, Tenn., has just released his first book, GROWING UP IN SIMPLE RIDGE. Published by Maverick Publications, Bend, Ore., the book is Americana, centering in a community east of Springfield, Ohio.

Sparks, who was a war correspondent, newspaper editor, columnist, mayor, free-lance writer, and minister in the Church of the Nazarene in Tennessee, Ohio, and Texas, reflects the rural life of a country caught up in war. □

RETIRED MINISTERS' RECOGNITION BANQUET

The 1980 Quadrennial Recognition Banquet for retired ministers, spouses, and widows of ministers was held June 20 at the Alameda Plaza Hotel in Kansas City. Over 400 persons attended the banquet which was sponsored by the Department of Pensions. It was described by one of those attending as the high point of their week.

Mrs. Eleanor Whitsett, pianist, provided dinner music by playing favorite hymns upon request. "Cross Section," a vocal ensemble from Oklahoma City, provided special music. A medley of hymns which focused on God's "Amazing Grace," led to a camp meeting atmosphere. W. E. McCumber, editor of the Herald of Holiness, spoke on the theme "I Remember the Days of Old."

Approximately 10,000 years of accumulative service for Christ and the church were recognized. The Board of Pensions honored Dr. Dean Wessels, executive director, for his 25 years of service to the Department of Pensions. Paul Sodowsky, administrative assistant, was also recognized for 20 years of service to the Department.

Special guests attending the banquet included Dr. and Mrs. G. B. Williamson, Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Young, Dr. and Mrs. Edward Lawlor, Dr. D. L. Vanderpool, and Mrs. Hugh C. Benner.

The first quadrennial dinner was held in 1972 in Miami Beach, the second was held in Dallas in 1976. □

COUPLE RECEIVES FULL MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CERTIFICATION

The Nazarene Committee on Marriage Enrichment Selection, Training, and Certification has granted full certification to Paul and Pat Robbins of Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

Full certification is achieved after having attended a Nazarene Marriage Enrichment Training and Evaluation Retreat (or its equivalent), plus a year of provisional certification for evaluation purposes. The status of full certification is for a two-year period.

Paul and Pat have two sons, Michael and Stephen. Paul is presently serving as associate pastor of the Red Deer First Church, whose senior pastor is Rev. Charles Westhafer, Jr.

The Robbinses have had extensive experience in leading Marriage Enrichment retreats for Nazarene churches. Their training was taken from Marriage Communication Lab under the sponsorship of the Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment (ACME).

The Selection Committee also announces the appointment of Paul and Pat as contact couple for Central and Western Canada. Their task will be to respond to questions about marriage enrichment and to resource pastors as it relates to qualified retreat leadership.

The Robbinses will also serve as associate trainers of leader-couples under assignment of the Marriage Enrichment Selection Committee. Applications for training are available from the Office of Marriage and Family Life at Nazarene Headquarters.

Paul and Pat have spread the word that marriage can be abundant under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Interested Canadian pastors and laymen may contact them at: 4202 40A Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta T4N 2X2; (403) 342-4050.

COMING SEMINARS AT THE
LEO AND MATTIE KING CONFERENCE CENTER
NAZARENE INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

1. Stewardship Seminar
Date: September 22-26, 1980
Workers: Dr. Leon Doane
         Dr. Barth Smith
         Dr. Ray Reglin
         Rev. Ralph Scott
Subjects:
- How to Be Successful with Family and Finances
- How to Manage Your Time
- How to Plan and Budget in the Local Church
- How to Apply for a Church Loan
- How to Raise Funds in the Local Church

2. Local Church Administrators
Date: October 6-10, 1980
Workers: Mr. Paul Spear
         Mr. Neil Rimington
         Dr. Gary Grey
This seminar is for local church business administrators and other full- or part-time administrators. It will deal with job descriptions, personnel selection, maintenance procedures, secretarial assignments, and budgeting.

3. “We Have This Ministry”
Date: October 13-16, 1980
Worker: Dr. L. Guy Nees
        President, Mount Vernon Nazarene College
To assist young pastors (less than 10 years) in reviewing their ministries. To analyze goals and objectives. To give a brief survey of time management and decision-making.

4. Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar
Date: October 20-24, 1980
Worker: Dr. Dean Wessels, Coordinator
Designed for Nazarene ministers and their spouses nearing retirement. The seminar will deal with psychological adjustments and atti-
In addition, financial preparation, legal counsel, housing, physical health and well-being, and social relationships during the retirement years. Special features will include resource persons in medicine, law, insurance, finance, and estate planning.

5. Hymn Improvisation for Church Pianists
   Date: October 27-30, 1980
   Worker: Evonne Neuenschwander
   To provide a step-by-step instruction for playing worship and gospel hymns properly. To provide specific concepts and illustrations enabling church pianists to improve their hymn playing skills and/or to better understand the principles of hymn playing.

6. The Pastor and the Lay Minister
   Date: November 12-15, 1980
   Worker: Dr. James Garlow
   Minister of Lay Development
   To acquaint pastors with the possibility of lay ministry and to develop a volunteer staff. John Wesley's use of the lay minister will give a rich background to the seminar.

7. Developing and Promoting Lay Training
   Date: November 17-21, 1980
   Worker: Dr. Earl C. Wolf
   For district and local CST Directors to:
   • Discover more fully how to develop and promote lay training.
   • Become better acquainted with training programs, promotional materials, and resources.
   • Receive up-to-date information on new texts.

8. Consultation on Nazarene Revivalism
   Date: December 1-5, 1980
   Worker: Rev. Bill Sullivan
   To give in-depth consideration to the evangelistic field in the Church of the Nazarene in regards to both the evangelist and revival meeting in the local church.
   Limited enrollment.

REGISTRATION
Register for seminars by completing the form below and mailing it, along with $25.00 deposit, to:

Continuing Education
Department of Education and the Ministry
6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131

FEES
Seminar fee is $125 per person (double occupancy) for a 4-day seminar. This includes room, meals (except evening meal), breaks, registration, and materials. Two-day seminar fee is $70.00.

REFUNDS
Refunds may be requested in writing at least 15 days prior to the chosen seminar (less $5.00 for bookkeeping expenses) from the above address.

APPLICATION BLANK
To confirm your enrollment, send $25.00 deposit with the following information:

Name __________________________ Address __________________________

City __________________________ State and ZIP __________________________

Residence Phone __________________________ Seminar Desired 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
WHAT DO YOU MEAN—
"DISCOVER GIVING?"

My assignment in the Department of Stewardship is new for me. I am a layman and had been in the banking business for several years.

I had experienced the tense moments in the board meetings of our local church when it seemed our mission and our programs to our community might have to be curtailed because of finances. This stimulated my interest in the possibility of a study of the percentage of our church members who tithe.

I have known all my life that the Church of the Nazarene believes in storehouse tithing. The Manual states that it is a scriptural and practical performance for all our members. And, therefore, all who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene are urged to contribute faithfully one-tenth of all their increase as a minimum financial obligation to the Lord and to give free-will offerings in addition, as God prospers us.

In July of 1979, a tithing survey was mailed to 4,719 churches in the "Stewardship Kit." In December of 1979, after having received 194 responses, we compiled the results. Of all the churches surveyed, 86.6 percent of the tithers are church members and 13.4 percent are non-church members. Of the church-member-family-units, 58-33 percent tithe; 41-67 percent do not tithe.

I realize that the totals derived must be considered inconclusive because of the method used in the survey and because of the small percentage of participants. But as a result of the survey, several thoughts have crossed my mind.

• The loss of revenue from the non-tithers does not concern me as much as the spiritual blessings those who are not tithing are missing.

• I believe that all Christians want to tithe; however, in this day and age there are many financial demands placed upon us. The average household struggles with 20 percent of its disposable income in consumer debt, in addition to its real estate obligations. Because of this the devil would try to convince us that tithing is impossible.

• Training is so important; I believe that we should train our children. I am very grateful to my parents for their stressing the importance of tithing. My dad would put his tithing envelope on his dresser where I was able to see it and it made an indelible impression on me.

• Statistics point out that a large portion of our membership are new Nazarenes, and some of them have not experienced the joy of tithing.

• Some of our pastors do not have the freedom in their personal giving that they would like to have.

Out of these concerns and after talking with some of our church leaders and sensing their desire to keep the concept of tithing before all of us, the "Discover Giving" emphasis was developed. It is meant to challenge our people to greater areas of personal stewardship and to encourage them to claim God's promise in Malachi 3:10, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now hereunto, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

The emphasis will be carried out during September and October of this year. Posters and bulletin inserts, as well as special tithing envelopes, have been developed to encourage our people to begin tithing or, if they are tithing, to discover additional giving as the Lord directs.

All of us have been exposed to those who emphasize giving to get. I believe that God is interested in us and will supply all of our needs; however, to give in order to get material things is not scriptural. I know that God does bless us materially, but that should not be our motivation. Many blessings derived from giving will be spiritual and these bring true fulfillment.

The "Discover Giving" emphasis has life-changing potential, regardless of one's current giving habits and perspectives. Too many times our pastors and church leaders are reluctant to address the spiritual problem of non-giving on an individual basis. When the subject is approached, they are afraid of coming across in a negative manner to the non-tither, who sees himself as unable to rise to what appears to be an absolute standard. "Discover Giving" is a positive approach, asking the participant to try it for eight weeks. I am confident that once individuals have tasted of the Lord and found Him to be good, they will want to continue in their newfound joy.

In Jesus' message to us He called for such a complete reversal of values that He stressed being "born" again. This reversal must quickly lead to a discovery of giving as opposed to receiving, if we are to be His true disciples. Every new convert needs to be taught this, and all of us need to be challenged again and again.

The "Discover Giving" program is divorced from any fund-raising appeal or campaign. Some catch lines in the promotional materials might be gimmicky in order to attract attention, but the theme is basic and related to God's Word.

The exciting thing about this approach to giving is that by understanding and encouraging true New Testament giving, it can open up new spiritual vistas for all of us and at the same time provide more resources for Kingdom building. This will have its greatest results at the local level.

It is powerful stuff, yet noncontroversial—a rare combination. Will you accept a 60-day challenge to be measured by no one but yourself, as you reflect on God's ability to keep his promises?

If this program affects anybody, that effect will probably be lifelong.

Leon D. Doane
Department of Stewardship

WHAT THE TWENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY DID

General Secretary B. Edgar Johnson has prepared material for the Manual Editing Committee which summarizes the actions of the 20th General Assembly. Here are some significant items:

• Set the basic call for a pastor who is an elder at two years;

• Made provision for a congregation to give its pastor in indefinite call with a quadrennial checkpoint by the district superintendent and the church board;

• Included weekday Christian schools from day care through high school as a local church option;

• Set the age for membership in the Nazarene Youth International at 12-29;

• Ordered the attendance of outreach classes totaled separately from Sunday School;

• Changed the name of the Department of Pensions and Benevolence to Pensions and Benefits;

• Changed the name of the Department of Home Missions to Church Extension;

• Recognized the Board of Administration in Mexico as the Executive Board of the Church of the Nazarene in the Republic of Mexico;

• Modified the age restriction of 50 for ordination in the case of a licensed minister who has completed the course of study and pastored for 15 years;
• Established 15 world regions—dropping the word “zone,” and assigning functions to them;
• The members of the General Board are now chosen by caucuses from the regions and ratified by a “yes or no” vote of the General Assembly;
• In order to facilitate reorganization, paragraphs related to the organization of the General Board are removed from the Manual for the 1980-1985 quinquennium and placed in the bylaws of the General Board. The new primary units of the General Board organization will be divisions. The 1985 General Assembly must ratify changes;
• Approved language which defines the relationship of regional liberal arts colleges to the denomination;
• Made multiple staff ministries the concern of the Department of Education and the Ministry;
• Asked the general superintendents to study the process of allocating Home Mission subsidies;
• Approved $125 million goal for World Evangelism;
• Authorized the continuation of the commission on internationalization and referred a proposal for filling vacancies in the office of district superintendents between assemblies;
• Authorized a commission to study proposals for credentials to associate ministers and lay ministry;
• Returned the examining and grading of licensed ministers to the district Board of Ministerial Studies;
• Changed the name of the Nazarene World Missionary Society to Nazarene World Mission Society;
• Asked the General Board to consider increasing the percentage that widows of elders receive of their husbands’ pension; and
• Merged the International Publications Board with the Department of Publication.

These changes become effective when the 1980 Manual is published.

MVNC AWARDS TWO HONORARY DOCTORATES

During recent graduation ceremonies at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, two honorary doctorate degrees were awarded. Mr. Jack T. Raidon received a Doctor of Divinity degree, and Mr. Licenciado Elizardo Urizar Leal received the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.

Mr. Raidon was born in El Reno, Okla. His college studies began at Northeastern State College in Tahlequah, Okla., and were completed at Bethany Nazarene College where he

Mr. Licenciado Elizardo Urizar Leal (center) as doctoral hood is placed on him.

earned a theology degree in 1945. He returned to Bethany and earned a second bachelor’s degree in history in 1974. He joined the faculty at Bethany where he taught European, American, and Church history for 20 years.

He took further graduate studies at the University of Oklahoma, where he earned a master’s degree in history. His thesis was entitled “A Descriptive Guide of the Historical Resource Materials of the Church to the Nazarene, 1908-48.”

Prior to coming to Mount Vernon, Raidon served at Mid-America Nazarene College for nine years. Raidon held several administrative positions including acting business manager, dean of students, director of admissions, and assistant dean.

Raidon joined the administration of MVNC as the director of Title III funds in 1976. Through his efforts, the college has received more than $770,000 of government funds. Raidon taught “Formation of the Church” and “History of the Church of the Nazarene” at MVNC.

Mr. Licenciado Elizardo Urizar Leal is a Nazarene from Guatemala. He was a member of the National Congress of Guatemala from 1974 to 1978. Currently, he is a member of the Writers’ Committee for Sunday School lessons in Spanish for the International Publications Board of the Church of the Nazarene. He is the district chairman of the Board of Christian Life. He is also a member of the Landivar, Guatemala, church, where he serves as a Sunday School teacher and choir director.

Mr. Elizardo Urizar Leal is a professor of Spanish at the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Guatemala City. He is the director of the office of planning of the Mariano Galvez University in Guatemala City where he also serves as a professor of techniques of investigation.

Mr. Elizardo Urizar Leal is the author of several papers published by the Educational Planning Office in the Ministry of Education. He is the author of a book, Planning of Education, a History of Educational Planning in Guatemala. For five years he was an advisor to the Ministry of Education in education.

Mr. Elizardo Urizar Leal received a master’s degree in Pedagogy and Science of Education from the Sorbonne University, Paris, France. He has also studied in the United States, Chile, Argentina, and Guatemala City.
ALLEN, ARTHUR: Port Elizabeth, NJ. Sept. 30—Oct. 5
BARKER, RICHARD C.: Martins Ferry, OH. Sept. 2-7; Columbus, OH (First). Sept. 16-21.
BENDON EVANGELISTIC PARTY: Lockwood, NE. Sept. 3-14: Lindsborg, KS (First). Sept. 15-21; Plainfield, IA (First). Sept. 22-28; Jeffersonville, IN (First). Sept. 29—Oct. 5
BISHOP, BOB: Provo, UT. Sept. 2-7; Cedar City, UT (First). Sept. 16-21.
BOND, GARY AND BETH: Portage, WI. Sept. 2-7: Jackson, MI (First). Sept. 16-21.
BROOKS, JERRY: Columbus, GA (First). Sept. 13-14; Athens, GA (First). Sept. 22-28.
BUSH, GEORGE: Whittier, CA. Sept. 2-7; Phoenix, AZ (First). Sept. 16-21.
BUTLER, RICHARD: Neosho, MO. Sept. 2-7; Neosho, MO (First). Sept. 16-21.
BUTLER, ROBERT W.: Van Wert, OH (First). Sept. 2-7; Lima, OH (First). Sept. 16-21.
BUNSEN, GEORGE: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: St. Louis, MO (First). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (First). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Fourth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Fifth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Sixth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Seventh). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Tenth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Fourteenth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Fifteenth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Seventeenth). Sept. 16-21.
CARR, JOHN: Kansas City, MO. Sept. 2-7: Kansas City, MO (Fortieth). Sept. 16-21.
LUSH, RON: Lancaster, CA (Camp). Sept. 24-28
LIUTH, RON: Hinsberg, KS. Sept. 28-Oct. 5
MANLEY, STEPHEN: Urbana, OH (First). Sept. 27-Sept. 27.
MATT, LAWRENCE: Mayfield, KY. Sept. 16-21; Marion, IN (First). Sept. 23-28.
MATHER, ALAN W.: (Prophecy). Sept. 27.
MCCOOG, FRANK: Marion, IN (First). Sept. 23-28.
MENDELSON, RODGER: Upland, CA (College Ave.). Sept. 16-21; Paramount, CA (First). Sept. 23-28.
MURPHY, BRANCE: Bowie, TX (First). Sept. 2-7; Waxahachie, TX (First). Sept. 23-28.
MURPHY, RONALD: Anchorage, AK (Hillcrest). Sept. 2-7; River Park, PA (Bolivar Dr.). Sept. 23-28.
NEFF, LARRY AND PAT: Calcutta, OH, Sept. 2-7; Roanoke, VA (First). Sept. 23-28.
NEUHEIM, HARRY: Hoisington, KS. Sept. 28-Oct. 5.
NEUMANN, DAN: Grand Forks, ND (First). Sept. 16-21; Fort Madison, IA (First). Sept. 23-28.
NEVILLE, RONALD: St. Louis, MO (First). Sept. 23-28; Spokane, WA (First). Sept. 30-Oct. 5.
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NEVILLE, RONALD: St. Louis, MO (First). Sept. 23-28; Spokane, WA (First). Sept. 30-Oct. 5.
GRACIAS...DANKE SCHON...
TENKU TRU . . . DANKIE . . ...
UPKER MANTO...ARRIGATO*

THANK YOU, 5,000 NAZARENES. You came from the east, the west, the north, the south; from near, from far, from 50 states and 40 countries during General Assembly in Kansas City to tour your publishing house. We enjoyed having you!

The afternoon of June 20 began as any other at General Assembly time, except a last-minute check needed to be made to see that the chartered bus tours to the publishing house and international center were ready to start on schedule at 1:00 p.m.

One look into the Bartle Hall overpass loading area and we knew there was a Lake Placid, Olympic-size transportation snafu in the making. Three buses were waiting to load a block-long mass of people, standing six and seven abreast.

Somehow, someway, 1,200 people toured that first day. And as if to compensate for the transportation delays, the weather was exceptionally cool (in a Kansas City summer that has been the hottest on record). Were these modern-day Israelites with a special canopy of clouds who were waiting patiently for rides and tours?

But Saturday and the rest of the touring days were different. Learning fast, we were ready for the masses, and things ran smoothly from that time on. Some 10,000 cookies and gallons of iced tea and coffee later, our special tour guides and all the employees knew something wonderful about the people of our worldwide church: We were “one in the bond of love.” And they were interested in everything, friendly, curious as good stewards should be about their publishing house, and very vocal in expressions of appreciation.

Several days later, one of our first-time-ever tour guides from Bethany wrote: “Last week was one of the most meaningful weeks of my life. It was a thrill meeting people from all over the world who were excited about their church and its institutions.”

She summarized what we all felt, but in addition there is a new sense of responsibility to give our church and its people the kind of product and service they have a right to expect from their own publishing house.

May God bless you.

M. A. (Bud) Lunn

*“Thank you” in the language of people who visited us from 6 of the 40 countries: Mexico, Germany, Papua New Guinea, India, South Africa, Japan.

Everywhere you looked at the General Assembly site and the Publishing House, there were Nazarenes coming and going.

Part of the continuous stream which flowed through the press room.

Tim Westmark (l.), NPH accountant, left his ledgers and briefed numbers of people.

Jean Church (l.), assembly hostess, turned tour guide when the crowds of people increased each day.

One of our small guests believed the sign above her and sampled the free cookies.

Welcome—We're Glad You Came.
CONTACT—SUMMER OF SUNSHINE

Seven churches in Kansas, New Mexico, California, and Colorado were host to “Sunshine Clubs” during the summer of 1980, as Contact, the children’s evangelism team of the Department of Youth Ministries, brought their program of puppets, songs, and fun to hundreds of children. The seven collegians trained in children’s ministry, puppetry, evangelism and follow-up, and group dynamics for nine days during June, and then embarked on a tour of the western half of the United States. Their itinerary called for a week at each site in the community, training seminars in four different “backyard” locations with four one-hour programs in the morning and evening worship services. Children learned about Christ’s love, memorized Bible verses, and discovered ways that they could serve Jesus as a child.

Besides the impact of love and sharing on the lives of the children, many contacts were made for the local church. Scores of families have been reached through the Contact ministry.

Those participating in Contact this summer were: Pam Bridgewater, MANC; Melanie Clingerman, MVNC; Rod Dunklee, ONC; Debbie Hubbard, BNC; Kathy Kniefel, NNC; Dave Means, ONC; and D’anne Paul, BNC. Dave Jenkins and Steve Hicks served as travel coordinators.

Contact is part of the “Youth in Mission” program, sponsored by the Department of Youth Ministries. The program is coordinated by Rev. Mike Estep, general program director. Contact is directed by Rev. Gary Sivewright, editor of Bread magazine. This year’s Sunshine Club program was written by Mr. Steve Pennington, children’s ministries consultant.

ALL-EUROPE YOUTH CAMP

Portugal is the site of the 1981 all-Europe Nazarene youth camp.

A resort area on the sea near Lisbon will host up to 450 Nazarene young people August 3-15, 1981. Missionary Earl Mosteller, with the Institute steering committee, over the last year located a site with the necessary facilities to house the once-every-four-years event.

Torsten Janshon, German pastor and camp director, reported on his visit to the camp location to a meeting of the steering committee in London, June 3-5, 1980. The committee unanimously accepted his recommendation and voted to build the camp around a navigator theme—building on Portugal’s history of providing navigators for European sea voyages and explorations. Theme scripture verse will be, “Launch out into the deep,” from Luke 5:4.

Steering committee members, elected at the last all-Europe youth camp on the Italian Riviera in 1977, are George Williamson (Scotland), Howard Culbertson (Italy), and Jan Spikman (European representative on the General NYI Council). Consultants utilized in the London meeting included Peter Warmen and Warren Tranter.

Youth are expected to enroll from British Isles North and South, Eire, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Middle European, Italy, and Portugal. The last institute drew over 200 young people.

Special speaker for the camp will be Dr. Jerald D. Johnson. Other staff will be drawn from the districts involved.

—NCN

Friday, June 6, was a memorable day for Crandall Vail, art director for the Nazarene Publishing House, who came to serve the church from a commercial advertising agency in Boston. This date marked 25 years of service, and Manager M. A. (Bud) Lunn (r.), presented Crandall with a gold watch in honor of the occasion. His entry into the 25-year club makes a total NPH active membership of 26.
EASTERN MICHIGAN

The 31st annual assembly of the Eastern Michigan District met at Flint Central Church. District Superintendent Donald J. Gibson was reelected for a four-year term.

Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, presiding general superintendent, ordained David Ballard, Larry Fouts, James Gray, James E. Olson, and David E. Porterfield.

Elders F. Grant Cross, Carl R. Allen, James Melliash, and Ray C. Raycroft; and laymen John Q. Dickey, Gordon Horton, Vernon Lunn, and Norman Rucker were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. John Q. Dickey was reelected NWMS president; Rev. David Lord was elected NYI president; and Rev. Jerry L. Short was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NORTHEASTERN OHIO

The 21st annual assembly of the Northeastern Ohio District was held at St. Marys District Center. District Superintendent James R. Blankenship, completing the second year of an extended term, reported.


Elders Ronald C. Bishop, Douglas D. McAdams, and Douglas McKay; and laymen David Granger, George Jetter, and Clyde Lotridge, Jr., were elected to the Advisory Board.

Christine Blankenship was reelected NWMS president; and D. L. Huffman was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

CENTRAL OHIO

The 37th annual assembly of the Central Ohio District was held at Columbus Campground. District Superintendent Terrell C. Sanders, Jr., was reelected for a four-year term.

Dr. V. H. Lewis, general superintendent; ordained William B. Gussler, Sr.; Larry B. Hodges; and recognized the credentials of Don Bock and James B. Kittle. He also commissioned Sandra May Sisler minister of Christian education.

Elders J. Donald Carrico, Jerry D. Lamberti, Gerald L. Morgan, and Robert F. Styers; and laymen John Q. Dickey, Gordon Horton, Vernon Lunn, and Norman Rucker were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. John Q. Dickey was reelected NWMS president; Rev. David Lord was elected NYI president; and Rev. Jerry L. Short was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA

The 21st annual assembly of the Northeastern Indiana District was held in Marion, Ind. District Superintendent Bruce T. Taylor, completing one year of an extended term, reported.


Elders Gaither, Sr., and Larry B. Hodges; Mrs. Terrell C. Sanders, Jr., was reelected NWMS president; and Rev. Jerry D. Lamberti was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

PICTSBURGH

The 73rd annual assembly of the Pittsburgh District met at the Community Alliance Church, Butler, Pa. District Superintendent William J. Prince, completing the first year of an extended term, reported the organization of a new church in Monroeville, Pa.


Elders Ira East, Don King, Harold Maish, and Fred Winger; and elected to the Advisory Board were elders Jack Christner, Luther Watson, and Mayne Minich; and laymen Lauren Cousins, Willis Whiting, and Ronald Rieder.

Mrs. Evelyn Prince was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Terry Sowden was reelected NYI president; and Rev. Louis Staats was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

SOUTHWESTERN OHIO

The 21st annual assembly of the Southwestern Ohio District was held by Towne Boulevard Church of God, Middletown, Ohio. Rev. Harold B. Graves was elected district superintendent after the retirement of Dr. Dallas Baggett.


Elders Ira East, Don King, Harold Maish, and Mike Norris; and laymen Marvin Beam, Lewis Curtiss, James Randall, and Tom Waddell were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Harold B. Graves was elected NWMS president; Rev. Michael Hancock was reelected NYI president; and Rev. Ronald Barber was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

MOVING MINISTERS

JOHNNY M. BLEDSOE from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, to Cleveland, Ohio.

WILLBUR CASSICK from Tampa, Fla., to Tallahassee, Fla.

PAUL H. COTNER from Champaign (Ill.) West Side to Mahomet, Ill.

CURTIS D. DE LONG from student, Nazarene
Music by Floyd Hawkins, another former pastor, will be featured. All former members and pastors are invited. Write Mrs. Ruby Pruetz, 28 E. Noble, Stockton, CA 95204.

The Cherryvale, Kan., church will celebrate its 60th anniversary on October 19. There will also be activities on October 18. Former pastors and members are invited. For more information, contact Rev. Steve Stockstill, 312 W. 4th St., Cherryvale, KS 67335.

Collinsville, Ill., First Church, Hwy 157 & St. Louis Rd. (formerly East St. Louis, Ill., First Church), will celebrate its 50th anniversary with special services September 26-28. The congregation is attempting to contact those who have had previous affiliation with the church. Contact the pastor, Rev. Bill Chenault, or Mrs. Pauline Mestel, church secretary, at 618-345-1661.

VITAL STATISTICS

FORMER EDITOR OF "STANDARD" DIES

MARGARET R. CUTTING, 75, long-time employee of the General Board and Nazarene Publishing House, died of cancer at the home of her brother in Phoenix on July 27. She served as the editor of Standard, the church's official weekly newspaper, for more than 25 years. Margaret was born in North Carolina, but she came to Kansas City in early youth when her father became production manager of Nazarene Publishing House. Her high school and college training were received in Kansas City. She began her working career as a secretary at Nazarene Publishing House, and later became office assistant for Standard. She was involved with the first edition of the paper in 1936. In 1942, Margaret became editor of Standard and retained that position until her retirement in 1968.

Miss Cutting is survived by a sister, Dorothy Cutting, and two brothers, Keith and Donald.

DEATHS

MRS. MARY A. BENBROOK, 99, died June 29 in Long Beach, Calif. Rev. Cecil Burns conducted the funeral services. Surviving are 3 sons, Arnold, Glen, and Thomas; 5 daughters, Elsie Morey, Esther Ostrander, Evelyn Schroeder, Mary Lou Byler, and Thelma Benbrook; 18 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; 22 great-great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandson; 1 brother, and 3 sisters.

REV. HORACE NICHOLAS LAND, 85, died July 2 in Fullerton, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Holland Lewis, Frank Morley, and Al Wideman. Rev. Land pastored churches in Colorado and California, and was an evangelist for some time. He is survived by one son, Jack, two daughters, Murrell Brann

New...Updated Edition

MEET YOUR MISSIONARIES

You've heard their names, now you can put faces with them. Over 500 pictures of missionaries (shown in alphabetical order) serving in the Church of the Nazarene, identified by the world area each represents and a brief biographical sketch. Retired missionaries included.

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CHRISTIANS TAKE LUMPS IN TV DEPICTION. Christian values take a beating on prime-time television while individuals depicted as Christians don’t fare much better, according to a recently completed study made by the National Federation for Decency. The organization found that non-Christian values were depicted in a favorable light nearly three times as often as traditional Christian values and individuals depicted as Christians were presented in a positive manner just slightly more often than in a negative image.

General Foods was named as the top sponsor of non-Christian values while Prudential Insurance was cited as the top Christian value program sponsor. In addition, NBC was the only network whose overall programs were rated more Christian-value oriented than non-Christian. Television presented 12.2 non-Christian values per program hour while Christian values were depicted at the rate of 4.88. Projected over a period of one year that would mean that 41,870 non-Christian values would be presented in a favorable light while only 16,748 Christian values would be presented.

METHODIST WOMAN ELECTED BISHOP. The first woman bishop of a “main line” American religious denomination says the achievement is a little like “being the first woman on the moon.” Dr. Marjorie S. Matthews, 64, of Traverse City, Mich., was elected on the 29th ballot to the United Methodist episcopacy at the church’s North Central Jurisdictional Conference in Dayton, Ohio, July 17.

Dr. Matthews has been a district superintendent for the past five years and was assistant treasurer of an automotive parts manufacturing firm before being ordained to the diaconate in 1963. As a bishop, Dr. Matthews is one of 45 United Methodist officials who exercise administrative authority over an episcopal area. Unlike Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and Orthodox Christians, Methodists do not exercise administrative authority over an episcopal area. Unlike Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and Orthodox Christians, Methodists do not consider their bishops to be in the so-called apostolic succession dating back to early Christianity.

Dr. Matthews noted that there were no female models for her to follow in developing an episopal style, but stressed that she does not plan to be a “woman bishop interested only in women’s concerns.”

THE LEGAL SCENE. A state law requiring the Ten Commandments to be posted in public school classrooms has been upheld by the Kentucky Supreme Court.

A bill to restore prayer in public schools has been passed by the U.S. Senate, but has met opposition in the House. A dozen states now have laws providing for a period of silent meditation in public schools.

Christian ministries on high school and college campuses are threatened by two recent court decisions which rule against regular use of campus buildings and facilities for religious purposes.

JEWS FOR JESUS LEADER ADVISES GIVING TO “LOCAL CHURCH FIRST.” Moishe Rosen, leader of Jews for Jesus, has advised the supporters of his organization that “when it comes to giving, you ought to support your local church first.” In the Jews for Jesus Newsletter, he said he had been angry when he heard “on a so-called Christian program on a so-called Christian radio station” an appeal to support a radio broadcast and stop giving money to “dead churches.”

Mr. Rosen declared that “if you belong to a church which you feel is unworthy of your support and wholehearted involvement, it means the time has come for you to seek God’s will in finding a new church. It doesn’t mean the church and find substitute causes that you feel are more worthy.”
In our Bible study, we were reading Daniel in the NIV. In 2:25, King Nebuchadnezzar says, "and the fourth looks like a son of the gods," using a small s for son and small g for gods, which is also plural. The King James says "the fourth looks like the Son of God," with capital S and G, also singular. Our friends who always use King James say it is right and the NIV is wrong. What does the original Hebrew say and who is right? Thank you very much.

The Hebrew, bar elahin, is quite properly translated "a son of the gods." These are the words of a pagan king who had no proper conception at the time of the one, true living God. Many People following the KJV, read back more "Christian" content into the king’s vision and words than the text of Daniel really allows.

A Christian Brother told me a senoir class Sunday morning that according to Scripture, God does not know everything. He referred to Genesis 22:12, where God tells Abraham, "Do not lay a hand on the lad for now I know that thou fearest me."

I cannot believe this. Will you please explain this passage and will you please refer to Scriptures where God knows everything.

The words "now I know" do not mean that God did not know beforehand what Abraham would do. Earlier God had expressly said, "I know Abraham, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord" (Genesis 18:19). The words, "now I know," can be translated, "I have perceived," which is simply another way of saying "you have shown." What God already knew as potential we now know as actual. And "the knowledge of God reflects itself as a new experimental knowledge in the consciousness of Abraham" (J. P. Lange).

That God is all-knowing may be seen from the following scriptures: 1 Samuel 16:7; 23:10-13; 1 Chronicles 28:9, 17; Job 12:13; 23:10; 24:23; 31:4; 37:16; Psalms 1:6; 3:13; 37:18; 81:14-15; 94:9; 119:168; 139:1-4; Isaiah 40:27-28; 42:9; 48:18; Jeremiah 2:2-3; 38:17-20; Ezekiel 3:6; Matthew 11:21; Acts 2:23; Romans 9:16; Ephesians 1:11; Philippians 2:13. Such passages make it clear that God “in an entirely unique manner, knows Himself and all things possible and actual in one eternal and most simple act” (L. Berkhof).

As Gordon Clark has expressed it, “He does not learn. He was never ignorant, and he can never come to know more.”

Please comment on 1 Corinthians 14:13-18. Our preachers seem to be afraid to comment or admit there is such a scripture. I believe just what it says. Nothing more. Nothing less.

I’m with you. I believe what it says, nothing more, nothing less. It discusses speaking in tongues, or languages, and says nothing about “unknown” tongues. The word “unknown,” throughout the chapter, is italicized, meaning that it was added to the English translation but not found in the original Greek. The problem at Corinth was confusion and disorder in public worship, where people would pray or prophesy in a language the hearers could not understand and therefore found unedifying. Paul tells them not to use a language in public worship unintelligible to the others, unless it is interpreted so that they could get the message. And in verse 19, he says 1 word understood is worth 2,000 that are not. To Paul, the use of languages in a worship service that could not convey a clearly understood message to the worshipers was self-centered and childish. He passionately believed in communication that edified “the other,” not in demonstration that exalted one’s self.
Thirty North American Nazarene college students and nine students from Caribbean Nazarene Theological College recently completed a six-week "invasion" of seven nations in the Caribbean as a part of International Student Ministries for the summer of 1980. The collegians were involved in an extensive training program June 22—July 3, attending seminars on cross-culture, receiving discipleship and evangelism training, and preparing special songs and puppet programs.

They embarked on their mission on July 4, and were involved in supportive ministries with Nazarene missionaries during the first three weeks. During the last half of their stay, they focused their efforts on a national evangelistic campaign, canvassing, singing, testifying, and training other laymen in personal evangelism. The impact was tremendous, the results far-reaching. They returned to their homes on August 18 with unforgettable memories of God's blessings and a renewed excitement for missions.

International Student Ministries, sponsored by the Department of Youth Ministries in cooperation with the Department of World Mission, is a part of the "Youth in Mission" program which involves hundreds of college students in summer ministries in local churches, inner-city locations, home missions, puppet teams, singing and drama groups, and world mission evangelism. The program is under the supervision of Rev. Mike Estep, general program director of the Department of Youth Ministries, assisted in the ISM program by Byron Middendorf.

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| Departments: Youth Ministries, World Mission, "Youth in Mission" Program.
The Sedgewick, Alberta, church honored Rev. and Mrs. Stewart Abel, Sunday, June 15, on the occasion of his retirement, and observing their 40 years in the ministry. They have served six Canadian churches and four in the United States. The Abels have four children. Some 200 guests attended.

Presentations of an engraved silver tray from the County of Flagstaff Ministerial Association; a lovely plaque, red roses, and a gift of money on behalf of the church family, and other gifts were given. Greetings were brought from Mayor Koehli, fellow ministers, and several out-of-town guests. District Superintendent A. Ardrey brought a devotional and prayer. Lois Rolland, daughter of the Abels, sang several selections and gave one of her albums as a surprise gift to her parents.

On June 15 the Indianapolis South Irvington Church had a surprise dinner and presented Pastor Paul E. Cable with a love offering in honor of his completion of 30 years of pastoral ministry in the Church of the Nazarene.

He has pastored at freedom and Linton Ind.; College Corner, Ohio; Stringtown, Ind.; The Bridgeport and University Heights churches in Indianapolis, and for the past five years has been at the South Irvington Church.

Sunday morning, May 18, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. VanHuss were honored for 43 years of service in the Johnson City, Tenn., First Church. They have especially served in teaching and on the church board. Pictured (l. to r.) are Mr. and Mrs. D. H. VanHuss and Pastor T. J. Daggett.

CHURCH PIANIST OF 52 YEARS HONORED

Nearly 100 persons attended the Piano Teachers' Luncheon, June 21, during the recent General Assembly. Honored at this luncheon was William Coulter, of Calgary, Alberta, who doubtless holds the record of 52 years as local church pianist in the denomination. He is a brother of General Superintendent Emeritus George Coulter.

Tributes were read from three of Mr. Coulter's former pastors, Dr. Edward Lawlor, Dr. Ted Martin, and Dr. Oscar F. Reed. An appropriate plaque was presented to him by Dr. Earl C. Wolf, Department of Education and the Ministry. The entire family of William Coulter was present for this special occasion.

Also, the first Church Pianist Certificate earned in the Church of the Nazarene was presented to Wayelene Haley of Roswell, N.M. The second certificate was presented to Margaret Langdon of Chester, W.Va.

Margaret Dunn of Bethany, Okla., was also honored as Outstanding...
Teacher of Church Pianists. Mrs. Dunn recently retired from the faculty of Bethany Nazarene College where she not only instructed piano performance majors, but church pianists. Mrs. Evonne Neuenschwander read tributes from Allyne Swann, Nampa, Ida., Mrs. Dunn's piano teacher; and from students of Mrs. Dunn. Mrs. Dunn stated that some of her greatest rewards have come from teaching students how to play hymns properly and then seeing them serve as church pianists across the denomination.

A challenge was presented to the piano teachers present to carry on this example of preparing church pianists for the local church level. A Christian Piano Teachers' Fellowship was proposed.

The feature of the luncheon was a concert presented by Lola Austin, concert pianist from New Zealand, and a new Nazarene of six weeks. Her program of "Litany" by Schubert-Liszt; "Dedication," Schumann-Liszt; "Lament," by Lola Austin; "Fountains at the Villa d’Este," Liszt; "The Lord Is My Shepherd," Hymn Transcription; and "Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat minor," by Chopin, brought a hush to the audience. Mrs. Austin captured her listeners with her unusual command of both delicate and heavy passages with equal control.

Piano teachers interested in being on the mailing list of the Christian Piano Teachers' Fellowship should send their name and address to the Department of Education and the Ministry, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

RALLY DAY RESULTS

THE FALL Sunday School drive was climaxed on October 28 with Rally Day. Fairmount Church of the Nazarene was planning a children's musical in hopes of getting some parents in church who did not normally come. Tracy Morris, a seventh grader who had recently started attending, was there and had brought her mother, Judy. Being the teacher of the young adult class, it was my privilege to have Judy as a visitor that morning.

Since there had been a number of visitors that week, the following Saturday I went with one of the men of the class to call on these new prospects. Among those we visited was Judy. We shared generally about the church and about Christ. She expressed concern for her husband, Charley. We had prayer with her and invited her to return to the church.

She came to the evening service the next day, to Sunday School and morning worship the following Sunday. Much prayer had been going up for Judy, and for others who had recently visited the church. A sense of expectancy was created. For two weeks I had prayed for Charley and Judy every day.

On November 17 I called at the Morris home. I planned to meet Charley and establish a relationship with him so that the gospel might be presented to him and Judy at a later time.

Charley was sleeping and did not wish to be disturbed. After a short visit and prayer, I was ready to leave, but Judy began to express her spiritual need. The Holy Spirit impressed me to share the gospel. The words came so easy, and she seemed so open! After telling her about Christ, and what He wanted to do in her life, we prayed. She testified to being saved.

In order to get established in her faith, Judy began "Chic" Shaver's Basic Bible Studies. On one of my weekly visits to go over the Bible study, Judy had stepped out briefly. Charley came to the door and invited me in. We got acquainted and talked some about the church and spiritual things before Judy returned. On several of the follow-up visits I was able to talk with Charley as he worked on his car. A friendship developed.

During the next few months, as Judy was growing in grace, Charley was getting acquainted with some of the church people. Prayer was continuing to be offered for him.

Charley was taken to the hospital in April. He had been bleeding internally, and a tumor was discovered requiring surgery. On April 22, the evening before his surgery, Pastor Myers and I went to the hospital to talk to him about his spiritual life. He seemed to be quite worried about the operation. When the conversation changed to church, Charley indicated that when he was able, he was going to start attending church. After giving a personal testimony, I persuaded him that he could receive Christ right then.

The Holy Spirit was at work. Charley prayed that night and Christ became his Savior. Worry about the operation faded away as the assurance of salvation came. The next day, as he was being taken to surgery, he testified to a deep peace.

It started with a children's musical on Rally Day. Because of this, and a church's concern for children, a dad and a mom have been brought to Christ. The story is not over. Other lives are also being touched and other victories shall be won. But it was much more than a program. These victories are the result of much prayer and labor of love.
ANNOUNCEMENT:
With the unanimous endorsement of the Board of General Superintendents, and in consultation with the District Advisory Board of the San Antonio District, I have appointed Dr. James R. Blankenship (now superintendent of the Northwestern Ohio District) as superintendent of the San Antonio District effective September 1, 1980.
—Orville W. Jenkins
General Superintendent

BLANKENSHIP TO SAN ANTONIO

General Superintendent Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, with the approval of the Board of General Superintendents and after consultation with the District Advisory Board, has appointed Dr. James Blankenship as superintendent of the San Antonio District. Dr. Blankenship, a native Texan, will assume his new duties September 1.

Last month, he completed seven years as district superintendent of the Northwestern Ohio District. He is a graduate of Bethany Nazarene College and has done postgraduate work at the University of Tulsa and the University of Texas.

Prior to his appointment to the superintendency in Northwestern Ohio, he had pastored churches in Pawhuska and Tulsa, Okla.; Austin, Tex.; and St. Louis. He was honored with the Doctor of Divinity Degree by Mount Vernon Nazarene College in 1978.

Dr. Blankenship’s wife's name is Christine. They have one daughter, Mrs. John Donnerberg. Her husband is the pastor of the Pryor, Okla., church.
—NCN

DAMAGE TO CHURCH PROPERTY BY HURRICANE ALLEN

Nazarene people on St. Lucia and the French Antilles have escaped harm in the devastating blow of Hurricane Allen, August 3-4. However, there has been damage to the church property. Several buildings, churches, or parsonages have lost portions of the roof and suffered water damage.

Missionary Gene Smith in the French Antilles says they received seven inches of water in less than three hours. He reports that the church building there has sustained $2,000 damage.

There were Work and Witness people and Summer Ministry students from American Nazarene colleges involved in these areas; but none were harmed. Word from the Island of St. Vincent, where Summer Ministry students are stationed, is that the damage was slight. In fact, so slight that they went ahead with the youth camp.

Rev. Gary Henecke, executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, reported August 7 that the Summer Ministry students in Jamaica had been heard from and are safe and getting along well.
—NCN

CUNNINGHAM DECLINES WORLD MISSION POST

The General Board by a mail vote elected Dr. Paul G. Cunningham, pastor of the College Church in Olathe, Kans., to be executive director of the Department of World Mission. He asked for time to prayerfully consider whether he should accept, and Saturday, August 9, he notified the general superintendents he could not accept.

The nominating committee, composed of six members from the Department of World Mission and the Board of General Superintendents, will nominate names for another mail vote of the General Board.
—NCN

THANE MINOR HAS SURGERY

Col. Thane Minor underwent open heart surgery in St. Luke’s Hospital in Houston, August 1. The operation, which involved three bypasses, was successful and he is on the way to recovery.

Col. Minor is a Nazarene layman who has retired from the Air Force. He served this spring until General Assembly as chairman of the Special Commission on General Board Organization and Function. He is also a member of the reappointed Special Commission on General Board Organization. He is a zone coordinator for 20/20 VISION.
—NCN

SOLOCON DRAWS LARGE ATTENDANCE

Two hundred single adults from 30 states and Canada gathered July 30—August 3, at the Hyatt House in Sarasota, Fla. Dr. Millard Reed from Nashville First Church and Dr. Cecil Paul from Eastern Nazarene College headed a staff of 15 which ministered as a team.

The theme of SoloCon was “Celebrating Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” Dr. Reed encouraged those present to become mature members of the Body of Christ, and used Colossians as a base for his preaching. He noted that single adults are not to be segregated or separated, but recognized as part of the Body of Christ.

Each morning Dr. Paul led a general session on identity; focusing on rejection/acceptance, depression, goal orientation and setting priorities, and intimacy.

Single adults from across the church were high in their praise of the team which included six workshop leaders. One remarked, “It was obvious that SoloCon '80 was orchestrated by the Holy Spirit. The general sessions, the evening services, the fantastic singing, the times of sharing were special.” Several testified to the faithfulness of the Lord in providing a way for them to attend.

Highlights included the sunset service on the beach on Thursday evening. The 200 singles sang as the sun set over the Gulf of Mexico. Their singing attracted a number of listeners, some of whom asked about the Church of the Nazarene.

The closing Communion and worship service led by Dr. Reed will long be a highlight in everyone’s mind.

“It was apparent from the opening dinner,” said Harold Ivan Smith, general director of Single Adult Ministries, “that SoloCon '80 was a historic moment in our church. So many spoke of how welcomed they felt, how much at home. Although we varied from age 19 to 55, age was not the thing that made us one. Rather, it was our commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.”

SoloCon '80 was a caring expression of a loving church for single adults of all ages. One lady responded on the last day, “I wish my denomination cared as much for me as the Nazarenes do for their single adults.”
HERALD OF HOLINESS

A WINDOW TO SUNSHINE...FOR ALL SEASONS

DISTRICT CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER
- Nebraska
- New England

OCTOBER
- Akron
- Arizona
- Canada Atlantic
- Illinois
- Intermountain
- Joplin
- Maine
- Michigan

NOVEMBER
- Canada Pacific
- Georgia
- Hawaii Pacific
- Los Angeles
- Pittsburgh

Do your part to help your district reach its goal.

'H80 SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN