If perfect design in all areas we see,
Then a Master Mind, it seems to me,
Like the Bible says, created all things,
Like ten thousand feathers on a butterfly’s wings.

Or a star ten billion miles away,
Or dew on the grass at the dawn of day.
Or a plant in a seed, or an ocean wide,
With a moon determining high and low tide.

On our planet earth, completeness we find,
To the least little need of all mankind.
Someone, somewhere, put it all together,
Whether a mountain range, or a butterfly feather.
TODAY, as never before, people are concerned with their hearts. From medical experts, new information and insights concerning the human heart are being made available to us.

The human heart is a wonderful organ, more exquisitely designed than any mechanical pump ever conceived by man. This amazing organ of the body, made of muscle and valves, is endowed with a kind of toughness that enables it to function under most severe circumstances. We are told that at an average rate of 70 beats a minute the heart is able to pump 4,000 times an hour and almost 100,000 times in a 24-hour day.

The heart is our most valuable possession. When it ceases to beat, life is over.

The American Heart Association suggests five dangers which can lead to a heart attack: high blood pressure, cigarettes, cholesterol, overweight, and lack of exercise.

As never before, the public is aware of the importance of the care and health of the physical heart. But what about the spiritual heart of which the Bible speaks?

The proverbs of Solomon exhort us, “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Proverbs 4:23). God’s message to Israel was, “What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart . . .” (Deuteronomy 10:12).

The medical profession is emphasizing the importance of physical fitness, medical check-ups, and constant vigilance in our care of this vital organ of the body. In like manner the spiritual heart can be kept strong and healthy only by spiritual fitness, constant examination, and the elimination of every practice that would weaken or destroy the moral fiber of the soul. The tensions of modern life, the pursuit of earthly possessions, and the distractions of everyday living must be overcome by the power of God’s Spirit and by our own personal discipline.

While gymnasiums and recreational facilities are crowded with those who want to avoid heart trouble, let us not be less concerned or less attentive to the needs of the inner spiritual heart.

“Keep thy heart with all diligence.” □
FAITH didn’t just happen for me. I didn’t automatically appear in my life, nor in the lives of my children. Faith is learned—taught—gleaned.

Sometimes it was hard to believe that God really cared. Sometimes my own faith wavered as I endeavored to develop faith in my young ones. Sometimes hurt came into our lives and it was difficult to exercise faith.

There was the day that Robert, age 4, cut off Maaike’s, age 2, finger in the power mower. Hadn’t I totally given that day to God? Wasn’t I praying with a friend at the exact time it happened? Why then? Why did it happen? While I questioned and struggled, I heard their small voices. I looked up and saw Robert as he knelt beside Maaike’s bed—praying. Yes, his first response was to do what he had been taught. He prayed. It was I who had forgotten to pray.

Together we had been taking all of our cares, our fears, and our needs to God in prayer daily. I had been teaching our children to pray about all things. Now they had begun to teach me. We began to glean from each other—to remind one another to pray.

How is faith learned?

I have learned to believe in God in much the same way that I learn anything. I started by watching faith in action through the life of a friend.

Velda was always easy to talk with. Her conversation echoed a strong faith in God. She never told me what I should or should not do. She only shared with me the exciting events in her life because of faith—because of prayer. She told me about how God was meeting her financial needs, about the miracle of her first baby after doctors had declared childbirth impossible, about attitudes and lives that were changed as a result of believing prayer.

After watching faith at work in Velda’s life, I was aware that there was only one way for faith to become a reality in me. I had to make a choice. I had to utter that first word—that first sentence. It was like coaxing my child to take his first step. I stood ready to catch him, but he had to take the step. I could not do it for him. Likewise, God seemed to be near and ready to catch me. But it was up to me to pray my first prayer of faith.

“Jesus, I’ve made a mess of my life. Please take it and make something good from it. Amen.”

Faith began to grow from that day. The more I prayed, the more I wanted to pray. I developed a hunger to read, to learn, to increase my faith, and to share my faith with others.

God answers prayer for me. This helps my faith to continue growing. When I don’t know the answers, I ask Him for wisdom.

How do you tell your son that he is making a mistake in selecting a marriage partner, without a head-on clash with him? I prayed.

“God, he is Your man. I have raised him for You. He and You will have to take the responsibility for what happens from this point. I release him to You, Father.”

My peace, which God gives, is the result of my faith. When I am lonely, I talk to Him.

“It’s foggy tonight, Lord. I can barely see the road. Now I know the importance of road signs. I wouldn’t have known that the curve was there, if it hadn’t been marked. Thank You for riding this lonely road with me.”

When I am excited, I tell Him.

“Lord, you asked me to write a book. Then you led me page by page through it. Thank you for this letter confirming its coming publication. You are so good to me.”

Yes, Prayer increases faith. Faith increases prayer. Each must be learned. Each must be exercised daily. And each must be shared.
SIR WALTER SCOTT, the British writer, once faced an appallingly bleak future. At 55 years of age, he was ruined in health; the savings of a lifetime had vanished.

He sat alone in his beloved home, Abbotsford, in Scotland and wrote: “I feel neither dishonoured nor broken down by the news I have received. I have walked my last in the domain I have planted, sat for the last time in the halls I have built.” He had suffered intensely in his personal life. Further difficulties came when his publishers became bankrupt.

He then added: “But death would have taken them from me if misfortune had spared me. Discouragement is to me a tonic and a bracer.” What amazing courage! It was well founded.

Sir Walter Scott worked hard and produced one classic novel after another. At last he was able to buy back Abbotsford and pay his creditors their last penny.

Most of us meet discouragement. No class of people is safe from its attack. A clever man like Sir Walter Scott had to do battle with it. We turn to the Bible, and we find a Psalmist saying, “Why art thou cast down, O my soul?” (Psalm 42:5). This cry comes twice in this psalm and once in the next.

Discouragement comes in through many doors. Looking back on the past, we find we have known far more honest labour than success. While we have been conscientious in our work, we cannot show that it has done much good. Trying hard to do what is right seems not to have made our work very effective. Few people tell us that we have helped them, do they that they have appreciated our labours.

At times, life can be very hard. There are few bright days. The sun seldom seems to shine, and our path seems so dark. Appearances suggest that our wrong brings prosperity more often than does the right.

Discouragement can depress our spirits; yet it need not. Men such as Sir Walter Scott and some who lives are recalled in the Bible have overcome discouraging circumstances. There is a way of conquering trials.

To help us in our discouragement we ask ourselves two questions. What does God think of my life? Does my service mean anything to Him? In answer we read: “God is not unrighteous to forget your work and the labour of your hands” (Hebrews 6:10).

The Lord’s loving eye is inspecting our lives. He takes careful note of the work that we do for Him and in His name. When we give a word of personal test mony, teach in the Sunday school, or sing He praises, He sees us. He observes the faithfulness which colours all that we do and the goodness that always motivates our work.

When He sees, He never forgets. If God did over look our work, He would be unrighteous, and that contrary to His nature.

Not only will He not forget it, He will richly reward it. Our Lord gives us this example of the commendation He will give in the coming day: “Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful...” (Matthew 25:21).
Our Hope Is Bright

over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord” (Matthew 25:21).

Again, we need never be overcome by discouragement, for adequate help is close at hand. Here are encouraging words: “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16).

The throne of grace is the one place in the universe where we are always welcome. This is the one throne that is always open to us. We may go there at any time. God is never too busy to listen to us; He is never unwilling to grant a request that conforms to His will. As often as we need help, we can turn our thoughts Godward.

God’s grace is always available for every circumstance and is measured according to the need of the moment. God is very generous in His gift of grace. The Apostle Paul affirms: “God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8). Nothing could be more comprehensive. The resources of heaven are available to us. There is no form of discouragement that cannot be mastered by God’s comprehensive grace.

While we may frequently face discouragement, nevertheless we can be filled with hope. The Psalmist who asked the question: “Why art thou cast down, O my soul?” found the answer to his problem. It is this: “Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance” (Psalm 42:5).

Looking to God will fill us with fresh hope. We can rely on God. He is faithful, and His promises never fail. He is sovereign and will gain the ultimate victory. Whatever lesser failures come, Christ’s triumph is sure. We are certain that God and good will be victorious at last. And we shall be there to celebrate the victory!

Present difficulty and disappointment which we may meet will not last forever. However dark today may be, a brighter day is coming soon.

If we feel that life is too much for us, we can get unlimited encouragement when we call on our Father. Doing just that, we shall find that the divine resources available to us are more than sufficient.

The future is always bright because it is built on a God who cannot fail. Remembering our Father’s loving interest in us and in our work for Him, we shall not easily be overcome by discouragement. When trials attack us, we shall look to God for help. We shall then receive the courage to face life bravely.
MEANINGFUL MOTTOS

WHEN ONE SITS DOWN to pen his thoughts concerning God, he should have well-fastened to the wall before him two mottoes engraved in living letters.

First: “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” This immortal question—in fact, an almost universal question—was wrung from the heart of Abraham, a man of faith, when the Lord had just revealed to him the purpose of His earthly visit. It seems that the Lord, at first, hesitated to let Abraham in on His plan, but then said, “Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do?” (Genesis 18:17). He didn’t hide it. He said He was going down to Sodom and Gomorrah “and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me: and if not, I will know” (Genesis 18:21). He wanted to be sure before He acted.

Upon hearing of the possible total destruction of both cities, Abraham at once responded: “That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked . . . that be far from thee . . .” (Genesis 18:25).

While Abraham made his appeal for mercy on the basis of righteous men who might be living there, without reasonable doubt, he was thinking also of the thousands of little boys and girls and nursing babes, who knew no wrong. Should all these be destroyed too? He rested his case in his question, “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

In our search to know God and His ways, we must cleanse Abraham’s question of all the dross of doubt (if such it possessed) and, in faith, have this as our first motto: *The Judge of all the earth shall do right.* Until this becomes our established conviction, our search for soul-rest will be unrewarded.

Beside this motto should be hung this other: “His ways are past finding out” (Romans 11:33). One can never find the peace that his soul demands until he fully embraces and firmly believes that the truths of these two mottoes are real.

One must believe that God is doing right in His management of the universe, and that He is not only doing right in His own acts, but also that He is doing right in allowing the devil and sinful men to do as they are doing. This last, I cannot understand. He stands by as the villain ravages the innocent teenager. His eye is on the murderer as he ruthlessly kills six innocent people. To deny that He has the power to prevent such criminality, if He chose to do so, would be to repudiate the God of the Bible. He struck with blindness the clamoring Sodomites who were seeking to drag the two angels from Lot’s house for the purpose of homosexuality. He struck Ananias and Sapphira with death at the altar of the church. He could stop all crime in a moment if He cared to do so. Why He does not intervene in such cases is more than I can understand. I have heard His plan of world government, but I still don’t understand why
He doesn’t do as much as I would do to save your five-year-old, flaxen-haired son from death by an oncoming car. This is but a token of my misunderstanding.

Not only do I not understand many things that He allows, but I do not understand many things that He has done, and is doing. He has used the vilest of men, as well as demons, to carry out His work. There is the prophecy of Elijah concerning the wicked king, Ahab, and his wife and home (1 Kings 21:19-24). The 70 bleeding heads of the sons of Ahab lying “in two heaps at the entering in of the gate” of Jezreel (2 Kings 10:8), and the broken body of Jezebel being trampled by horses, and later eaten by dogs, witness the fulfillment of this prophecy. However, this judgment was executed by Jehu who was not a saint, for “from the sins of Jeroboam . . . who made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not” (2 Kings 10:29). Nevertheless, “The Lord said unto Jehu, . . . thou hast done well in executing that which is right in mine eyes” (2 Kings 10:30), and rewarded him and his children unto the fourth generation: “But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart; for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin” (v. 31).

This is but a single instance of the principle set forth by Daniel, that God “settest up over [kingdoms] the basest of men” (4:17).

God has not only used the wrath of men to praise Him, as in the case of Joseph’s brothers selling him into Egyptian slavery, but He has used lying demons to carry out His work (see the story of Ahab—1 Kings 22).

Some of God’s ways are hard to understand: in fact, they cannot be understood. Therefore His peace is not a peace based on understanding, but it is a “peace that passes all understanding” and rests in the firm faith that the Judge of all the earth is doing right, whether we can see it or not. This is the only peace that will work under all conditions, and for all time.

In the light of the truths of the two mottoes, I shall not weary myself in trying to understand what God has said man cannot understand. I spent most of my college days attempting to do so, and rejecting all that I could not understand. This left me with no peace and no hope. It was only when, in utter helplessness, I threw myself on His love and mercy that I found that peace that passes all understanding. This peace is not the product of the human mind but a gift of God to the helpless, contrite, and broken-hearted. When one turns from futile searching to childlike faith, full surrender, and total obedience, the gift is forthcoming. The mind is put on the footstool with all of its unkind questions, and the heart begins to bask in the fact that the first motto is true—the Judge of all the earth has been, is, and will forever do right. We then believe that:

A. He is doing the right thing by us now. I cannot see it, for it is His way and not mine, but I believe it, and I rest in the faith that I possess and not in a knowledge which I can never obtain.

B. He will do right by me in all of the tomorrows, for He has promised to withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly. His peace just received is a harbinger of eternal peace.

C. Although I cannot see His way today, I will, in the end, see that “all His ways are best.” I therefore rejoice in faith that will eventuate in sight.

Abraham walked this path and appears to be the superintendent of the temporary paradise for all who are headed for eternal glory. I shall drop all complaints against the Judge—accept my lot with joy—and await the “well done” at the end of life’s day.

Reviewed by

CAROLYN LUNN

BOOK BRIEFS
FOR YOU

THIS WAY UP

From the pen of Mrs. B. Edgar Johnson comes another delightful book, a companion volume to Share My Discoveries.

The subtitle of the book is “more pathways to the heights in a woman’s world.” Kathryn Johnson is an experienced and capable guide to the higher peaks of the Christian life. As you read, you find yourself compelled to follow her up the path.

The 15 meditations are based upon the author’s penetrating insights, learned through day-by-day struggles with reality. They tell us how to cope with the grind of daily living, break loose from circumstances, and press on in the strength of the Lord. She inspires and challenges her readers by recounting her own experiences and the victories she has seen in others.

You will like this book, with its words of comfort, encouragement, and assurance. It’s the kind of book you will want to give away—but you won’t want to part with it!

by Kathryn Johnson
Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City

To order, see page 23.
Jesus saves, and the Holy Spirit sanctifies.

This implies that Jesus accomplishes for us the first work of grace and the Holy Spirit accomplishes the second work of grace.

To testify in this way, as many people do, is not a gross error. Yet it is not quite correct. This is because each of the three Persons of the Trinity figures in a signal way in both of the two works of God's grace.

Take the first work of grace—conversion, sometimes called salvation. Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity, provides for the forgiveness of our acts of sin by His death and resurrection. He gave His life a ransom for us (Mark 10:45).

He “was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification” (Romans 4:25, RSV). The just for the unjust. He died for our sins, and God the Father raised Him from the dead on that first Easter morning. His death propitiated God's holy wrath directed against us as rebels, making it possible for God the Father to justify us and still be himself just (Romans 3:23-26).

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21, RSV).

The Holy Spirit also figures in a signal way in the first work of grace. He “convinces” us of sin and of the righteousness that is offered us, and also of the fact of the judgment to come (John 16:8-11, RSV). Apart from this prevenient grace in which the Holy Spirit approaches us and initiates in us even the first faint yearning for God, we would be “inclined to evil and that continually” (Articles of Faith, VII).

Christ loved us and gave himself for us; and the Holy Spirit, both by direct impressions and through numerous instrumentalities, reminds us of what has been provided for us. Long ago He inspired people to write the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make us wise regarding salvation (2 Timothy 3:15). He calls and anoints persons who preach and who otherwise witness to sinners of God's offer of forgiveness.

God the Father figures most strategically in a person's conversion. He laid out the plan of salvation, from the very foundation of the world. He so loved the whole world that He sent His Son among us, finally to die on a Roman cross outside the gates of holy Jerusalem. Most significantly, He is the one who forgives us, since it is the Holy Father that we peculiarly offend by our acts of sin.

In an isolated way, there is a suggestion in the New Testament that Jesus has the power to forgive sins. Since He tells us He could do no great works, such as healings, on His own part, and that it was the Father who actually did them (John 5:36), it might be that Jesus had the power to forgive sins as a power which the Father delegated to Him.

When we now, at the altar or elsewhere, ask Jesus to forgive us of our sins, it is actually God the Father who forgives us. Anyone who knows the Scriptures very well, knows this. God the Father is understanding of us, of course, and He is not offended when we ask Jesus to forgive us. He forgives us even as He does when He himself is asked.

So God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Son, the three Persons in the Godhead, all figure significantly in the first work of grace.

Now to the second work of grace. Many holiness people understand that it is the Holy Spirit who sanctifies believers as a second crisis in Christian experience.

Again, this is not quite correct. All three Persons of the Trinity figure significantly in a believer's entire sanctification. Jesus died on the Cross to provide for this and all other aspects of God the Father's grace. The Christ who visited us for our redemption, the Sun of Righteousness who rose with healing in His wings, who mediates between the Father and us, provides for prevenient, forgiving, sanctifying, providential, miraculous grace, and other kindnesses toward us on the Holy Father's part. Specifically on sanctification, perhaps “initial” as well as “entire,” we read in Hebrews that Christ, “that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate” (13:12). Also, it is Jesus who baptizes believers with the Holy Spirit, effecting entire sanctification. John the Baptist said that He
baptized with water but that one was coming afterward, Jesus, who would baptize people with the Holy Spirit (see Matthew 3:11-12).

Scripture also describes God the Father's function in our entire sanctification. Paul told the Thessalonian believers, “This is the will of God, your sanctification” (1 Thessalonians 4:3, RSV), so the Father fills it. But it seems to be the Father who actually does this cleansing work in believers, for we read: “May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly” (1 Thessalonians 5:23, RSV).

The Holy Spirit helps us to receive what Christ provides and what the Father actually grants, in entire sanctification as well as in justification. And we are baptized by Christ with the Holy Spirit. So it is not quite correct to say, simply, that Jesus is the one who saves us and that it is the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us.

The last clutching hand slipped from its side,
The last face went under, out of sight.
Afloat upon the rising waves, the ark
Sheltered life's remnants, hidden safe within
From terrors never known on earth before—
Exploding thunder, lightning's monstrous flash,
Sinister, incessant drumming of the rain.
For forty days and nights the vessel held,
Its close-caulked timbers proof against the flood,
Before the dark clouds thinned and drew apart,
And a strong and cleansing wind began to blow.
Now Noah's family gazed with awe upon
A turgid world of water, arched with blue,
Glinted with gold—but with no hint of green.
When Noah sent a raven and a dove
To seek somewhere a branch on which to perch,
The bold and willful raven disappeared,
But the meek dove came back to Noah's hand,
Clasped in its beak a single, eloquent leaf
Which, green and lively, showed the flood's retreat,
Yet prophesied the sinking of the Ark.
Most to be honored, worthiest of ships,
It would go down now, quietly go down
Beneath a rising, rhythmic tide of green—
For lapping up would come wavelets of grass,
Gardens and fields—and then a surge of trees—
Almond and apple, olive, fig, and date,
Willow and eucalyptus, terebrinth,
Cedar and cypress, chestnut, fir, and pine,
Mulberry, myrtle, causarina—roll
of earth's Green Ocean.

So would come about
The sinking of the Ark. Adrift in time,
Mission completed, passengers disembarked,
It would go down now, quietly go down,
Carrying into legend hidden freight
Which, if we could, we would rejoice to raise—
Treasure of knowledge—the exact look and feel of that brave ship to those who called it home
In the great crossing-over from the past.
DR. WAGNER SPEAKS TO NAZARENES

God sometimes uses Christians from outside our denomination to help us build more effectively. In recent years, Dr. C. Peter Wagner has been instructing Nazarene leaders, pastors, and laymen in the new movement in evangelical Christianity known as “church growth.” This movement was pioneered by Dr. Donald McGavran. One of the main spokesmen today is Dr. Wagner of Fuller Theological Seminary School of World Missions. He has written numerous articles and books, including his latest book, “Your Church Can Grow.” The interview took place in Pasadena, Calif.

**QUESTION:** Dr. Wagner, how did you become a Christian?

**ANSWER:** I was not brought up in a Christian home. In college, the Lord brought me into contact with a girl named Doris—the nicest person I’d ever met. She had recently accepted Christ as her Savior and felt a call to be a missionary. When she witnessed to me, she told me about her missionary call. So when I received Christ, I also accepted a call to the mission field. After we were married we studied at Fuller Seminary. Then Doris and I served 16 years as missionaries to Bolivia.

**Q.** How did you become interested in church growth?

**A.** During my first term on the mission field, I got a copy of a book, *The Bridges of God*, by a man named Donald McGavran. As I read that book, I thought that Dr. McGavran must have been an absolute quack. Since what he was saying in his book was so different from the way I was doing missionary work, I was sure that he had to be wrong. Then, some years later, I heard that he had been named Dean of the new School of World Mission at my alma mater, Fuller Seminary. I was so curious about the whole thing that I decided to spend a furlough studying under Dr. McGavran.

**Q.** What did you find out about church growth?

**A.** I found that the church growth principles taught by Dr. McGavran were clearly founded on the Bible. I turned from being a critic to a convert. Upon receiving my master’s degree in missiology at Fuller, I was asked to join the faculty in the area of church growth.

**Q.** What is the goal or objective of church growth?

**A.** Our objective in church growth is Jesus’ command to “make disciples” (Matthew 28:19-20). Bringing a person to a decision to accept Christ is important. But if the person does not eventually make a commitment to the body of Christ—usually validated by baptism and responsible church membership, there is little evidence that a disciple has been made.

**Q.** How did you happen to bring church growth to the attention of the Church of the Nazarene?

**A.** My first contact was a telephone call I received from your executive director of the Department of Home Missions, Dr. Raymond Hurn. He came and studied four weeks here at Fuller at the Doctor of Ministry level, which is our highest level of church growth training. He has effectively applied the principles to your Nazarene denomination and is carrying out creative and bold long-range growth plans.

Dr. C. Peter Wagner, and Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, executive director of Nazarene Department of Home Missions, at Nazarene Scholars’ Church Growth Seminar hosted by the department in June.
Q. How responsive to church growth have you found the Church of the Nazarene compared to other denominations?

A. Many denominations have been responsive, but I would have to say that the Church of the Nazarene has taken the lead in implementing church growth principles throughout their denomination. I have shared seminar training with four of the six general superintendents and all of the district superintendents. At your Conference on Evangelism in Oklahoma City last January, I met with 700 Nazarene laymen and pastors from small, medium, and large churches. Last June in Colorado, I enjoyed a week with 50 scholars from 12 Nazarene colleges, your seminary, and headquarters personnel.

Q. What would you consider most important for a local church to grow?

A. First, the pastor must want the church to grow and be willing to pay the price. Secondly, the people must want the church to grow and be willing to pay the price. Now these are both necessary, but you CANNOT reverse the order. The pastor must be that person to whom God has given the vision for growth. Then the people must be willing to do their part. A third thing necessary for church growth is that you must have a clear goal of evangelism.

Q. Do you find pastors and people who do not want to grow?

A. Yes. Church growth is hard work. Pastors know that it is not easy to take a church in a plateau or declining position into an upswing of growth. It will require long hours of study, prayer, planning, and training of his laity. Many laymen also do not really want their church to grow. They realize that new people may take over their positions in the church. Yet whenever pastors and people are willing to pay the price . . . the church grows . . . one of the greatest experiences in life is to be a part of a dynamic, growing congregation.

Q. What do you see as positive assets of our denomination?

A. Two things I would mention. I sense an urgency in the heart of Nazarenes to win people to Jesus and bring them into the church. One of the reasons for this is that Nazarenes believe the Bible. Evangelism takes a high priority for Nazarene pastors and laymen . . . I think this is your greatest asset. A close second would be that you have very creative leadership, both in Kansas City and on the district levels. Usually churches grow because of leadership that knows how to take them there.

Q. Our requirements for church membership are stricter than some churches. Do you think these are an asset or a liability?

A. There's no question in my mind that they are an asset. My advice to any church is never to reduce the strictness of membership requirements. Research has shown that where there are high requirements, people are willing to commit themselves to real meaning, and that church will grow. Nazarenes will do well to maintain their strict requirements for membership . . . doing so with an attitude of Christian love.

Q. Is there anything that you see that concerns you as you have evaluated our church?

A. There are danger signs. The last four years the annual growth rate has declined in the Church of the Nazarene. A second danger sign is that over the same period of time you have taken in fewer new Nazarenes, which shows a slackening of evangelistic effectiveness. The time to face these declining growth rates is before a church begins to actually lose members.

The Church of the Nazarene is still healthy and growing, but in the next few years if something is not done differently, the Nazarene church will be a declining, sick church. But praise the Lord, things are being done now so that sickness need not occur.

One more thing I would warn Nazarenes about. Holiness people have a special danger in an area of a disease called “koinonitis.” This means overdoing fellowship . . . loving each other so much that you become uninterested for the lost. You have the danger of opening up a large gap between your sanctified lives and the people still in the world. That gap may seem too big for people to bridge across. The answer for your Church is not to compromise your standards, but to keep winning the unsaved. It is usually through these new Christians, babes in Christ, that outside people can be reached.

Q. In other words, not only love each other in the church, but keep reaching out to the lost?

A. Yes, and to tolerate the lack of holiness in the lives of new Christians by your caring love until they also become sanctified.

Q. If you were a pastor or a key layman of a Nazarene Church, how would you get people involved in church growth?

A. I would do what many of your churches are doing. I would encourage the church board and interested laymen to take the denominational study of Paul Orjala's book, Get Ready to Grow, along with the workbook by Dr. Hum. Further, I would follow through with a cooperative study for the pastor and laymen, called the Diagnostic Clinic. This is now available from your publishing house. Plan together to set goals, and then work out ways to implement these goals.

Q. Having been a student of yours in Church Growth at Fuller, I have sensed that teaching is more than a "job" to you. Does teaching church growth bring fulfillment?

A. Yes. I feel that when a Christian is doing God's will through exercising the spiritual gifts that God has given . . . there is abundant joy. I thank God for the gift of teaching. I never get tired of it. I praise God for the opportunity of aiding Christians in reaching a lost world for Jesus Christ.
JOE

by JERRY W. McCANT
San Diego, Calif.

LIFE INCLUDES some built-in hardships. We cannot live in this world long without experiencing some form of suffering. Someone has very properly said, "The person who is unconcerned with suffering in our day is either suffering from hardening of the heart or softening of the brain!" Sooner or later all of us have to experience what St. John of the Cross called the "dark night of the soul."

The Book of Job is the most modern book in the Old Testament. Its characters still live among us; the problem of suffering which he encountered still lives among us. Unfortunately, contrary to popular opinion, the Book of Job does not tell us why the righteous suffer. It does not even tell us why Job suffered! How Job would liked to have known! It does tell us that God is bigger than suffering and that He is with us whatever the circumstances of our lives.

Satan’s thesis was that Job served God for His blessings. His opinion was that "every man has his
price.” With that, he propositioned God to let him have Job, and he would make Job so miserable that he would curse God to His face. God allowed him to bring suffering to Job; “only do not touch his life!”

Job’s world tumbled in . . . everything went wrong at once. It becomes a kind of refrain, “And I alone have escaped to tell you. While he was still speaking, another also came and said . . . ” Trouble, like bananas, seems to come in bunches. No doubt this refrain in Job is a stylistic feature of the writer, but it also sounds quite true to our experiences with trouble. “Troubles come not in single spies, but in battalions!”

His friends came and comforted him by staring at him for seven days. They played the same song over and over, with little variation in the tune: Job, you have sinned. Their syllogism was simple: If one sins, he will suffer. Job is suffering. Job has sinned. With boring monotony they remind him of his sins, which they suppose he must have committed. Zophar finally says to Job in exasperation, “God exacts less of you than you deserve!” (Job 11:6). That’s just what a man needs to hear when he sits on his ash heap outside the city of Uz clothed in sackcloth!

When he has had all he can take from his “sorry comforters,” Job asks, “Is there no limit to windy words?” (16:3, NASB). What bothered Job was that this was not an enemy, but his friend, God, who was doing all this to him. He is prepared to argue his case with God (13:3). He refuses above all else to admit that he has sinned, for he knows that his integrity is intact. God and Satan had made a battleground of his soul and gave him no warning or explanation.

The real problem for Job was not his physical pain; it was not his wife, and it was not his friends. What bothered Job most was not the loss of property and children. His deepest and severest pain was caused by a “faith crisis.” His theology before his crisis was identical to that of his now “sorry friends.” What they were saying to him, Job himself had said to others. Strange how pain feels different when it is personalized! That is his real pain: why is God doing this to me?

Rather simply stated, his theology was a kind of sunshine theology. He had believed that God sends blessings on the good and curses on the “bad guys.” Job knows he is one of the “good guys” and yet suffering and trouble has come to him. His “faith”—his theology—had simply failed him in the crisis.

When Job’s anxiety was at its highest peak and he demanded the hiding God to show His face, God was strangely silent. Then God does speak (chapters 38–41). He answers none of Job’s questions; He doesn’t seem disturbed by the challenge Job has issued. Not many answers were forthcoming, but something happened to Job.

Submitting before God, he can now only say, “Behold, I am of small account” (40:4, RSV). And then comes a most beautiful prayer indeed: “I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear; but now my eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes” (42:5-6). He had not lost his ability to question; he had seen God. Now the pain was eased, for his worst pain had been the thought that God was against him. He had discovered what all of us need again and again to learn—that God is with us in sunshine and storm. He plays no favorites with us because we are good. But He is always really there and He is always for us in every circumstance of life.

BUTTERFLIES AND BRICKS

Lord, thank You for that Spirit of gaiety and beauty that wells from within when You seem so delightfully near!
When brigades of butterflies are released inside winking and fluttering through my brain into laughing blue skies.
On other days when I feel like the recipient of a ton of bricks And all is heavy and cumbersome—Help me to know that You are more than a feeling and hold to Your promise of being a dimension of constant Reality Despite butterflies or bricks.

-MARICIA SCHWARTZ
Falls City, Neb.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1978
Moses, the man of God, opens the 90th Psalm with these words, “Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.” It was not by accident that this man of common clay put in writing his concept of the only secure abode, the dwelling place of God. He walked away from the best earthly home he ever knew, the palace of Pharaoh. From there he went to the back side of the desert; then later into the wilderness as he led Israel out of bondage to the land God had promised them.

In Egypt Moses experienced the pleasures which go with affluence, luxury, and earthly security. Why did he forfeit them? How could he afford to leave so much of this world behind, and to hazard his life for such a small return of this world’s offering?

The answer is simple and yet profound. The Almighty God, the God of his fathers, entered his life. Faith born of revelation transformed his vision. His hearing was changed so that he heard midst the myriad voices the one Voice which said, “This is the way, walk ye in it.” His eye saw clearly the invisible God. And his conscience became sensitized to the difference between right and wrong, between idolatry and true worship.

It is significant to note that the sovereign God made it possible for Jochebed, the mother of Moses, to serve as his nurse during the tender years of her son’s development in the house of Pharaoh. She told him of the Jehovah God who had made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We, the earthborn, watch the newspaper headlines concerning great events. God watches the uneventful birth of babies who later will turn the destiny of nations.

Of Moses, the writer to the Hebrews said, he esteemed “the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt” (11:26). When he died, he left a nation whose survival and progress had largely been due to his wise statesmanship. He left the Ten Commandments. He left a testimony and the newspaper headlines concerning great events. God watches the uneventful birth of babies who later will turn the destiny of nations.

Like Moses, God-possessed men have always been oblivious to the temporary security of all earthly things, like mansions, money, and the pride and pomp of circumstance. This spirit of renunciation must continue to be found in the Church if there is to be faith and purity unmixed with pride. In our affluent society the trap is set and many get caught.

It is not uncommon for church members to make a profession of religion and at the same time be affectionately attracted to the glittering embellishments of time. There is no real Christian discipleship other than that which seeks first the Kingdom.

Our Lord and Savior became poor that we through His poverty might become rich. And if the Church is to continue giving to the lost these riches of faith, she too must have this same mind. The cross is not a symbol of earthly indulgence and sufficiency; rather it is the symbol of poverty, of self-denial, and death. It is the symbol of those who cast their lot with Him who said, “Follow me.” We find it sometimes difficult to sing anymore, “A tent or a cottage, why should I care?”

The holiness ethic of our founding fathers was
that we must wear this world like a loose garment. Let the people called Nazarenes take a sober and prayerful look at their life-style and their desire for all earthly things.

God responds in mercy and grace to the honest heart. He brings revival to those who put Him first. God grant that we in our day can truly believe as Moses did in his day, that the Lord alone is our security, our everlasting abode. Today, tomorrow, forever!

A six-year-old boy hovered at the door and called to his grandfather, “Please let me in! I need to come in!”

“Go away, Mark! Your grandmother is just home from the hospital and needs to rest. She can’t stand any noise. You would only be in the way.”

Stepping back, Mark positioned himself in the hall where he could watch every move, elbows on knees, chin resting in his hands. Now and then he brushed away big tears that rolled down his cheeks.

Inside, the preoccupied husband anguished over his wife. Two weeks ago, Martha had suffered a stroke. High blood pressure, the doctor said. There was nothing too unusual about her case. With medication and the right kind of exercise she should be as good as new in no time at all. But would she? he worried. Unusual case or not, she was very special to him.

His eyes swept his mate of 40 years. She was the same beautiful person as before, except that her left side would not respond properly to messages sent from the brain. He surveyed the strange equipment intruding on their familiar surroundings: a ball for her to grasp; a walker to keep her from falling, rails on the sides of the walls.

“O God,” he moaned, “what will we do? How can we bear this burden?”

The grandfather was stunned. How many hundreds of hours had he spent with this boy? Ever since Mark could form words he had taught him to pray and sing. He had read him one account after another of God’s ability to respond to the cries of His children. Living next door to his grandson gave him almost limitless opportunities to share the mercies of God.

“Oh, son, of course I trust Jesus. Come in and we’ll pray.”

“But I want to pray, Grandpa . . . that’s what I was trying to tell you!”

Moving to the bedside, Mark placed his grandmother’s left hand in his and poured out his heart. “Well, Jesus, this is the way it is. See, I’m Mark, and my gramma here is sick and needs Your help. I love her very much and so do You. So please, Jesus, make her well. Thanks a lot . . . see You later.”

Mark ran out of the room fully convinced that his grandmother would recover. The faith of that little child brought renewed strength and courage to Martha and her husband. Together they claimed the promises of God: “Ask and it shall be given you” (Matthew 7:7). “Let him ask in faith, nothing wavering” (James 1:6) “. . . and He healed their sick” (Matthew 14:14).

Mark can be heard singing a homemade tune of praise, “I got a miracle! My gramma’s well! Thank You, Jesus.”

I believe God knew that these grandparents required help in their moment of despair. He arranged for Mark to slip in at a time when they needed him most. He was used to remind them of the faith they had helped instill in him. Thank God, Mark’s faith was sure. Though but a little child, he was able to lead them in the way that they should go.
I HATE TOBACCO

I have never “crusaded” against tobacco, but there are few things I have ever hated more.

Smoking is a form of dope addiction. The addicts may deny it, but they are not being honest. The scientific evidence is abundant and clear. Were it not for the powerful tobacco lobby in Washington, and the number of addicts in Congress, the stamp of respectability would have been ripped from smoking long ago.

One of my friends in the early days of my ministry was Uncle John Williams. He smoked a pipe you could smell before you could see it. He would grow angry when anyone criticized the habit. Through a blue haze he would exclaim fiercely, “Why, smoking has to be good for a fellow. It’s a known fact that tobacco is one of the best germ killers ever found.”

The old man’s logic was simple: Tobacco was used in the making of certain pesticides. It was a “bug killer.” And to Uncle John, germs were bugs.

No one was ever more sincerely wrong. Tobacco is not a germ killer; it is a people killer. If smoking is a therapy, it’s the patient who will die. It has been my sad lot to attend the death beds of a number of persons who died of lung cancer produced by smoking.

Their physical agonies and mental regrets made an indelible impression on me. Anyone who would deliberately and slowly poison his system with tobacco is a fool, and only the strength of the addiction can explain the length of the folly.

That smoking is popular does not contradict the fact that it is a ruinous blight. People start smoking when it seems a sophisticated, or grown-up, or liberated thing to do. By the time they realize how stupid and damaging it is, they are too hooked to quit and too proud to admit their addiction.

That some Christians and preachers smoke only proves that they have failed to appropriate the full life-changing power resident in the gospel. Bud Robinson used to say that a preacher who smoked was feeding the germs of depravity. He was riding the goat instead of following the Lamb. Christians who smoke do not take seriously the teaching of Scripture. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, and God will destroy those who defile the temple. I am convinced that one way He destroys them is by simply allowing this noxious narcotic to work out its full effect upon its devotees.

Some who are reading this in anger will make the smoker’s ultimate defense, “It’s none of your business what I do in my own life.” That is simply untrue. Medical science now warns us that nonsmokers can get cancer from breathing the smoke that users exhale. In our society you are compelled to smoke even when you hate the stuff. In offices, elevators, corridors, markets, restaurants, automobiles, buses, planes—wherever people congregate—the air is fouled with disease-producing and death-laden smoke. That makes it everybody’s business.

If a man deliberately poisoned our water he would be imprisoned. But he can deliberately pollute the air and the government will not take action. Its morality is determined by the revenue stamp on a cigarette package, which makes the printed warning a species of hypocrisy.

I hate tobacco. I hate what it does to the air we breathe. But most of all, I hate what it does to people I love; to babies born with a craving for it because their systems are narcotized in the womb, who are reared in a poison-drenched atmosphere by selfish parents, and who will be its future victims. I hate it because I hate pollution, disease, and death.

What Abraham Lincoln is reported to have said about whiskey can also be said about smoking—it has many defenders but no defense. A church that stands opposed to it need not be apologetic. Smoking deserves every enemy it has, for it betrays every friend it makes.

I thank God that there is power in the blood of Jesus Christ to deliver from all sin and to break the chains of any destructive habit. Any Christian honest enough to name it as sin and repent and believe can be delivered from smoking.

RETRACTION AND APOLOGY

A man called me today to complain about a statement in the July 1 issue of the Herald. He was kind but firm. He was hurt, more for his friends than for himself. On my end of the line it got quiet as when
A church that stands opposed to (smoking) need not be apologetic. Smoking deserves every enemy it has, for it betrays every friend it makes.

E. F. Hutton speaks, for he was right and I was wrong. His beef was legitimate and my error was inexcusable and indefensible.

The offending sentence read: “Our labor unions have taught us that it is no longer desirable to give a fair day’s work for a good day’s wage.” Blanket statements of criticism are rarely if ever true. This leaves the impression that all union workers are slackers. That is unkind, unfair, and untrue. That it was not intended to be unkind, unfair, and untrue is beside the point. As my caller said, “That is like saying, All preachers are lazy, just because you and I both know that some are.” Ouch!

My caller is a pipefitter and a union representative. He has worked hard for his wages and never had to back up to the boss to collect his paycheck. He earned it, and there are multiplied thousands of union workers like him—honest and industrious. To him, and all others like him, I offer sincere apologies. Nor will I hide this retraction and apology in fine print under an advertisement. I want it placed more prominently than was the error.

I was not the author of the statement, but I am the editor of the magazine, and the buck stops at my desk. To shift the blame would compound the guilt. Fact is, I should have protected the writer from his own mistake. To make it more embarrassing, the next sentence was similar, lacking a necessary qualifier to rescue it from inaccuracy.

I cannot even seek refuge in the lame excuse that all editors goof, for that would be the same kind of statement that got me in hot water. The blunt and uncomfortable truth is that I was wrong, I am to blame, and I am indeed sorry. A false impression was made by an inaccurate statement that I should have easily spotted and edited.

Thanks for calling, friend. You were both right and kind. I am in your debt and can only hope for your forgiveness.

LOVING AND LIKING ARE NOT SYNONYMS

I got a letter recently from a woman who was defeated spiritually. She was commanded to love others, even enemies. But in her neighborhood was a woman addicted to gossip, obscenity, and trouble-making. The lady who wrote me confessed that she just did not feel good toward this woman, was not comfortable around her, but did try to treat her justly. Because she honestly disliked this sinful woman, she feared that the Lord would disown her.

I tried to explain that love, in the New Testament sense, is not a synonym for like. Love is not an affectionate feeling. It is active good will, and treating people justly is one of the finest expressions of genuine love.

You can love a gossiper without loving gossip. You can love a troublemaker without loving the trouble she makes. You can accept persons without approving their character or conduct. You can will for them the very best even when they are at their worst. You can do good to them even when they are doing evil to you. But this does not mean that you will enjoy their company or feel “warm and fuzzy” inside when you see them outside.

Love, in the sense that Jesus commands it of His followers, is active good will, it is not congenial emotion toward the unlovely and unloving.

Even this kind of love, which is reasonable where affection is impossible, does not come easily or naturally. We can love others as we ought to love them only when “the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us” (Romans 5:5). The indwelling Spirit is the source and power of our obedience to the love-commandment.

There are some practical things that we can do to make the outflow of love surer. For one thing, we can honestly try to understand the factors that have contributed to a person’s meanness, not to condone the meanness but to sympathize with the person. And we can pray for them. It is impossible not to love and appreciate those for whom we sincerely pray.

But for the sake of our own spiritual health, we must not carry false guilt by confusing loving with liking.
The opening word of chapter 4 is "therefore," a link up with the closing verses of chapter 3. The concept of Christ as the example for suffering Christians is continued. In this passage, suffering Christians are called upon to understand and appreciate their situation by looking backwards and forwards.

I. Suffering Christians and the past.

One who is willing to endure physical suffering for the sake of spiritual life "has ceased from sin" —that is, he has broken with the past way of life.

Suffering demonstrates commitment to new life. The one who suffers shows thereby that he intends "to live the rest of the time" by the divine will, not by human wishes. He has already given enough time to the former sinful life-style, marked by a reckless abandonment to sensuality and idolatry (v. 3). When you are so determined to go with God that you will accept His way at the cost of suffering, your witness is convincing.

Suffering is created by the hostility of the old crowd. Those with whom you once sinned "are surprised" at your refusal to join them again in "excess of dissipation" (v. 4). Because the new life of righteousness baffles and condemns them, they react in anger "and they malign." When a person turns from sin, some will turn against him. Holiness evokes hostility.

This being true, the sufferer is tempted to rejoin the old gang and renew the old life in order to escape ostracism and persecution. But this is foolish, because of what is ahead.

II. Suffering Christians and the future.

Those who "malign" the Christians "shall give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead" (v. 5). Judgment is coming!

Peter expected it soon: "The end of all things is at hand" (v. 7). The early Christians expected the return of Christ within their lifetime. That He has not yet come only means that the judgment is closer now by each passing year since Peter wrote. The present world order cannot endure; it is only means that the judgment is awaited by another eternal order, and the transition will be marked by the Judgment.

Since Christians are living for the future, they must be sane and self-controlled "for the purpose of prayer" (v. 7). Through prayer we tap the divine resources that keep us ready for judgment and steady in suffering. We must live, therefore, in a way that keeps the lines of communication open between us and God.

The Christian life-style, in contrast to former pagan ways, is characterized by three factors:


(2) Hospitality (v. 9). "Be hospitable to one another without complaint." The rejection of the world is countered by the acceptance and support of the church. Ungrudging sharing of goods is a vital expression of the love enjoined in the previous verse (cf. 1 John 3:16-18; Hebrews 13:16).

(3) Edification (vv. 10-11). The "manifold grace" of God is the source of a variety of special gifts. Two are mentioned, speaking and serving. The one who speaks is to voice divine revelation, not human opinion—"the utterances of God." The one who serves is to do so "by the strength which God supplies" —an inner reinforcement, the Spirit's abiding and enabling presence.

The special gifts have a common purpose. Viewed from one perspective, to edify the church: "employ it in serving one another." Viewed from another perspective, to glorify the Lord: "that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." The two comprise a single goal, for whatever edifies the church glorifies the Lord, and whatever glorifies the Lord edifies the church.

Living in love—love that covers sins, shares goods, and strengthens others—marks a Christian's break with the past and confidence in the future.

(1) How serious is your commitment to Christ? Will you serve Him through thick and thin, willing to suffer rather than lapse into sin? Do you prefer the new life to the old crowd?

(2) What are you doing to encourage your fellow Christians? Is yours a caring love that is slow to accuse and quick to forgive? Is yours a sharing love that helps the hurting, that speaks and serves to encourage the faltering?

(3) What is the direction of your life—backwards towards the world, or forwards toward the coming Judge?
The Gifts of the Spirit

"Each man has his gift from God."
1 Corinthians 7:7 (NIV)
Three Vital Roles of the Holy Spirit

1 FOR OUR SALVATION
He convicts us of our sin and draws us to Christ.

2 FOR OUR SANCTIFICATION
He cleanses us through the infilling of His Spirit.

3 FOR OUR SERVICE
He endues us with power and gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ.

"Nothing is more important in practical Christian service than the recognition and use of the gifts of the Spirit."

These words from Dr. W. T. Purkiser's book The Gifts of the Spirit have taken on a vital new significance in today's atmosphere of positive church growth.

Dr. Kenneth Cain Kinghorn of Asbury Seminary says, "The rediscovery of this New Testament theme constitutes a breakthrough for the church that may prove to be one of the most significant religious developments of our century."

Dr. C. Peter Wagner has defined a spiritual gift as "a special attribute given by the Spirit to every member of the Body according to God's grace for use within the context of the Body."

This renewed interest among Christians in the gifts of the Spirit places a unique responsibility upon the Church of the Nazarene, for this denomination was founded principally for the proclamation and demonstration of the sanctifying grace and power of the Holy Spirit in effectual service in men's lives.

It is logical, then, that the Church of the Nazarene would come forward with an innovative, Wesleyan, Bible-based study of the work of the Holy Spirit specifically as it relates to the charismata, or gifts.

The Spiritual Gifts Workshop has been developed by the Kansas City Center for Church Growth under the direction of Dr. Raymond W. Hurn. It is designed for eight hours of intensive Bible study, and includes a Spiritual Gifts Profile which will be of great benefit to each participant in the examination of his or her own life.
 Spiritual Gifts Profile

Developed by the
Kansas City Center for Church Growth
Department of Home Missions
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1. Get Ready To Grow
   This is the indispensable first step to growth, and each church that desires to participate in the growth cycle should begin with this CST study. It sells for $1.95. The accompanying Strategy Manual for the leader sells for $2.00, and includes eight teaching transparencies for overhead projection.

2. Diagnostic Clinic
   This material enables any church to pinpoint its areas of strength and weakness and make intelligent plans to get on the growth wagon according to the basic principles laid down in Get Ready to Grow. The Diagnostic Clinic packet sells for $39.95, including the leader’s guide and 10 participant’s manuals. Additional participant’s manuals are available for $1.50 if needed.

3. Church Growth Planning Notebook
   The Church Growth Planning Notebook is the third step in the growth training cycle. It includes planning instruments for the pastor and church board. The planning experience culminates in a church board retreat for the purpose of long-range planning. The packet sells for $14.95 at the Nazarene Publishing House.

4. Spiritual Gifts Workshop
   This workshop developed by the Kansas City Center for Church Growth under the leadership of Dr. Raymond W. Hurn will assist churches in maximum mobilization of their people for the work of God. Developing spiritual gifts also provides for personal Christian growth. The workshop packet sells for $34.95 and is available from the Nazarene Publishing House (S-3997).

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WELCOME TO PRIME TIME

Melvin Shrout, director of Senior Adult Ministries, announces the inauguration of PRIME TIME, a membership arrangement for senior adults in the Church of the Nazarene. It is service-oriented and designed to open opportunities for continued service in the church, especially for the retiree who often experiences a narrowing of opportunities for participation in "life-satisfaction" experiences.

PRIME TIME encourages volunteer giving of available time and resources in meaningful though not highly structured ways, even in settings which do not offer Senior Adult Ministries programs. Each person's level of participation is determined individually. Suggestions are given but no standards are set.

PRIME TIME recognizes the various accumulated talents and spiritual gifts of senior adults, and that they have more opportunities time-wise to use these gifts toward spiritual and humanitarian goals.

PRIME TIME also provides an identity whereby the senior adults among us are recognized by their peers, and those of fewer years, as persons committed to service and growth rather than idleness and uselessness. A four-color pin to be worn by all PRIME TIME members will further identify senior adults to each other as partners across the church who are committed to positive actions designed to benefit themselves, the church, and others.

PRIME TIME is a call to senior adults and their friends throughout Nazarenedom, to unite in spiritual ministries such as prayers for ministers, for spiritual awakenings, and for the salvation of unsaved senior adult.

Membership in PRIME TIME is voluntary. All senior adults (55 up) within our constituency who are church members or members of the Sunday school, and who are in harmony with the concepts and commitments of PRIME TIME are eligible.

PRIME TIME will be launched officially at each of the fall NIROGAs* and is open to all senior adults. Senior adults not attending a NIROGA but wishing to join may have full information by writing to:

PRIME TIME
Senior Adult Ministries
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, MO 64131

*Information about each of the NIROGAs (Nazarene International Retreat of Golden Agers) is available at the above address.

During the 1977-78 assembly year, 45 constituents of the Indianapolis Southside Church achieved CST status. A total of 137 credits were earned through class and home study. Certificates and diplomas awarded: 19 Devotional Reading; 3 Churchmanship; Certificates of Progress—first seal—15; second seal—7; third seal—1; 2 Registered Teacher and 1 Registered Sunday School Administrator. Wanda Pauline Milner is CST director and Lloyd Tucker is pastor of the 90-member congregation.

At the recent CHA meeting in St. Louis, Dr. J. D. Abbott, (L) general superintendent in The Wesleyan Church, presented both Dr. Richard S. Taylor (center) and Dr. Willard H. Taylor (r.) with commemorative plaques, honoring them as holiness exponents of the year, specifically for their contributions in the writing of the new biblical theology, God, Man, and Salvation. Dr. W. T. Purkiser was the third author, but he was previously honored in a similar manner for writing books and articles expounding the Wesleyan-Arminian viewpoint and for serving as editor of the Herald of Holiness.
Twenty-five hundred twelve young Nazarenes from 44 nations met at Estes Park, Colo., July 17-23, for the largest-attended World Youth Conference ever held by the Church of the Nazarene. The theme of the conference was “Disciple-making.”

The young people were introduced to the resources for discipling (“Design for Disciple-making”) prepared by the leaders of the Department of Youth Ministries; five books which focus on the different dimensions of commitment: discipleship, devotion, worship, fellowship, witness. Also, a journal for disciples was given to each conferee to encourage a regular meeting with Jesus and meaningful participation in worship.

Each day began with a Bible study at “Reuben’s Rock,” where Reuben Welch, chaplain of Point Loma College, led the study in 2 Timothy with special emphasis on Paul’s advice to young disciples: “Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2:1-2).

At the Evening Celebration at eight, the young people heard; on Monday, Denver First Church Youth Choir, singing Jesus Is Lord, followed by the keynote address by Holland Lewis, general president; Tuesday, a dramatic presentation, “The Singer,” directed by Debbie Salter; Wednesday, Mel McCullough, executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries; Thursday, Jane Brewington, missionary; and Friday, the premiere of a musical—Follow Me, directed by Norman Shoemaker.

Saturday night, Dr. V. H. Lewis, general superintendent, spoke on his “Vision of the Church in the 80s.” At this hour a farewell gift was presented to the McCulloughs who, following the conference, leave the Department of Youth Ministries to pastor Colorado Springs First Church.

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Dr. Lewis introduced the newly elected director, Rev. Gary Henecke, pastor of Oskaloosa, Ia., First Church, who begins work in his new assignment August 21.

Sunday morning the D-Groups (Discipling Groups) hiked up the mountain for a farewell Communion service by groups. The closing service was held in the Longhouse where Reuben Welch spoke on "Servanthood." Then, in a very moving commissioning, the roll of the districts of the Church of the Nazarene was called. As each district was named, the young people from that district left the hall to return to their homes, to make disciples.

—NCN

FIRSTFRUITS OF THE ESTHER AMAYA SCHOLARSHIP VISIBLE

Noe Guevara from Peru received the Master of Arts degree in religion at Point Loma College in June and became the firstfruits of the Esther Amaya Latin American Scholarship Program. Guevara has been invited to teach in the Nazarene Bible Institute in his native country.

In September, 1978, six Latin American students will be enrolled in the Point Loma College program—five returning students and a new freshman. Scholarships for these students are needed totaling $9,000. Contributions for the scholarships may receive credit for 10 percent giving for missions by sending them, designated for the Point Loma College Esther Amaya Latin American Scholarship, to the Nazarene World Mission Department, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

The six Latin American students who will be attending PLC during 1978-79 are: Efrain Esperilla, from Mexico, a junior majoring in music; Abdias Hernandez, a freshman from Mexico majoring in computer science; Rosa Loya, a sophomore in education from Mexico; Federico Melendez, from Guatemala, a junior majoring in religion; David Moraga, a sophomore from Nicaragua studying science; and Maria Ramirez, a senior psychology student from Mexico.

The basketball program of Bethany Nazarene College reached another high with a member of its '77-'78 squad selected in the Pro Basketball Drafting on June 9. Former Oklahoma "Player of the Year," Steve Neff, a 6-11, 230 lb. center for Coach Jim Poteet, was selected in the third round by the Golden State "Warriors" hailing from Oakland, Calif. Neff was a three-year starter for the HNC Redskins, after transferring from the University of Oklahoma's basketball program. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Neff of Yukon, Okla., and attends Bethany, Okla., First Church.

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Pastor Norm Stueckle, of Wenatchee, Wash., First Church, presenting Mary Mink, and Rev. Nelson Mink with a Distinguished Service Award, May 14. This was also their 50th wedding anniversary.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Mary Smith at a dinner in her honor. A member of the Lowell, Mass., church since 1957, Miss Smith began in 1962 to knit bandages for Raleigh Fitkin Hospital in Swaziland. She has knitted more than 900. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Mrs. Mildred Lunn, Lowell church NWMS president; Miss Mary Smith; and New England District NWMS President Mrs. William W. Restrick.

On May 14, the Gaston, Ind., church presented Ralph Holsinger with a Distinguished Service Award for his faithful service. Family and friends shared in a reception following the candlelight service. Pictured (l. to r.) are NWMS President Martha Seals, Mr. Holsinger, and Pastor Ken Noonan.

Recently the Niles, Mich., First Church presented a Distinguished Service Award to Mrs. Bessie Bushong. She is credited with starting the Milford, Ind., church. She has also faithfully served as a Sunday school teacher for years. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Rev. Paul Dickinson, Mrs. Bessie L. Bushong, Mrs. Augusta W. Hillyer, and Mrs. Linda Dickinson, NWMS president.

Recently a Distinguished Service Award was presented to Mrs. Lottie Loan. The award was given in recognition of 32 years of service as teacher and board member. Pastor Adrian Keeton (r.) of the Frostburg, Md., church, presented the certificate to Mrs. Loan (l.).

An Old-timer Speaks!

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An unusual listening experience! Over 45 minutes of the homespun philosophy and witty sayings of one of the beloved “old timers” — Bud Robinson. An introduction by Dr. D. I. Vanderpool, general superintendent emeritus, against the background music of one of Uncle Bud’s favorite songs, “Honey in the Rock,” provides another dimension of interest.

On the reverse side is some historical information on the recording itself, including a brief sketch of Uncle Bud’s life and his famous “Sawlog Prayer.” Sleeve strikingly designed in four colors.

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<tbody>
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<td>MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF THE BIBLE</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>A PITCHER OF CREAM</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50c</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE MOTH-EATEN GARMENT</td>
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<td>50c</td>
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<tr>
<td>MY OBJECTIONS TO A SINNING RELIGION</td>
<td>192</td>
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<td>RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY, AND FUN</td>
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<td>75c</td>
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NEW PEOPLE AND 70 PERCENT GAIN MARK GROWTH IN LEXINGTON

Pastor Bill Stone and Christian Life Chairman Fred M. Hale report a 70 percent gain over the first three Sundays of July last year at Lexington, Ky., Eastland Park Church. The congregation moved from the old church to Bryan Station High School where they have experienced continued growth with new people in nearly every service. The people are excited as they await construction of their new church plant.

ENDURING WORD CASSETTES MINISTER TO THE BLIND AND TO SHUT-INS

Many persons, for various reasons, cannot share the week-by-week fellowship and inspiration of an adult class. Lesson recordings cannot capture fully this activity and atmosphere, but they can extend the benefits of the Enduring Word Sunday school lessons to those who want to share the regular teaching of God’s Word, but who by various circumstances are deprived of attendance.

Christian Life executives who have pioneered “Enduring Word Cassettes” are particularly burdened for those handicapped by loss of vision. Shut-ins (for any reason), patients in hospitals, and groups in retirement homes, may also share the lesson material, alone or in companionship. The recordings cover the weekly Bible lesson material and its presentation by able writers. The outline is faithfully followed and blended with the substance and illustrations of the exposition. The cassette allows time for reflection. The lesson may be listened to as though sitting in the class. This service may also widen the adult class fellowship and increase the ties between the local Department of Adult Ministries and the home.

Another benefit is that busy teachers and housewives may familiarize themselves with the lesson by playing tapes while traveling or working in the home, supplementing the regular study of the lesson.

The first quarter’s release is a trial run. Continuance will be determined in large measure by the response of our churches. The potential for significant ministry to the blind and shut-ins of local communities is enormous. Here is opportunity to enlarge the ministry of the local church.

Enduring Word Minister Mrs. Mabel Lindell, Billings, Mont., First Church receives Cross and Crown pins for 50 years of perfect attendance in Sunday school. Pastor David Wendling and District Superintendent Ross E. Price make the presentation. She began attending Sunday school with her sister, Elizabeth M. Cole, at a young age. Elizabeth is a retired missionary to the lepers of Swaziland. Mabel is a member of the church board, and serves on the welcoming committee at Billings First Church. She formerly was superintendent of the Sunday school.
HERALD OF HOLINESS
ANDREWS, GEORGE D.:
BAKER, RICHARD C.:
BOHI, JAMES:
BERTOLETS, MUSICAL:
CANEN, DAVID:
CAMPBELL, BILL:
CAUDILL, STEVE & SUE:
CRANDALL, V, E.
(First), Sept. 26—Oct. 1
(First), Sept. 5-10: McComb, MS (First), Sept. 12-17
Sept. 26—Oct. 1
15-24
Sept. 26—Oct. 1
(First), Sept. 12-17; Nacogdoches, TX (First), Sept. 19-24
Sept. 11-18; North Platte, NE (First), Sept. 19-24; Scotts-
Carson, WA, Sept. 12-17; Vancouver, WA (Central), Sept.
Ave.), Sept. 20-24; Huntington, IN (First), Sept. 26—
TN (Calvary), Sept. 12-13; Bristol, TN (First), Sept.
19-24; West Carrollton, OH, Sept. 26—Oct. 1
BARBARA:
DUNMIRE, RALPH & JOANN:
DURHAM, GARY, & CLARION TRIO:
EVERMAN, WAYNE:
FLORENCE, ERNEST E.:
FISHER, GEORGE:
GADBOW, D.:
GRIMM, GEORGE:
HAGAN, OH, Sept. 12-17; Woodstock, VA, Sept. 19-24
BERNIE:
Crawford, OH, Sept. 5-10; West Portsmouth, OH, Sept. 26—
(First), Sept. 12-17; Urbana, KY (Northside), Sept. 18—
1st. Sept. 4-10; Titusville, PA, Sept. 26—Oct. 1
Phoenix, AZ (Emmanuel), Sept 4-10;
Dillonvale. OH, Sept. 26—Oct. 1
Brownwood, TX (First), Sept 5-10; Lufkin, TX
Pablo, MT, Sept. 12-17; Riverton, WY,
JAGGER, MARVIN:
JANTZ, CALVIN & MARJORIE:
JAYMES, RICHARD:
JOHNSON, RON:
JOHNSON, DON (Ghata, KS), Sept. 8-10; Concerts in Oregon
Perry, OH, Sept. 19-24
Lestes, J.: Monticello, IN, Sept 10-17
Lloyd, RF, Sept. 12-17; Marion (Lake Blvd.), Sept. 19-24;
Lomax, WALLY & GINGER:
LASKAI, JANE:
LATTANZI, JAMES:
LAWSON, R.:
LEXES, FRED:
LEROY, J:
LIGON, MARVA & MARJORIE:
LINDBERG, SYLVIA:
LINDSAY, ROBERT:
LINDSAY, RUTHER:
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Gelist had an excellent revival with Evan­ 

cin sermon and song were outstanding.

lent revival with Wade.

MILLHUFF, CHUCK: Mundelem. IL. Sept. 5-10; Houston, TX

MERCE, BOYCE & CATHERINE: Hillsboro, IN. Sept. 12-17; 

MYERS, HAROLD: Millington, MI, Sept. 5-10; St. Charles, MI, 

MULLEN, DEVERNE: Canton, OH. Sept. 12-17; Painesville, OH, 

MAYO, CLIFFORD: Bedford, IN (Davis Memorial). Sept. 5-10; 

ERDUE, NELSON S.: Jackson, OH, Sept. 5-10; Danville, IN, 

MONTGOMERY, CLYDE: Gary, IN (Black Oak). Sept. 4-10; 

MYERS, HAROLD: Millington, MI, Sept. 5-10; St. Charles, MI, 

McDONALD, CHARLIE: Jackson, AL (Jones Chapel), Sept. 

Randall, MI. Sept. 5-10; Modoc, IN (First). Sept. 26—Oct. 1

Benton, AR (First). Sept. 12-17: Reserved, Sept. 19-24; 

Midland, MI (Wesley). Sept. 19-24; Marion, MI (Wesley

McPherson, KS, Sept. 12-17; New Castle, IN (Broad-

Moines, IA (Highland Park), Sept. 11-17; Newton, KS.

St. Croix Falls, WI, Sept. 12-17; Columbia, TN (Grace), 

Albion, MI, Sept. 26—Oct. 1

SCHULTZ, ERNEST & ELVA: Wheeler, MO. Sept. 22-25; 

Thompson, PA (First). Sept. 5-10; Oskaloosa, IA. Sept. 

Sharon, PA (First). Sept. 12-17; McAdenville, NC. Sept. 

Woodward, S. OREN: Timberville, VA, Sept. 5-10; Wood-

WELCH, W. B.: Atoka, OK (First), Sept. 10-17; Decherd, TN

WELCH, JONATHAN & ILONA: Emporia, KS (First), Sept. 

WELCH, W. B.: Atoka, OK (First). Sept. 10-17; Orchard, 

WILKINSON, TOM: Columbus. (Grandview Camp). Sept. 10

WILLIAMS, LARRY: Tyler, TX (First). Sept. 18-24

WILLIAMS, LAWRENCE: Nicholson, OK (First). Sept. 4; Hef¬

WINGARD, TONY: Langley, SC. Sept. 5-10; Burlington, NC

WINTERS: MARVIN E: Dalhart, TX. Sept. 26—Oct. 1

WOODWARD, S. ORENE: Timberville, VA. Sept. 5-10; Wod¬

Staunton, VA (First), Sept. 26-30

Trenton, Ohio: We have caught the vision of revival and are truly enjoy­

ing focused on personal spiritual life.

Trenton, OH. Sept. 19-24; Kewanee, IL. Sept. 25—

PRICE, JACK: Atoka, IL. Sept. 19-24; Kewanee, IL. Sept. 25—

PRIVETT, CALVIN C: Nashville, TN (Bethel). Sept. 5-10; 

Qualls, PAUL: Orlando, FL (First). Sept. 12-17; Chicago, IL 

Reynolds, PHIL: Harrisburg, IL (First). Sept. 12-17; Monon, 

Richards, LARRY & Phyllis: Edinburg, IN, Sept. 12-17; 

Rogers, Bob: Lancaster, OH. Sept. 12-17; St. Marys, OH. 

RICHARDS, LARRY & ELVA: Wheeler, W. Sept. 8-17

REDDIE, CALVIN: Florence, CO. Sept. 5-10; Cortez, CO. Sept 

Richardson, Jr., Jim: Fly, PA. Sept. 5-10; Oskaloosa, IA. Sept. 

Richardson, Sr., Jim: Fly, PA. Sept. 5-10; Oskaloosa, IA. Sept. 

Richardson, Sr., V: Fly, PA. Sept. 5-10; Oskaloosa, IA. Sept. 

RICHARDSON, W. J.: Undefined.

RICHARDS, LARRY & ELVA: Wheeler, W. Sept. 8-17

RICHARDSON, W. J.: Undefined.

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REYNOLDS, PHIL: Harrisburg, IL (First). Sept. 12-17; Monon, 

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BNC COMPLETES DEVELOPMENT REORGANIZATION

Bethany Nazarene College president, Dr. John A. Knight, has announced the completion of a reorganization program affecting the Office of Development headed by Dr. Harry Macrory, assistant to the president.

Effective August 1, BNC’s development offices will be increased from the two present divisions of public relations and church relations, to include deferred giving and estate planning, and church and corporate relations.

Initial reorganization began last summer with the establishment of the office for Alumni Affairs and Individual Donor Support, headed by Charles Crow.

Following the actions of the spring Board of Trustees meeting, BNC began interviewing possible “development associates” to fill the newly approved positions, which included the Office of Church Relations vacant since the resignation of its director, Rev. Gene Plemons, to return to the pastorate.

June 15, Lecil Brown was appointed to the Office of Deferred Giving and Estate Planning. A 1952 BNC alum, Brown joined the Development Office after spending nearly 20 years in the banking business. Most recently, Brown had served for the past 18 years as the Trust and Loan officer for the Peoples Bank of Lakeland, Fla.

A native of Augusta, Ark., Brown is a graduate of the Florida Bankers Trust School at the University of Florida, and the National Trust School of Northwestern University.

BNC’s final position was filled effective July 24, with the appointment of Rev. Merv Goins as development associate for Constituent/Corporate Relations. Rev. Goins had served as assistant to the president at Olivet Nazarene College in Kankakee, Ill. While he was serving in the Development Office, ONC completed over $5 million in construction from funds obtained through churches, community, and federal sources.

“He will serve as the liaison officer between the college and its constituency, developing new avenues of communication and support throughout BNC’s South Central Educational Zone,” Dr. Knight explained.

“The area of Corporate Relations is new to the BNC office.

“Rev. Goins will be responsible for capital fund drives, the cultivation of corporate interests in BNC, and maintaining an active relation with the local corporations and foundations.”

Coming under Rev. Goins’s direction will be the offices of Public and Sports Information directed by Michael Crabtree, and Student Recruitment, headed by John Dorough.

Northwest Nazarene College biology professor Dr. Gary D. Miner has received a $10,000 grant to conduct research and computer analysis of proteins found in human brain tissue and protozoa (single-celled organisms). The grant makes possible the purchase of equipment and the utilization of student research assistants for the project over the next two years. The student assistants will be working during the school year and two months of the summer analyzing the research data on NNC’s new Hewlett-Packard computer. The award is an M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust Grant of Research Corporation, Vancouver, Wash., which provides funds for basic research in the natural sciences and medicine in the greater Northwest.

The new Mid-America Nazarene College athletic facility is now under construction. The multi-purpose building (50 ft. x 100 ft.), which includes a weight training room, offices, locker room, and snack food service for athletic events, will serve the entire athletic program. The $155,000 structure was donated and should be ready for MANC’s first intercollegiate football season beginning September 11, 1978.

Many students and faculty members have watched as 143 degrees were conferred on graduates under sunny May 22 skies on the Mount Vernon Nazarene College campus. It was the ninth annual commencement and only the third year baccalaureate degrees were awarded.

Dr. Edward S. Mann, executive secretary of the Department of Education and the Ministry of the Church of the Nazarene, addressed the class. He received his bachelor’s degree from Eastern Nazarene College and his master’s from Boston University.

“These moments have a special meaning to all of us—tenderness, remembrances, hope, and faith,” Mann told the graduating class. He said four years of college was not a long time, but long enough to bring a wealth of lasting friendships, “some closer than ties of blood.

“It’s been an era of confusion and contradiction,” Mann said. He said one of the questions everyone asks is, “What makes life worth living?” To have a satisfactory life, Mann told the students they would have to surrender themselves to Christ. He
said sacrifices must be made, but the results will be peace and a glorious life.

For those who were not yet sure of their careers, Mann told them they must commit themselves to God because He has divine plans for each individual. "Keep an open mind and a willing spirit. God discloses the future one step at a time . . . wait patiently because the timing is God's and it's always right," he continued, reminding them the Bible says the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.

Dr. Jerry Ketner, (l.), assistant to the president, and Dr. John Stockton, director of financial development, stand by as Dr. Curtis Smith, president of Mid-America Nazarene College, presents plaques of recognition to Mr. Donald Moyers of Tulsa (receiving plaque) and Mr. E. H. Land (r.), Wichita, Kans., for their involvement in the construction of the Smith Religion Building. Mr. Moyers was at the dedication ceremony as a representative of the Mabee Foundation, Tulsa, contributor of $250,000 toward the building project. Mr. Land learned of the need of a religion building and contributed $103,000 for the project in a campus chapel service.

BOB RIMINGTON HEADS CANADIAN LOAN FUND

Mr. Bob Rimington of Calgary, Alberta, has been named by the Executive Board of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada to be director of the General Church Loan Fund—Canada.

He is also administrator and treasurer for the Executive Board and has served as business manager of the Canada West District and business manager of Calgary First Church.

He was born in Calgary and completed his schooling in Red Deer, Alberta, before entering the investment counseling field at Lethbridge, Alberta.

In 1958 he joined United Investment Services as a salesman, and in 1960 he was promoted to district manager in Lethbridge.

In 1961 he was transferred to Calgary as divisional manager, a position he held until January, 1972, when he became president and general manager of Big Scoop Sundae Palaces (Alberta), Ltd.

During his investment career, he was frequently cited for sales records throughout Canada.

His record as a churchman in addition to the administrative positions mentioned earlier includes five years as Sunday school superintendent at Lethbridge; chairman of the finance committee for Calgary First Church for five years; treasurer of Calgary First Church for eight years; treasurer of the Canada West District for four years; chairman of the Canada West Finance Committee, seven years; district advisory committee member, eight years; member of the Canadian Nazarene college Board of Governors, eight years; and a member of the 19th General Assembly.

He and his wife, Elmyra, have two children: Neil Rimington, who is business administrator for Bethany, Okla., First Church; and Arlene Lamb of Claresholm, Alberta, housewife and active churchwoman. A son, Ralph, was killed in an automobile accident in June, 1960.

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JIMMY R. ARMSTRONG from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Camden (Ark.) First
LOUIS EDWARD BARKER from Denver (Colo.) Fruitdale to Collon, Calif.
C. MARSHALL BOWES from Kalispell, Mont. to Fort Wayne (Ind.) Fairfield
GLENN W. CASS from Smyrna, Ga., to Jonesboro, Ga.
WILLIAM COLE from Columbus (Ohio) Frank Rd. to Elgin, Ill.
LEON COOK from Macon (Ga.) Shurlington to Smyrna, Ga.
HAROLD D'AULAMP from Oklahoma City, Okla. to Hobart, Okla.
KENNETH DENNIS from White Springs (Fla.) Suwannee River to Palmetto, Fla.
THOMAS S. FOWLER, JR., from Mason, Ohio, to Parsons (W. Va.) First
L. E. GLENNENDEN from Clearwater, Kans., to Plainville, Kans.
TOLAND L. GRUAMAN from Dwight, Ill., to Peoria (Ill.) Forrest Hill
WILLIAM GROVES from Evansville (Ind.) Diamond Valley to Columbus (Ohio) Frank Rd.
WINSTON JOHN HATCLIFF from Shelby, N.C., to Ashland (Ky.) Plaza
GARY HENENCE from Okalosha (La.) First to executive director of Department of Youth Ministries, International Headquarters, Kansas City, Mo.
KENNETH HESTER from Swainsboro, Ga., to Rossville (Ga.) Fairview
JACK D. HOPKINS from Kimball, Neb., to Larned, Kans.
JAMES D. JOHNSON from Capitan, N.M., to Olathe, Kans.
DAVID JONES from Wewoka, Okla., to Purcell, Okla.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Olton, Tex., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary September 17. Rev. A. L. Dennis of O'Brien, Fla., the first pastor, will preach for this occasion from Wednesday night through the Sunday evening service. There will be a church dinner on Sunday of our anniversary. All former pastors, members, and friends are welcome to attend. For further information contact Rev. Terry Connelly, P.O. Box 262, Olton, TX 79064.

The Redford, Mo., church will celebrate its 70th anniversary on Sunday, November 5. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend. Contact Rev. J. D. Sailors, Rt. 3, Box 165, Redford, MO 63665 (314) 558-2422.

Fresno, Calif., First Church will celebrate its 65th anniversary and mortgage burning on September 24. District Superintendent W. H. Deitz will speak in the morning service, and Rev. Virgil Hoover will speak in the afternoon service at 2:30 p.m. Other former pastors will participate. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow the afternoon service, with an evening service. For more information, contact Rev. R. W. Schultz, 4557 E. Tulare, Fresno, CA 93702.

RECOMMENDATION

REV. LESLIE R. BEARDEN, an elder on the West Virginia District, is entering the field of evangelism. He has been a successful pastor, and is an excellent preacher of the Word. I recommend him to our churches. He can be reached c/o Nazarene Publishing House, P.O. Box 527, Kansas City, MO 64141, or phone (615) 965-2038. — M. E. Clay, West Virginia district superintendent.

VITAL STATISTICS

R. R. HODGES SUCCUMBS TO STROKE


Ralph Raymond Hodges was born into a deeply devoted family in Oklahoma. When he was 12 years old, his family moved to Hutchinson, Kansas, where a new holiness school, Bresee College, was being founded. He graduated from Olivet College and returned to teach at Bresee. He became an effective mathematics teacher. After his graduation from Olivet, he earned a master’s degree from Kansas University.

In early in his teaching, he married Nellie Herrick from western Kansas. Part of their early years, he taught in Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Idaho.

In 1936 the Hodgeses moved to Kansas City where he worked in the Department of Church Schools under Dr. E. P. Elswyn. He served as office secretary, program developer, designer and director of Christian Service Training, creator of the Caravan program for boys and girls, and field service manager for Church Schools conventions. Later he became office manager in the office of General Secretary Dr. S. T. Ludwig.

R. R. Hodges retired in 1964, but he continued to work part-time for the general secretary's office at headquarters, working in archives for four years.

The breadth and dedication of R. R. Hodges was revealed in his sensitivities and interests. In his neighborhood where his boys—Marion, Don, and Ralph—were growing up, the need for a scout leader became apparent. Mr. Hodges offered himself and took training. He became an outstanding scout leader and was later honored with the highest citation.

Funeral services for R. R. Hodges were conducted Saturday, July 8, at Kansas City First Church. Rev. James Ingalls officiated. He is survived by his wife, Nellie; three sons, Marion of

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Kansas City, MO 64131

— END —
JULES D. CUSHING, 98, died July 14 in Bel­lows Falls, Vt. His home was in Walpole, N.H. The funeral services were in Keene, N.H. Survivors include his wife, Anna May; 1 son, Daniel; 2 daughters, Deane Polvos and Wilda Wilson; 14 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; 3 brothers, and 2 sisters.

MRS. SADIE GETMAN died May 2 in Boulder, Colo. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. McLaughlin and Rev. E. L. Cornelison. She is survived by her husband, Harry; three sons, Gerald, Don, and Ivan; and two brothers.

TIMOTHY HOCKETT, SR., 52, died July 16 in Keene, N.H. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. James E. Kelley. Surviving are his wife, Annie; one son, Timothy C., Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. Joyce Ann Scott, Mrs. Maxine Loretta Taylor, and Mrs. Katrina Mae Smith; eight grandchildren; two brothers; and one sister.

MRS. LAURA T. JONES, 85, died July 20 in Aurora, Mo. Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. James Runyan. She is survived by one daughter, evangelist Edna Fern Heasley and a grandson, Joe Jones.

JOHN W. KORFEL, 85, died May 13 in Lansdale, Pa. He is survived by his wife, 2 daughters, Irma V., missionary to Africa, and Gladys Hedrick; 3 sons, John, Jr., Frederick S., and Paul M.; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 3 brothers; and 1 sister. A memorial fund for missions in Africa has been set up.

MRS. LEE TAYLOR, 79, died March 16 in Heavener, Okla. Rev. Arnold Pierce conducted the funeral services. She is survived by her husband, Lee; two daughters, Vera Erskine and Willia Mae Bunch; seven grandchildren; and one sister.

MRS. JEWELL WILSON, 81, died July 5 in Nampa, Ida. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Clarence J. Kremer and Rev. Alvin McQuay. She is survived by her husband, Mallie; 2 sons, Rev. M. Archie Wilson, Jr. and Steven; 2 daughters, Mrs. Ralph (Donna) Parsons and Mrs. H. C. (Joan) Taylor; 15 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and 1 brother.

BIRTHS

to BILL AND JEANIE (ROSS) APPLE, Kansas City, Kans. a boy, Bryan Wayne. June 30

to ELLAN AND LINDA (HENSLEY) ANDER­SON, Monroe, N. M. twin girls, Stephanie Lyn­naya and Chrystal Bernice. Feb. 1

U.N. PREPARING STATEMENT ON RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE. United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said in Rome that the U.N. was preparing a special statement on religious intolerance and discrimination.

"Religious intolerance and the violation of liberty of faith," he said in an interview published in the Italian Roman Catholic daily, Avenire, "leads to violence and the rejection of other fundamental values."

Referring to the upcoming 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December 10, 1978), Mr. Waldheim stressed that human rights are dependent on, and "inseparable" from each other. He said that during the last 30 years "vast sectors of international public opinion have acquired and developed a greater awareness of the problem of human rights."

GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS LOOMS, UNITED NATIONS UNIT CON­CERNED. World food experts have warned that a new global food crisis may be imminent unless widespread adverse weather condi­tions improve and significantly more reserve food is produced and distributed.

The United Nations World Food Council, which monitors the global food situation, said fairly good crops in the last three years have reduced the fears of famine caused by drought in Africa and other parts of the world in the early 1970s. However, drought returned to Africa last year, the council said.

Abnormal food shortages are now reported in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Laos, Lebanon, and Nepal. This year, many farmers, including those in North America, have been troubled with too much or not enough rain, and their crops have been threatened by blight and damage from insects.

The World Food Council report revealed that food production grew only slightly in 1977, far below the amount required to keep pace with global growth. Food production in both developing and devel­oped countries has been growing in the 1970s at a rate of about 2.4 percent a year. Experts say it must increase at 4 percent to bring about major progress in eliminating malnutrition and hunger. Food production increased by 2.6 percent in the 1960s.

IRS MODIFIES REGULATION HIT BY NON-PROFIT AGENCIES. The Internal Revenue Service has modified its month-old ruling barring tax-exempt non-profit groups from questioning political candi­dates and publishing their responses.

The quick change— abrupt by normal bureaucratic standards— in the ruling was attributed in large measure to the near unanimous reaction from religious and other tax-exempt organizations.

According to the IRS, tax-exempt groups will be allowed to publish the voting records of members of legislatures, and candidates’ views on a variety of issues, so long as the material is not accom­panied by editorial comment endorsing particular candidates.

ANNE FRANK'S DIARY UPHELD BY A COURT IN FRANKFURT. A court in Frankfurt, Germany, has ruled that the famous Anne Frank diary is authentic and not a "high-grade falsification" as claimed by a Nazi sympathizer, according to reports received in Amsterdam by the Anne Frank Foundation.

The ruling came in a suit brought by Otto Frank, father of Anne Frank, against Heinz Roth, who has written and published pamphlets which deny that 6 million Jews were murdered by the Nazis and call Anne Frank's diary a "fake."

The Frankfurt Court ruled that Mr. Roth's allegations were untrue, and warned that any further such statements will lead to a fine or a six-month jail sentence. He was also ordered to pay the costs of the legal proceedings.
ple explain the meaning of Matthew 11:14, where Jesus is describing the Baptist.

the preceding verses Jesus pays tribute to John. He is “more than John” for he is the forerunner of Messiah of whom Malachi prophesied. But for all his greatness of character and mission, he belonged to old covenant which was passing away. The new age and the new covenant would be produced by the death of Jesus, and there in privilege, the least of Jesus’ followers will be greater than John.

en, in verse 14, Jesus makes it clear that Malachi’s prophecy of Elijah’s return to earth (Malachi 4:5) was fulfilled in the ministry of John the Baptist. John was not Elijah, but he came “in the spirit and power of Elijah” (Luke 1:17) to prepare Israel for the Messiah’s coming. Jesus’ words, “If ye will receive it,” probably reflect the difficulty some would have in accepting the idea of John being the fulfillment of this prophecy since John was in prison.

hat can we leave as a final testimony to those left behind after the use? We won’t be legally dead for seven years, so our wills will not be opened and that salvation is still possible?

words of Jesus in Luke 16:31 help you answer that question. They hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded. Why? They hear not Moses and the prophets.

and safety deposit boxes will not be examined. But remaining next of kin, bank accounts will be examined.

ach the adult class in our church school and would like for you to help understand the subject for June 4, 1978. This lesson had to do with John being deceived into marrying Leah and later marrying Rachel, the one rose from the dead in privilege, the least of Jesus’ followers will be greater than John.

is evident from Scripture, and human experience generally, God allows what He doesn’t approve. Jacob was deceived, but Jacob also a deceiver. His very presence din’s home resulting from having escaped his own home to escape the wrath of Esau, whom Jacob had offended. That God blessed Jacob, though he deceived and was deceived, not mean that God approved sin. My understanding is that of us!

Jacob was destined to play an important part in God’s purposes for Israel and the world. God blessed him and preserved him, in spite of the flaws in his character, partly for the sake of that larger purpose. But even aside from the matter of the Abrahamic covenant, God in His love blesses undeserving sinners. According to Romans 2:4, such goodness is designed to lead men to repentance.
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Ripened Harvest Fields

Wherever there is a Nazarene mission anywhere in the world, there is a corresponding group of the same people in North America. This was made clear recently in a meeting to explore Nazarene work among the Cape Verdian/Portuguese-speaking people.

Cape Verde has been one of our outstanding mission fields. Nearly all of the people know something of theNazarenes. Add to this the people in Portugal and enclaves in Brazil, and you begin to get the picture of a great number of people whom the Church of the Nazarene has touched.

Word has reached the Home Missions office that immigration to the Northeast from Cape Verde has picked up dramatically. After checking, it was discovered that just three years ago the immigration quota for Cape Verdians to the United States was 200. Now it is 20,000. Over the past three years, 60,000 Cape Verdians have immigrated to the United States, most of them locating in the Northeast.

Cape Verde has suffered a drought for many years. People with contacts and sponsors are waiting to immigrate to the United States. There is a ripened harvest field.

Bill Young of the Department of Home Missions has met with: Jorge and Manuela Barros from International Publications; Rev. Bill Taylor, New England district superintendent; Rev. Ildidio Silva, pastor of Rumford, R.I., church; Rev. Robert Jackson, pastor of Brockton, Mass., church; Rev. Manuel Chavier, pastor of New Bedford, R.I., International Church; Rev. William Freed, pastor of Boston Chapel, Mass.; and other Portuguese-speaking representatives to formulate a strategy for reaching the Cape Verdian/Portuguese-speaking people immigrating to the Northeast.

Out of the meeting several items surfaced. Nazarene churches presently reaching these people are too small to make a great impact on this large number. Rumford needs expansion ... International needs staff and expansion ... Boston Chapel needs a bilingual pastor ... Brockton Church needs a bilingual worker. In other words, the biggest need is workers; second, expansion of present churches; third, establishing additional churches in New England as well as in New York, Washington D.C., and possibly San Francisco.

The case of the Cape Verdian/Portuguese work can be repeated again and again. The challenge is to identify the ripened harvest fields and send in workers. Pray that “the Lord of the harvest will send forth reapers.”

—Bill Young
Dept. of Home Missions

The British Isles South District NWMS held their 25th convention in May. Thirty-eight South District missionaries have served on Nazarene mission fields since 1952. An anniversary cake was baked by Miss Olive Stephens of Oldham. The candles were lit by Mrs. J. B. Maclagan (r.), widow of the former district superintendent. There have been only two district NWMS presidents in the 25 years, Mrs. Maclagan and the present president, Mrs. Stanley Grace (l.).

Of People and Places

Gary W. Morris, an attorney in Los Angeles, has been selected as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. Mr. Morris is a graduate of Pasadena College (Point Loma College) and Loyola University Law School.

He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Harold W. Morris, district superintendent of the New Mexico District. He is a member of Pasadena First Church and the Alumni Board of Point Loma College, in addition to several civic organizations. He is married to the former Jan Young, and is the father of two daughters.

Mr. Vic Sommerfeld of the Saskatoon, Saskatchewan church has been awarded a Queen’s Jubilee Silver Medal in recognition of community service. Mr. Sommerfeld was elected reeve of the rural municipality of Corman Park in 1970, after serving eight years as a municipal councillor. He has been active in community groups including the Saskatoon Board of Trade, and the University of Saskatchewan extension department. He represents the third generation of Sommerfelds in municipal politics.

Mr. Sommerfeld also serves in the local church as chairman of the Board of Trustees and Finance Committee, and was treasurer for many years. He has served on several district boards over the years and is currently serving on the District Board of Home Missions, Canada West District, and District Board of Church Properties.

Lonnie Dale Hendrix was graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, May 31. He was graduated from the Academy with a B.S. degree in civil engineering and commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Air Force. He will be assigned to Williams Air Force Base, Ariz., in the Civil Engineering Department.

Lonnie is a member of the Twin Falls, Ida., First Church. Prior to entering the Academy, he attended the World Youth Conference in Switzerland. Lt. Hendrix is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Hendrix of Twin Falls, Ida.

Sunday, July 2, the Muncie, Ind., First Church surprised their pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Robert J. Shuff, with a “Bob Shoff Day,” honoring 38 years of service to the Church of the Nazarene. Letters, tapes, gifts, phone calls, and personal appearances of old friends highlighted the morning service, followed by a dinner for members and friends in the Fellowship Hall. The celebration was climaxed by a praise service in the sanctuary.

Dr. Ray Lindley will replace Mr. Bernard Seaman as chairman of Lower Division for Northwest Nazarene College.

Lindley is currently principal of Davis High School in Yakima, Wash.

Lindley, a 1966 graduate of NNC, has previously served as assistant principal of Pasco High School in Pasco, Wash., and as a specialist in counseling and guidance for the State of Oregon Department of Education.

Aside from his A.B. degree in language and literature from NNC, Lindley has received his master’s degree in educational administration from Oregon State University in 1968 and his Ph.D. from Oregon State in 1973 in the field of guidance counseling.

Lindley and his wife, Barbara, have two children, Stephanie, 12, and Ray, Jr., 8.

John D. Patredis has been selected to the 1977 edition of Who’s Who in the Midwest. He is a 1970 graduate from Bethany Nazarene College, with a B.S. in psychology and sociology. He is also a 1974 graduate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, with an M.A. degree in guidance and counseling.

He is presently minister of counseling and single adults at Dallas Central Church of the Nazarene, Dallas, and provides a Christian counseling service for the Dallas area.

September 1, 1978
Disaster—Opportunity to Witness

It was about ten o'clock on a Saturday morning. I was pastor of East Terrell Hills Church of the Nazarene in San Antonio, Tex. My church bus driver and I were in our recently acquired bus as we were canvassing Converse, a nearby suburb of San Antonio, to establish a bus route.

As we were driving into Converse, we happened to pass the fire station. We noticed stretchers with patients on the floor of the station. There were emergency vehicles coming from around the corner. I said, “Ken, we’d better pull across the street and stop, and I’ll go and see if I can help.”

After we stopped, we walked across the street to the fire station. Ken stopped outside. I went in, and upon introducing myself to the nurse in charge, I asked if I could help. She pointed to a man on a stretcher near us who seemed to have the most severe injuries and said, “This man is going into shock; would you talk with him?” I did, and had prayer with him. He seemed somewhat relaxed and I moved on to another stretcher. I witnessed to this man, who indicated interest and need, and consented to pray. After prayer, I asked him if his need was met. Having received an affirmative answer, I moved on to another man.

Again, I witnessed and prayed. I turned to another man and as I looked down at him, something didn’t seem right to me. I turned to the nurse and whispered, “Is this by any chance a mock-up disaster?”

She said, “Yes, it is.”

I said, “Tremendous, and I just prayed with three.”

The nurse thanked me for stopping and, red-faced to match my red hair, I said, “You’re welcome.” I excused myself, and Ken and I left.

I do not know what happened to the men to whom I witnessed. I do know that if the opportunity should arise for me to help again in a real disaster or accident, I would stop and do my best, that by all means someone might be saved.

Editor’s Note: I can well imagine the embarrassment Brother Moyer felt, but I so appreciate the love and zeal he evidenced that I felt the account would challenge us all to be alert to opportunities for witness. The “disaster” was a mock-up, but the witness and prayers were real. Who knows what God may have done through them!

“By All Means... Save Some”
NEW CHURCH BEGINS AT PILOT POINT
Services were held in a remodeled hardware store in Pilot Point, Tex., August 6, launching a new church. The building had been renovated by members of five nearby Nazarene congregations, converting the Gennings Hardware Store into a chapel and classrooms. A youth team from Amarillo First Church conducted a vacation Bible school during the summer.

The Church of the Nazarene has not operated a ministry in Pilot Point, the site of its beginning, since the closing and sale of Rest Cottage five years ago. From the proceeds of the sale, property was purchased adjacent to the corner where a memorial stone stands, commemorating the merger of three holiness groups in 1908 to form the site and possibly a museum, housing documents and articles of interest to Nazarene history. —NCN

MACKEY TO NASHVILLE
Trevecca Nazarene College announced that William MacKay of Kansas City has accepted the post of assistant to the president, and director of college communications. He will begin his new assignment September 1.

Bill MacKay has been employed at International Headquarters, Church of the Nazarene, in Kansas City for six years. He has served as office manager for the Board of International Publications (formerly the Spanish and Latin language division) of the Nazarene Publishing House.

He is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College and has been pursuing studies at Kansas University toward a Master of Arts degree. He and his wife, Karlene, have one son, David. —NCN

SCOTT STEARMAN JOINS COMMUNICATIONS STAFF
Paul Skiles, executive director of the Department of Communications, announced the addition of Scott Steaman to the staff of the department, effective September 1. He will be in charge of video productions and will supervise videocassette production and resources in behalf of other departments. In addition, he will be a member of the television broadcast staff team.

Scott and Hermine (Spencer) have been married for two months and have just returned from a honeymoon in Swaziland. They are alumni of Bethany Nazarene College. He is currently employed by Channel 13, KETA, in Oklahoma City; previous experience includes work at Channel 5, also in Oklahoma City.

Scott is the son of Rev. Sam Steaman, minister of pastoral care at the Bethany, Okla., First Church; Hermine is the daughter of missionaries Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Spencer of Swaziland. —NCN

ANNOUNCEMENT:
With the approval of the Board of General Superintendents and in consultation with the District Advisory Board, I have appointed Lorne V. MacMillan (presently pastor of Anderson First Church on the Northeastern Indiana District) superintendent of the Canada Central District effective September 1, 1978.

—EUGENE L. STOWE
General Superintendent

MACMILLAN APPOINTED SUPERINTENDENT OF CANADA CENTRAL
Dr. Eugene L. Stowe, general superintendent, announced the appointment of Lorne V. MacMillan to be district superintendent of the Canada Central District, effective September 1. He will succeed Rev. Neil Hightower, who resigned to accept the presidency of Canadian Nazarene College, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Rev. Lorne V. MacMillan, who was born on Prince Edward Island, Canada, graduated from Eastern Nazarene College in 1953. He was ordained in 1955. All of his pastorates have been on the Northeastern Indiana district. He organized what is now Marion Lincoln Boulevard Church; then he pastored Muncie Sunny South, Peru, Auburn, and Winchester churches. He has been pastor of Anderson First Church for two years. Lorne and Joyce MacMillan have two sons.

ROY LYNN TO BAKERSFIELD
Roy F. Lynn has accepted the call to join the staff of Bakersfield, Calif., First Church as minister of music and Christian education. His first Sunday will be September 10.

Roy and his wife, Carolyn, have been married 15 years and have three children; Calvin, 14; Donna, 11; and Rhonda, 9 years old.

Roy has been working at headquarters for the last four years as an editor in the Department of Youth Ministries. Prior to this he had served churches in Florida, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio as a staff minister.

Mr. Lynn is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College with his degree in religious education and music. He also has his M.A. degree from Wright State University plus graduate credit from Nazarene Theological Seminary. —NCN

BILL BURCH ELECTED IN NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA
The Northwest Oklahoma district elected Rev. Bill Burch of Long Beach, Calif., as its district superintendent, on the fourth ballot Wednesday, August 9. He will succeed Dr. Jerald Locke, who completed 15 years as superintendent and was not reelected.

Rev. Bill Eugene Burch is a graduate of Bethany Nazarene College and attended Nazarene Theological Seminary. He has pastored churches at Olathe, Kans., on the Kansas City district; Riverside Arlington, and Upland on the Southern California district; Eugene First on the Oregon Pacific district; and for eight years, Long Beach First Church on the Southern California district.

Bill and Janice have two sons and two daughters. —NCN

ITALIAN BROADCAST TO BE AIRED IN MONTREAL
Rev. Roy Fuller, district superintendent of the Canada French District, announced that Italian broadcast tapes from Rome will be broadcast on Radio Station CFMB, Montreal, each Monday evening at 8:30 following a direct language newscast which comes from Rome.

He further reports that the director of the Italian language broadcast in Montreal was very enthused over the quality of the Nazarene program. Rev. Fuller is getting materials ready in the Italian language for followup for this new radio ministry being offered in Montreal.

Roy and Nina Fuller enrolled in the Quebec Provincial Government language program, and are now at the sixth level of the seven-level program. He is preaching in French occasionally. —NCN
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