HERALD of HOLINESS

Going Higher '79

RALLY DAY-October 28
1 Million in Sunday School
"WHAT SHALL I GIVE THEE, MASTER?"

This question which was posed by the song writer could well be asked by every Nazarene as we approach the 1979 Thanksgiving offering for world evangelism.

There is a sense in which we should ask it every day of the year. Giving is an indispensable part of Christian living. The paying of our tithes on Sunday is just the beginning. Monday through Saturday should be characterized by continuous gift-giving. Certainly the giving of thanks should not be reserved for one day on the calendar. God's Word admonishes, "Let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name" (Hebrews 13:5, NKJB).

But just as important as the frequency of our giving is the appropriateness of our gifts—not just how often but how much. The key word is "sacrifice." Ancient Israel demonstrated gratitude by offering sacrifices of thanksgiving to the Lord (Amos 4:5). But all too often these ceremonial sacrifices were not really sacrificial.

King David set the standard of the true spirit of sacrifice when he was seeking a place to make an offering to God. One of his subjects named Araunah owned a threshing floor which would be an ideal location for the altar of sacrifice. He generously offered to donate all the facilities including the oxen to be sacrificed. The king's response is classic: "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which dost cost me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24). A sacrifice which costs nothing is no sacrifice.

The goal of $6,250,000 for the Thanksgiving offering will challenge the Church of the Nazarene to respond in the coin of sacrifice. Anything less will cast a serious reflection on the level of our commitment. Failure to meet this challenge could raise serious questions about our priorities.

Richard Batey, in his thought-provoking book, Jesus and the Poor (Harper and Row, 1972), comments: "The giving of alms began with the surrender of one's life. . . . True holiness was the acceptance of love as the final meaning of life: possessions could then be used compassionately" (italics mine). A truly sacrificial offering for world evangelism will guarantee that we have been liberated from the "tyranny of things." It will keep our goods from becoming our gods. It will demonstrate to the world a perfect love for God and for our needy neighbors.

Let us begin now to pray about our responsibility as individuals and congregations in this missionary endeavor. Never have the spiritual needs been greater. May our liberality go beyond anything we have ever done.

"What shall I give Thee, Master?" The best I can!

by General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe
Furlough time means many things to a missionary. There’s the thrill of reunion with family and friends. Dining under the “Golden Arches,” staring at the wonders of Disneyland, and sampling Dairy Queen delights are all pleasurable experiences of furlough. But furlough time should also be a time of spiritual enrichment as one again worships in his own language. His ears thrill to the beautiful music that floats upon them; his heart warms to the rich Christian fellowship he enjoys; and his soul reaches toward God in greater devotion and commitment.

My third furlough from missionary service in Papua New Guinea had been highlighted by just such experiences. I can say with David, “I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory” (Psalm 63:2, NIV).

My family and I had the wonderful experience of being united with a 20th-century “New Testament” church. I had grown up in First Church in Covington, Ky., on the Eastern Kentucky district. The church had seen great days in the past. It had had its good and bad times, but this year of 1978-79 has been a year like no other.

The statistics are impressive. In one year, the Sunday school average went from 118 to 211, with numbers now reaching over 250 in both Sunday school and morning worship. Ten new classes were added. A bus ministry was begun and averages 100 riders on the buses. NYI doubled in number with the organization of a youth choir. Teens on fire for the Lord made their witness felt in local high schools, resulting in morning prayer meetings and revival services, using the high school auditorium. Many teens were saved. NWMS gained 88 members and was a Star Society. Over 80 members were received into the church during the year. There was a $40,000 increase in giving, and all budgets were paid in full. Altars were lined again and again in services. Evangelistic teams were formed who went out during the week, winning people in their homes. Young people chained by the drug habit were delivered and alcoholics were transformed. Miracles of grace occurred again and again. Why did all this happen?

A group of people, united in love and dedicated to prayer, committed themselves to service and stretched themselves in faith. A young pastor, Rev. Larry Owsley, covered with the mantle of God’s presence, preached the Word in power and God came. We beheld Him in the sanctuary in His power and glory. When the Holy Spirit is in control, it’s a delight just to sit back and enjoy His beautiful presence. Every service was an exciting experience. You didn’t dare miss one, for you knew you’d miss a “spiritual happening.”

There’s nothing quite like sitting in the presence of God. Of course, it should be the rule, not the exception. My heartfelt prayer is that it will become the norm in our beloved Zion and, more specifically, that my “Jerusalem” of Papua New Guinea will also witness that Beloved Presence under the bamboos, in bush chapels, or stone edifices, wherever those called Nazarenes gather to worship God.

by CAROL ANN EBY
Papua New Guinea
HERE ARE two kinds of bundles—the known and the unknown,” said Dr. H. C. Morrison, speaking of the complete consecration of the life to God. The known is what we consciously consecrate. The unknown is all of the rest of what life holds in store for the future years. For most of us, the latter is by far the larger bundle of the two.

Yielding the known is most often the basis of the immediate struggle at the altar of consecration. God’s present will is often clearly understood just then, and Satan fights “tooth and nail” to keep one from surrendering to it. The stress over the unknown bundle is generally delayed until later. But when God opens it in the course of time, some of life’s most severe tests are realized.

The Heavenly Father, in His loving providence, may choose to take one partner of a happily married couple, leaving the other with a staggering sense of loss, and a gigantic question mark in the heart. “Why, Lord, when there are so many unhappy marriages, did you allow death to end this one? I don’t understand.”

Someone else may raise the question “Why do we have these financial losses when we have been so faithful in our stewardship? I’m confused.”

Another may ask “Why me, Lord? Why do I have this terminal cancer? I still have little ones to raise for You.”

Life’s questions become many and varied, and are weighted with a personal sense of loss and sorrow. Human logic is powerless to assure the grief and bewilderment resulting from such painful trials. But as the days come and go, so do life’s testing times. The unknown bundle yielded freely to God has the ingredients for many of these tests.

Sometimes a real internal struggle develops when new insights of what God requires are revealed to the soul. Is this normal? Will the truly sanctified know periods of unrest when God lovingly reveals things from the unknown and asks, “Son, Daughter, I still have little ones to raise for You.”

This is illustrated by an event in the life of the Savior. Scripture says of Jesus that He was the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8). Also, “I come to do thy will, O God” (Hebrews 10:9). The Son knew before the Scriptures were written, or ever time began, that He had to be the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53—our Redeemer. To fulfill that prophecy required Him to become a sin-offering (2 Corinthians 5:21). Yet Jesus, truly human as well as very God, struggled in prayer over the price that He must now pay to be that...
Suffering Servant. Thus He prayed, “Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done” (Luke 22:42).

Jesus was not deluded; neither was He unwilling. But just as we cannot know pain until we experience it, so He could not grasp the full price of obedience until He suffered (Hebrews 5:8). His human existence brought Him a fuller realization of what was involved, and the agony associated with it. The consequence of this was His impassioned plea in Gethsemane. The conflict was short, but intense. He as the hour drew near for His bundle to be opened by His Father.

Similarly, we come to grips with life, meeting what was once vague and elusive, but which has a way of becoming starkly real. And the struggle is painful. But it is not necessarily sinful or unchristlike. Someone has wisely written, “The struggle does not nullify the previous consecration or commitment. When the emotions and the will are in conflict, keep the will yielded and victory will come.”

A man and woman repeat marriage vows at the altar. They cannot then know all that life holds in store for them. Suffering, sickness, financial problems, or family complexities may be in their future. The blending of their lives over the years brings its share of differences. But these, as the couple convert past promises to a present reality, do not nullify their vows of fidelity made in time past. Far from it. The problems, if dealt with carefully and prayerfully, may actually strengthen their marriage. So also, one’s struggles, as God opens the unknown bundle, may reinforce the soul’s ties to God.

Several times God reached way down deep into Paul’s bundle of the unrevealed future. One day, Paul was stoned and believed dead at Lystra (acts 14:19). Possibly this is when he was “caught up to the third heaven” (2 Corinthians 12:2). Lest Paul “should be exalted above measure” by what had been revealed to him, God allowed this exaltation to be tempered with “a thorn in the flesh” (2 Corinthians 12:7).

Paul struggled over this thorn. Three times he asked for its removal by the God of whom Paul wrote that He “is able to do infinitely more than we ever dare to ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20, Phillips). God denied deliverance, but promised sufficient grace.

Paul’s expression of triumph over the painful intrusion of this thorn into his life is ours to claim today for our very own. We may wrestled in prayer and prayed through to victory. His distress here did not mean that He was not consecrated. Indeed this prayer, “Not my will but thine,” must have followed soon after that one which is recorded in John 17. In that prayer, He avows His full consecration to the Father (John 17:19). But His will did not falter, nor did His resolution weaken.

Jesus was not embarrassed (as too many times we are) because He was heavy in heart. Very openly He said to His disciples, “My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death . . . watch with me” (Matthew 26:38). Think of it! The eternal Son of God, desiring to pray with and needing the support of His fellowmen testify with him: “Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities [or whatever is in my bundle—if that's what it takes] that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Corinthians 12:9). We may also sing with the poet:

Oh, I have found it, the Crystal Fountain, Where all my life’s deep needs have been supplied; So freely flowing from Calvary’s mountain, And now my soul is fully satisfied.*

*The Crystal Fountain” by Floyd Hawkins. Copyright 1952 by Lillenas Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
IN A HEAP of unfinished projects and unfulfilled dreams lay my crumbled future hopes, there as a result of grim words just spoken by a serious young doctor. Outside the door of his comfortable office a phone was ringing and voices could be heard in the waiting room; but there would be no more normalcy for me. Life would change.

“What are my chances?” I asked, horror filling my heart.

“There isn’t any cure,” my doctor said.
I asked him to explain. “You have a disease which will progressively cripple you,” he answered. As he went on to tell me how it would also effect my speech and my swallowing and finally my breathing, I was filled with dread. “ALS is a nasty disease,” he summarized, his eyes moist. Tears crept down my cheeks.

“How long do I have?” I whispered. His answer was too unreal to believe. Life expectancy is three to five years. ALS stands for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, a disease which affects the nerve cells that control the muscles. It is sometimes called “Lou Gehrig’s Disease” because it caused his death. Approximately 2 of every 125,000 persons will develop ALS during a year. It is not a rare disease. In most cases ALS is a progressive illness which causes the patient to grow weaker as the disease becomes more severe. No cure has been found, but meanwhile we must believe that research will soon find this cure for ALS.

All this information was too much to take in at once. Shocked and unbelieving, I went home to sort things out; but unable to fathom the weight of such an indictment upon my good life, I cried, “It’s not true, it can’t be true.”

Reality soon told me I was in bad shape, however, and my body weakened and the knot in my chest tightened. It seemed like every pain or sign of atrophy was predicting my end. I pictured my young son starting high school without a mother, my foster daughter taken away from us, and I couldn’t bear the thought of deserting them. Thinking of my husband, I wondered if he would marry again after I was gone. My sadness grew more intense as I remembered my mother’s prayers for her grandchildren, and the thought came to my mind, “Maybe I won’t be around to pray for mine.” I had to face it; I could die.

Anger, depression, weeping—a shroud seemed to descend upon me. I prayed for God to minister to me, I questioned, “Why me?” I searched my Bible for hope and read books on healing; but God seemed far away. Soon my emotions weakened along with my muscles and I all but gave up hope.

“Go see a specialist,” friends advised. “Your doctor could be wrong,” they said. One of them knew a doctor in Boston, and made an appointment for me.
to go to the New England Medical Center, where a neurologist agreed to enroll me in their experimental program.

A team of noted neurologists were interested in me and I was able to begin to hope. Soon I was on my way to Boston. The drive couldn't have been scheduled for a nicer day, but during the long ride my fears multiplied and against my will everything seemed dismal and I lost the pleasure of the day God had prepared for me. Favoring my aching arm, I knew it was becoming increasingly useless. As we covered the miles a heaviness burdened me and I wondered, "How can I hope?"

"Are you OK?" my friend asked, her eyes meeting mine, then switching back to the expressway and the heavy traffic.

"I'm alright, just nervous. I hate all this," I knew it was not time to panic as I added, "Let's not talk about me."

"Almost there," she answered encouragingly.

Feeling cold, I hugged myself. Nothing seemed real except the pain in my arm. Speeding along, we were hedged between concrete and bricks and glass, a sight which usually filled me with an eagerness to go to the New England Medical Center, where a doctor who lives his prescription promised to give me a doctor who lives his prescription. "You look so good I am hopeful," he said, and I had to start hoping.

Encouraged my doctor so much he beamed with pride of me for not giving up.

As the days go by, with family and friends praying, my life has settled into a period of spiritual strengthening. There is hope for me through research and hope from God who is the Great Physician. How can I lose? Living within my limitations, I have learned to be happy; keeping a positive attitude, I feel free. Living by God's grace gives me peace of mind.

Some weeks after this initial appointment I went to Boston for another. My cheerful and positive outlook encouraged my doctor so much he beamed with pleasure.

"In spite of your added problems, I feel positive about you," he said. "You look so good I am hopeful." I knew he meant every word of this praise. He was proud of me for not giving up.

"Thank You, Lord," I prayed silently. "Thank You for giving me a doctor who lives his prescription. It's working for me too." □

Because my doctor is handicapped, he knew that a patient's will to live and the ability to maintain hope for survival are major therapeutic steps toward healing. He cautioned me not to think about the future, but to go home and continue to live a normal life. The tone of his voice forbade me to think ahead, but even more effective than his advice or his manner was his imprisonment in the wheelchair. As he shifted his useless legs to get more comfortable, I knew he was able to overcome his handicap because he had not given up hope.

Back in the car on the way home I felt God's loving arms around me. Reality told me there was no guarantee of being healed but nevertheless I wanted to risk this disappointment and to hope for the future. It would be futile to think crippled thoughts and I knew I couldn't give in to my weak condition. I decided to follow the doctor's example and become too busy to give up.

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This One, Too

Can You handle this one, too, Lord?
It's not a big problem
that would mess up my life
or anything like that—
It's just a little thing
that bothers me now and then
like a grain of sand
in my shoe and I always figured
it was too small to
bother You with—
But today I noticed that
I'm starting to limp—
Can You handle this one, too, Lord?

—DEBBIE KENDRICK
Kansas City, Missouri
Sibling rivalry is difficult to “cure” but it can certainly be treated. Toward that objective, let me offer three suggestions which should be helpful in achieving a state of armistice at home.

1. **Don't inflame the natural jealousy of children.**

Sibling rivalry is also at its worst when there is no reasonable system of justice in the home—where the “lawbreakers” do not get caught or if apprehended never face a trial. It is important to understand that laws in a society are established and enforced for the purpose of protecting people from each other. Likewise, a family is a minisociety with the same requirement for protection of human rights.

For purposes of illustration, suppose that I live in a community where there is no established law. Police men do not exist, and there are no courts to whom disagreements can be appealed. Under those circumstances, my neighbor and I can abuse each other with impunity. He can take my lawn mower and throw rocks through my windows, while I steal the peaches from his favorite tree and dump my leaves over his fence. This kind of mutual antagonism has a way of escalating day by day.

As indicated, individual families are similar to societies in their need for law and order. In the absence of justice, “neighboring” siblings begin to assault one another. The older child is bigger and tougher, which allows him to oppress his younger brother and sisters. The junior member of the family retaliates by breaking prized possessions of the older sibling and by interfering when friends are visiting. Mutual hatred then erupts like an angry volcano, spewing its destructive contents on everyone in its path.

Nevertheless, when children appeal to their parents for intervention, they are often left to fight it out among themselves. In many homes, the parents do not have sufficient disciplinary control to enforce their judgments. In others, they are so exasperated with constant bickering among siblings that they refuse to get involved. In still others, parents require an older child to live with an admitted injustice “because your brother is smaller than you.” Thus they tie his hands and render him utterly defenseless against the mischief of his bratty little brother or sister. Even more common today, mothers and fathers are both working while their children are at home busily disassembling each other.

I will say it again to parents: one of your most important responsibilities is to establish an equitable system of justice and a balance of power at home. There should be reasonable “laws” which are enforced fairly for each family member. For purposes of illustration, let me list the boundaries and rules which have evolved through the years in my own home:

1. Neither child is ever allowed to make fun of the other in a destructive way. Period! This is an inflexible rule with no exceptions.

2. Each child's room is his private territory. There are locks on both doors, and permission to enter is a revokable privilege. (Families with more than one child in each bedroom can allocate available living space for each youngster.)

3. The older child is not permitted to tease the younger child.

4. The younger child is forbidden to harass the older child.

5. The children are not required to play with each other when they prefer to be alone or with other friends.
6. Any genuine conflict is mediated as quickly as possible, being careful to show impartiality and extreme fairness.

As with any system of justice, this plan requires (1) respect for leadership of the parent, (2) willingness by the parent to mediate, (3) occasional enforcement or punishment. When this approach is accompanied with love, the emotional tone of the home can be changed from one of hatred to at least tolerance.

3. Recognize that the hidden “target” of sibling rivalry is you.

It would be naive to miss the true meaning of sibling conflict: it often represents a form of parental manipulation. Quarreling provides an opportunity for both children to “capture” adult attention. It has been written, “Some children would rather be wanted for murder than not wanted at all.” Toward this end, a pair of obnoxious kids can tacitly agree to bug their parents until they get a response—even if it is an angry reaction.

One father told me recently that his son and nephew began to argue and fight with their fists. Both fathers were nearby and decided to let the situation run its natural course. During the first lull, one of the boys glanced sideways toward the passive men and said, “Isn’t anybody going to stop us before we get hurt?” The fight, you see, was something neither boy wanted. Their violent combat was directly related to the presence of the two adults and would have taken a different form if the boys had been alone. Children will often “hook” their parents’ attention and intervention in this way.

Believe it or not, this form of sibling rivalry is easiest to control. The parent must simply render the behavior unprofitable to each participant. Instead of wringing their hands, crying, pleading or screaming (which actually reinforces the disruptive behavior and makes it worse), a mother or father should approach the conflict with dignity and self-control.

I would recommend that a modified version of the following “speech” be given to quarreling children, depending on the age and circumstances:

“Tommy and Chuck, I want you to sit in these chairs and give me your complete attention. Now you both know that you have been irritating each other all morning. Tommy, you knocked over the castle that Chuck was building, and Chuck, you messed up Tommy’s hair. Every few minutes, I’ve found myself telling you to quit quarreling. I’m not angry at you, because all brothers fight like that, but I am telling you that I’m tired of hearing it. I have important things to do, and I can’t take the time to be separating a couple of scratching cats every few minutes.

“Now listen carefully. If the two of you want to pick on each other and make yourselves miserable, then be my guests [assuming there is fairly equal balance of power between them]. Go outside and fight until you’re exhausted. But it’s not going to occur under my feet anymore. It’s over! And you know I mean business when I make that kind of statement. Do we understand each other?”

Would this implied warning end the conflict? Of course not—at least, not the first time. It would be necessary to deliver on the promise of “action.” Having made my intentions clear, I would act decisively the instant either boy returned to his bickering. If I had separate bedrooms, I would confine one child to each room for at least 30 minutes of complete boredom—no radio or television. Or I would assign one to clean the garage and the other to mow the lawn. Or I would make them both take a nap. My avowed purpose would be to make them believe me the next time I offered a suggestion for peace.

It is simply not necessary to permit children to destroy the joy in living, as expressed by the frustrated mother to Good Housekeeping. And most surprisingly, children are happiest when their parents enforce these reasonable limits with love and dignity.

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LONELINESS

Loneliness can be a dungeon
Within a prison wall;
Filled with gloom and bleak despair,
With troubles great and small.
But it’s a self-made prison
That opens from within.
How can a man be lonely
When there’s a world to win?
If shut away from contact
With other human lives,
Then lift your voice to Jesus
Who every need supplies.
Look up, and know that God is love;
For fellowship He yearns—
Rejoice, and share a brother’s need
And happiness returns.

—PEARL BURNSIDE MCKINNEY
Phoenix, Arizona
IT ALL STARTED for 25-year-old Manuel (Manny) Chavier, Jr., during the Christmas vacation of 1977. He was a junior at Olivet Nazarene College from New Bedford, Mass., student body director of the college missions program, and enjoying good health. Then it hit!

One day he was well; the next day he had difficulty controlling his own body. He couldn’t see or walk. Manny had been quite active in basketball and tennis. Now he couldn’t do even the simplest things for himself. He had been stricken with multiple sclerosis, the greatcrippler of young adults.

This disease attacks the brain and spinal cord. It interferes with the normal functions of the nerve pathways. The cause of the disease is unknown. No cure (humanly speaking) has been found for it.

When he was admitted to the hospital, he cried out in his soul. “Lord, what happened? I’m a student body leader, trying to serve You, then this. Why, Lord, why?”

God said, “Wait a minute! Are you working for Me or for yourself?”

Manny answered quickly. “OK, Lord, I want to live for You no matter what.”

He soon learned to put on a happy face, even though he hurt inside. Other patients would ask, “What’s wrong with him? He’s so sick, yet he can still laugh.”

Later, while visiting our church, he told us, “I began to feel that my life was over. If I couldn’t do the things I had been accustomed to, no one would even like me. I’d feel so low I had to look up to see bottom. Then God would give me a song in my heart.”

He couldn’t hold down any food so had to be fed intravenously. What few things he could see were in fours or sixes. He could not even sit up in bed. His roommate was most encouraging. He kept saying, “You’re gonna die!”

This constant goading served to give Manny some stiffening in his emotional backbone. He said to himself, “I’m going to show this kid! I’m going to pick myself up and walk.”

He soon discovered that what had to die was “self.” God must have the number one place in his life.

His father, a Nazarene minister, circulated the news of his son’s illness. Manny began to get long-distance calls from people he didn’t even know, assuring him of their prayers.

The doctors urged him to forget about walking or going to school. They told him, “We’ll start teaching you to use a wheelchair.”

Manny’s reply was, “OK, then I’m going to wheel for Jesus.” The devil rode in the wheelchair with him, whispering that he might as well forget about school, sports, and everything else he held dear in life.

His friends at college were heartsick when it was announced, “Manny’s not coming back. He has multiple sclerosis.” They kept contact with God, the Great Physician, in his behalf.

Manny told his nurses, “I don’t want this wheelchair. The Lord wants me to walk, and I will!” He was determined. From the wheelchair he advanced to parallel bars, to a walker, to polio crutches, to two canes, to one.

Everyone warned him to stay in bed, but he always replied, “No, I’ve got to go!” He began visiting other patients to minister to them. It gave him a lift to be able to help others.

God told Manny to take the patches off his eyes. He obeyed without question, testifying to the nurses about it, much to their amazement. He could see straight out, but not on either side. He cried with thankfulness, and was reminded that he needed to keep his eyes “straight” on Jesus.

Manny was dismissed from the hospital on Thursday. On Sunday he was in church, against the advice of his family. He did not wish to cause a disturbance, so slipped in quietly, but the entire congregation was aware of his presence.
When he got ready to leave, God told him to put away the cane, because he no longer needed it. Manny left the cane at the altar and walked out of the church unaided.

Each day his vision widened a little. On Monday he decided to shovel snow. He had always hated snow but now it looked beautiful. His astonished mother was sure he had lost his mind when she saw what he was doing.

Manny wanted a job instead of just sitting around the house. He called the school where he had taught before by special arrangement, and asked for a job. He did not tell them of his recent illness. He did, however, call his doctor, whose first reaction was, “Oh, no! You’re not going to get a job.”

That doctor had not reckoned with Manny’s God. He got the job teaching, of all things, sewing. He didn’t know a thing about sewing, but the Lord helped him to find out what a seam ripper is.

Next he wanted to drive. His parents and doctors tried to discourage him, but he prayed. “Lord, I can see, I can walk, and I want to drive.” He did not lose his driving privileges.

He decided it was time to resume his college career, so he called Olivet. Word spread quickly on campus, electrifying everyone. “Manny’s coming back!” Just two months after his ordeal began, he returned to classes. In his own words, here is his testimony:

“I’m happy and I shout, because I have a reason to live. I love Christ for what He did for me. If it happens again [the sickness], I’m still going through with Jesus.

“When they checked my eyes, only one eye changed. It got better! I had my eye doctor, neurologist, and the other doctors all saying, ‘We don’t believe it, but we see it.’

“I believe it because it’s of God. I’m here by God’s grace.”

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**PEN POINTS**

Military Chaplains: They Also Serve

Faces at Dau Tieng, Vietnam, headquarters of Army’s First Division, were grim on November 8, 1966.

The Big Red One’s 1st Battalion was under fierce Vietcong attack in War Zone C, northwest of Saigon, and casualties had been heavy. Helicopters were readied to airlift medics and troop reinforcements.

Into one of the “choppers” stepped boyish Chaplain Michael Joseph Quealy, who had grown up on Manhattan’s streets, dreaming of becoming a foreign missionary. Mike was not officially assigned to the 1st Battalion, but he insisted on going out with the first airlift to do what he could for the wounded and dying. Several senior officers told him it was too dangerous, but Quealy discounted the risk and a half hour later was on the battlefield, giving spiritual aid and comfort to dying soldiers.

As he bent over to console a wounded man, a VC leaped from the underbrush and cut loose with a machine gun. The 37-year-old chaplain died instantly. Beside his body, grief-stricken GIs found a diary. The last entry was a passage from the Gospel According to Matthew: “So will my heavenly Father treat you unless each of you forgives his brother with all his heart.”

Not all chaplains experience the risk or display the extraordinary heroism of Chaplain Quealy. But their job is far from routine, and over the years it has become more and more vital and skilled. From a kind of spiritual cheerleader, American chaplains have evolved into sensitive counselors, trained educators, skilled administrators and, above all, witnesses for values of the spirit in an often warring world. They need your prayer and your care.

—DAVID GROSSE

Maxwell AFB, Alabama

*Lt. Col. David Grosse is a Nazarene Chaplain in the U.S. Air Force.*
The Inevitable

In the forest nearby lies a huge wild cherry tree. Now trees are designed to stand upright and this one did for years, maybe two or three hundred of them, for it grew to be a giant. It has to be the biggest cherry tree, by far, that I ever saw. But now it is down, laying along the ground.

Time was when nearby trees cast admiring eyes upon its stature and beauty. Little trees wished, “I’d like to be like him when I grow up.” Half-grown ones measured themselves by his height and knew that they still had some growing to do.

Across the years his great branches nurtured forest life. Birds fed on the bitter, black fruits which he ripened, ferns found a home in the deep shade under the leaves, and his branches were highways for the fox squirrel. Stormy winds would rage at times through the wood, but with massive limbs he reached out and muted the gale and so sheltered his woodsy companions.

But though he stood there as a tower of strength ever so long, the day came when he fell! I walked aside from the path to where he lay to examine this noteworthy specimen.

From the angle of his fall I deduced the fatal storm to have come from the north—an unusual direction—and perhaps he was caught unawares. At least his roots appeared less developed on that side. And it was in his root system where the failure took place. The wind had placed such great stress upon the branches that the roots just hadn’t gone deeply enough and were torn loose.

With my two arms I could reach only a little more than halfway around the massive trunk. And when I paced off the length, I found he had grown a hundred feet tall! Now that’s some cherry tree! What a saw log it might have made. What lovely furniture could have been fashioned from the lumber. But it was to become neither lumber nor furniture for it went down before some storm and is today only an outsized pile of brush decaying on the forest’s floor!

A further melancholy observation was that when it went down it didn’t go alone. A small sugar maple grown halfway to maturity lies broken beneath its bulk. There is a sturdy red oak which, though it successfully resisted the force of the falling tree, will never be the same, for it bears a long scar where the bark was ripped from one side of its trunk when struck by the toppling tree. So one is destroyed and another irreparably scarred, to say nothing of the several saplings that were crushed.

Thus it is with influence. It can be good and uplifting, it can be bad and destructive. The greater the person the greater his potential for either. A thought that
should come with particular solemnity to the aging saint is that the longer one lives for Christ—all else being equal—the greater his capacity to bless or to blast. And, “Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

As my mind’s eye moves back over my developing years, I see a man who in a quiet way greatly affected my youth. He was actually just a common laborer, but to me he was a giant. “Steadfastness” is the word to describe him. He became my ideal of what a Christian should be. He was always at the church services, a supporter of pastors and all the program, ever gentle and kind, a man who knew both the worth of prayer and my name! I looked up to him as a lad, and now in my memory he is still a hero.

I wonder what might have happened to my faith—and that of some others in our little church—had he gone down before some storm? Would I have fallen too? If not, might I be bearing some scars on my faith as the result of his failure? He didn’t fall, he stood the tests of life and finished his course as an outstanding example and inspiration.

Charles Simeon of Cambridge hung a picture of his friend and former student Henry Martyn in his study. The picture became more than a picture. Reverential admiration would grip his heart whenever he looked upon the face of the dedicated missionary. His biographer says that he would declare, “There! See that blessed man. No one looks at me as he does. He never takes his eyes off me, and seems to be saying, ‘Be serious! Be in earnest! Don’t trifle! Don’t trifle!’” Then smiling at the picture he added, “And I won’t trifle, I won’t trifle!” His monumental scholarship is evidence of the fact that he didn’t.

What an awesome thing, to deeply affect the life of another! And none of us can escape that—even if we would! One can no more walk in the sunlight and cast no shadow, than live a life without exerting decisive influence on another.

Boreham tells of David Hume seeing his mother in her old age utterly disconsolate. He remembered the days of his boyhood when that mother had told him the story of Jesus and taught him to pray. But now his skepticism had ruthlessly destroyed her faith. He saw her grey head bowed in anguish and he bowed his own in remorse. He would have given his life had he been able to unsay the things he had said, but he couldn’t. For there are no back moves in the greatest games of all. What he said remained said, and she went to her grave with her faith gone.

Each of us moves through life leaving a trail. We have no choice in it. But it is given to us as to what we leave in our wake. We can make it a trail of darkness and destruction. Or we can be as Stevenson’s old Scottish lamplighter, who in the gathering dusk walked down the streets of Edinburgh, and “wherever he went, he always left a light behind him.” □

If a trip through the checkout stand at your neighborhood supermarket gives you a pain, try to imagine what it’s like to pay the paper stock bills at Nazarene Publishing House. The cost of paper used in at least 10 out of the 70 periodicals that NPH prints, increased $23,910.94 in one year. So when you receive that copy of Standard or Senior High Insights, you’re holding food for the soul that is about as expensive as that T-bone steak you wish you could afford.
THE LANTERN OF HOPE

by C. D. HANSEN
South Bend, Indiana

An old man who lived in a desert wasteland of Arizona had the only good well of water in the entire area. Each evening he would light a lantern and hang it high on the post outside his cabin for travelers. Some thought the old man was crazy to waste his precious oil. Nevertheless, night after night, the little lantern beamed its ray of light across the desert darkness.

Late one night, in the middle of summer, a faint knock sounded at the old man’s cabin door. He opened the door to find a weary traveler almost dead from lack of water.

The exhausted traveler had seen the glimmer of hope cast by the lighted lantern, and with his last ounce of energy he had made his way toward it in hopes of finding water. Because one man had cared enough to light a lantern every night, another man’s life had been saved.

Actually there is a picture of life here. Our world is filled with darkness, much of it caused by a lack of hope. Amidst this darkness Satan holds up the light of sin, offering pleasure to a seeking world. He makes each pleasure seem more exciting than the last. But because sin never satisfies, life’s traveler keeps moving toward the next mirage. Each time he is disappointed—that which he desperately seeks to slake his thirst continually eludes him.

But almost two thousand years ago, from an ugly cross jutting toward a dark Jerusalem sky, Christ lit His lantern of hope for a world groaning under the load of sin. It has spanned the centuries, lighting the way to God. And like a laser beam, it cuts through the sham of Satan’s illusive message.

In language that is both appealing and arresting, Jesus said, “But whoever drinks the water that I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14, NIV). Hence, the life-saving water of salvation is freely offered, bringing hope to the hearts of the hopeless.

But there is a catch to all of this. It is not enough that Christ died and was resurrected; or that He lit the lantern of hope at Calvary. He needs you and me, like the old desert dweller, to be lantern keepers who will send the rays of the gospel into the wasteland of sin, so a thirsty world can find the springs of living water.

Annie Johnson Flint caught the spirit of the faithful lantern keeper in these succinct, searching words:

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work today;
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how He died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to His side.

The storm had not yet broken with all its fury when I knelt by the sofa asking the next week at our district assembly.

God to protect my husband and son while kneeling, I sensed a still small voice whisper, “My child, it is good to see you on your knees, who were driving home from a neighboring state.

The television station had just announced tornado warnings. I knew some of the danger areas were where my family would be traveling, pulling a trailer which contained the missionary display to be used the next week at our district assembly.

While kneeling, I sensed a still small voice whisper, “My child, it is good to see you on your knees. You have talked to Me several times today, asking Me for guidance, but you were so busy you never gave Me time to commune with you.”

I stopped praying for a moment, examining my
day. It had been a busy day, a day entirely spent working for the Lord.

I had set aside my household duties, preparing for the coming missionary convention. Throughout the day I had talked to God, seeking His direction and will. I had prayed and worked—worked and prayed.

A loud clap of thunder startled me and I realized the storm was closing in. It was then I became aware of what had brought me to my knees—the storm.

Forgetting my childish fear of storms I began to pray, “Thank You, God, for the storm. It brought me to my knees.” Then I took time to listen to God. We had fellowship together—not just the one-way conversation I had during the day.

The storm began to lash out with great fury and I rose from my knees to close the door and keep out the rain.

I stood a moment in the open doorway, watching the storm and pondering what I had just experienced, comparing it with my life.

I have been blessed with many days of sunshine and happiness and have always praised God for them. But it has often been the storms of life that have brought me to my knees.

While the tempest raged, I waited and listened for God’s answer. He drew near, spoke to me, and we enjoyed blessed, sweet, communion.

“Thank You, God, for the storms of life. Sometimes they seem difficult, but it is usually then I take time to listen and draw near to You.”

The storm began to subside and in a few minutes I saw my family safely coming in the driveway. While we were sharing our experiences, I glanced out the window at a gorgeous rainbow—shining in all its glory.

Dashing out on the front steps we gazed at its beauty—beauty so radiant it made the storm seem far away. The air smelled sweet and fresh after the rain, and my soul felt refreshed and clean from the blessed time of communion with God.

Behind us was the storm—overhead stood the rainbow. I thought of God’s covenant and I knew the covenant I wanted to make with God. In my heart I prayed, “O Lord, no more waiting for the storms to bring me to my knees.”

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PATTERNS

by Mary E. Roberts

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City

To order, see page 23.
THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING

The goal for our Thanksgiving offering is $6,250,000. The amount is challenging but not intimidating. More challenging, and even threatening, are the soaring costs of maintaining our missions throughout the world.

In the United States, we have galloping inflation. Some countries where we have mission work have jet-propelled inflation. You can’t hear hoofbeats, just a high-intensity hum as the costs streak upward. Add to this factor the declining value of the U.S. dollar on the world currency market, and you soon realize that our missions program is in between a rock and a steel wall.

Nazarenes, we have the message a perishing world desperately needs to hear. We have a dedicated and heroic group of men and women willing to serve human needs in other lands. Our responsibility—and high privilege—is to get the two together. The bridge between needy world areas and eager young missionaries is built of consecrated money.

Does it seem like a huge sacrifice? Let us remind ourselves of the costliest bridge-building project in human history. Sin was an earthquake that opened a great chasm between God and humanity. It could be bridged only from God’s side. All man’s efforts fell woefully short. But God bridged the chasm by the sacrifice of His only Son. Calvary reconciled us to God, but what a price was paid!

In the light of the cross of Christ, $6,250,000 doesn’t seem like much.

What shall we do?

First of all, think about it. Reflect upon the dire needs which our mission work is designed to meet. Then pray about it. God knows what you ought to give, and He can be specific—disturbingly specific—about the amount you should contribute.

Next, get blessed. Remember Calvary!

Then give, and we shall have $6,250,000 for missions.

THE MINISTRY OF THE LAITY

I stepped out of a motel room and spotted a green card on the ground. It was covered with neat printing beside a series of numbers. Being naturally curious, and being opposed to litter, I picked it up. To my surprise, it was somebody’s notes for a message on “The Importance of Lay Leadership.” To this day I don’t know whose, but I want to share the outline with our Herald family.

1. The secret of the Christian church has been the response of ‘laymen’ to ministry!
2. Christ chose to build His kingdom through people who would obey Him.
3. He calls each person who is a Christian to ‘ministry.’ Each has a particular ‘ministry’ or ‘service’ to fulfill.
4. The perpetual question is: ‘Will we obey Him and be equipped for leadership in His church? Will we equip our youth to find places of leadership?’
5. The real hope of the Kingdom and our future rests in the willingness of us all to obey and follow!

6. This is a ‘basic’ of the New Testament.”

Whether there was more to the outline I do not know. But what I found seems to me a very basic and pressing message on the subject.

Too often the laymen’s responsibility has been stereotyped and restricted to (1) agreeing with the preacher, and (2) paying the bills, and (3) attending the services. Vast resources of talent, skill, and experience have gone untapped, often because pastors were uninformed or insecure.

Laymen need to be challenged and equipped and used in every form of ministry by which the Lord can reach the lost, build His church in the faith, and extend the influence of righteousness through all levels of society. All of us together constitute the people of God, the laos, which is the New Testament term for people in its original language. The outline is right—our future depends upon the willingness of all to obey and follow the Lord in ministry.
In the United States, we have galloping inflation. Some countries where we have mission work have jet-propelled inflation. You can't hear hoofbeats, just a high-intensity hum as the costs streak upward.

AN OBEIDENT PEOPLE

What is the distinguishing characteristic of the people of God? What is their birthmark? The answer is obedience.

Israel was poised on the border of Canaan, ready to cross the Jordan and possess the land of promise. In his farewell address to them, Moses said, “Be silent, 0 Israel, and listen! You have now become the people of the Lord your God. Obey the Lord your God and follow his commands and decrees that I give you this day” (Deuteronomy 27:9-10, NIV). To be God’s people means to obey God’s will.

This same truth abides for the new covenant people of God, the church of Jesus Christ. Writing to the Christians in Asia Minor, Peter said, “You are a chosen people . . . Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God . . . ” This affirmation of their peoplehood is followed by a strong insistence upon obedience to God. They are urged to “abstain from sinful desires” and to “live good lives.” Then a code of ethics is given which is to govern the Christian’s relationship to the world, to civil authorities, to those with whom he works, and to those with whom he lives (1 Peter 2:9—3:8, NIV).

This same connection between peoplehood and obedience had been expressed by Peter earlier in the letter. “As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy’” (1:14-16, NIV). God’s children are to be distinguished by obedience to His Word and will. And this also means nonconformity to the world.

There is no substitute for obedience.

King Saul tried to substitute religious rituals for obedience to the plain command of God. He made his disobedience sound so logical! But Samuel, stubborn prophet of the Lord, brushed the king’s excuses aside and said, “Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king” (1 Samuel 15:22-23). No one is exempt from obedience for any reason, not even the king!

When Jesus came to be king, Satan tempted Him to interpret sonship to God as privilege rather than responsibility. He tempted Him to become another Saul, arguing that what you have power to do, you have a right to do. “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” But Jesus knew that sonship meant obedience, and He replied, “It is written, ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God’” (Matthew 4:1-4, NIV). There is no substitute for obedience, not even miracles! And none are exempt from obedience, not even the Son of God!

We do not become the people of God by obedience, but by faith. His mercy saves us, and not our works. But when we have become His people our lives are to be governed, not by personal whims, not by social customs, not by popular opinions, but by the word God speaks to us in the Scriptures. Our identity and security as the people of God is bound up in this issue of obedience. And our continuing usefulness as His people is likewise bound up in obedience. No substitute for it, no exemptions from it!

APOLOGY

I have received letters from three missionaries in South Africa, insisting that a statement relating to that country in a recent editorial was erroneous, misleading, and damaging.

Deferring to the judgment of these, my brothers, I extend herewith an apology and retraction. In keeping with my policy of not hiding apologies in fine print, I offer it here on the same editorial pages where the offending statement occurred, painful though it is to do so.

Let me take this opportunity, also, to remind readers that “Standpoint” is personal opinion and not official policy. No one except the editor should ever be held responsible for any statements appearing on these editorial pages.
As I sit in my cell looking back in the past, I wonder how many others have lived as I have, have lived only to search for where and to whom they belong. Only God knows, so prayerfully I tell my story, in hopes He will use it.

My name is Donald Patterson, and I was born in Beckley, W.Va. on September 7, 1948. I was an only child. My mother knew the Lord, but only after she found she was dying from leukemia. I was about three then and as I look back over my childhood, I cannot remember what the love of parents felt like. I wanted my parents to love me, but I never believed they could love me when I did not achieve. If I made a "C" in school, fell asleep in church, or responded too slowly to Dad's call, I knew I was unworthy. I remember when we got the word that Mom had died. I received a lot of love that day.

I went to the streets at age 12. We were living in the city near the military post where Dad was stationed. There I found someone to belong to, the crowd. In a short time, however, I was sent to live with a family in Georgia. I was accepted, but not loved. Still seeking my place in this world, I quit school at 13, and moved to Miami. There I worked in a service station for an uncle. There I found the things of the streets, drink, sex, and my first arrest, all at 14. As a minor, I was released and left the state. Again there was need for money, and people and places to spend it on. Still there were more feelings of emptiness and more questions: Was this all there was? Was I not a man? Why was I so alone? When even my family treated me as a man, I was still "Donnie" inside. I needed more, but what!

At 15 I applied for induction in the Army, and three weeks after I was 16, I was inducted. In my testing I scored high. Had I not lacked a high school diploma, I would have qualified for Officer's Candidate School. Regardless, I had finally found the PLACE. I BELONGED! Or had I, and did I?

At 17 I married a beautiful German girl, Kirsten, who in the next three years bore me two beautiful children. Now I had a family, I had a uniform, now I had to belong. Still I had to search; I was still empty. Rank didn't come as I felt it should. I bought more and more possessions, until I was financially extended. On paper it all worked out, but at the end of each month bills went unpaid. I spent more and more on parties and night life. I lost everything twice. I felt the world was cruel and had it in for me, so I began to strike back at the world. I went AWOL, and when put in the stockade, escaped, only to be caught. I was discharged as "undesirable" at 19. At 20, in another financial squeeze, I had passed some forged checks, and was running from the FBI. I now lost the car, house, furniture; I went to prison; and my wife divorced me. In January of 1969, I last saw my children. Kirsten has since remarried, and I have spent over seven and one half years of my life in prison.

I have been paroled twice, and in September of 1976, I escaped again from an outside work detail here at the Atlanta Penitentiary. Full of hate, and knowing that I had to get to another country to find happiness, I robbed several banks and numerous other places. I then bought an aircraft and made plans. But in March of 1977 I almost died physically, and did die spiritually. I was shot by the FBI and critically wounded. There in the beautiful sunshine, on the green lawn of Owen's Field in Columbia, S.C., God began to work in my life. With the blood which ran from my body, "I" also began to drain back into the earth from which I came. My hate stopped. I still could not ask Him personally to help me, and to keep me alive, but in His infinite grace He did!

The world which had wronged me didn't change, but "I" did, and life wasn't so bad. As He guided the hands of my surgeons, He also guided the next weeks of my life. He brought a chaplain from the hospital to talk to me, and to water the seeds of truth in my struggling spirit. He gave me guards and nurses in the hospital who cared for me, though I had been one of the "most wanted" men in the Southeast. Later, in jail, He sent me juveniles who needed someone to care and to put it like it is. Thus far I know of none who have returned to jail.

Now over a year later, I have given up my aircraft, which was my only possession left and my most loved, for restitution. I have had all of the legal cases disposed of. I have my life in order, and have found that I am special. I now love as I am loved. I now accept as I am accepted. I am special, loved and accepted by God. I now am being blessed again, for after my complete submission He has called me to preach His gospel. He answers my prayers daily, and is forming me each day to be more Christlike. He has given me a ministry here in this prison so full of need and opportunity that I especially praise Him for the opportunity to be here, and to have suffered my pain in this life. He has given me His whole church to be my family, and His image to be my goal.

I don't know when I shall be released. I am eligible for parole as I write this, but I have no urge to see the Parole Commission yet. God's grace is sufficient, and His Spirit will tell me when my work here is done, and I am ready to leave. His Spirit leads me daily, and on Him I shall wait, anxious for nothing. I haven't a lot of physical possessions now, but I have my Savior. I am full, for He fills me each day anew with His wonders and love.

Deliverance

"...I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." (Psalm 50:15)
This collection of 141 songs will have a welcome place in your home. Featuring such gospel notables as Bill Gaither, Andrae Crouch, Dallas Holm, and many more, LORD OF ALL has the rich sounds of the familiar as well as the new. It's yours, FREE of charge, when you select gifts of music from this catalog.

WHEN YOU ORDER $10 OR MORE ON THE SPECIAL MUSIC ORDER FORM (See page 21).
Here's a giant folio of 100 songs that are at home on any piano, organ, or music stand. A glance at the index convinces that this is a book of all-time favorites covering a broad scope of music from the standards and sacred, to gospel and contemporary. It's a collection that families will treasure, as will soloists and church music directors. These sheet music-size pages are the Best of Lillenas and include: "His Love," "Ten Thousand Angels," "Love Is Why," "The Bond of Love," "'Til the Storm Passes Over," "He Giveth More Grace.

SONGS FOR ONE OR TWO

Lillenas is happy to present this outstanding compilation of 100 new and well-loved solo and duet arrangements. Here are songs that reflect the contemporary, gospel, classical, and the ever-popular Scriptures set to music. This treasury includes: "For Those Tears I Died," "Give Them All to Jesus," "Walkin' Sinai," "Eternal Life," "Tough Love," "Shoutin' Love," and "Something Worth Living For." Chord symbols for guitar and bass have been added to the piano accompaniment. The attractive plastic "lie-flat" binding makes this volume easy to use, as well as being an ideal source of solos and duets.

MB-448 $6.95

THE GOLDEN HYMNBOOK

This is a gift buyer's special—an impressive 8½ x 11½" songbook that has everything: 132 best-loved hymns and 11 Christmas carols; large print; heavyweight paper; wearable Kivar cover with plastic "lie-flat" binding. It's just the selection to present to senior citizens, to the family, to just about anyone who enjoys the "good old songs" of the church.

MB-381 $4.95

SCRIPTURES TO SING

Singing God's Word is a worship experience that believers of all ages should enjoy. The Holy Scriptures come to life in a new and personal way in this collection that combines the best of the older hymns, with brand-new music. All selections are taken directly from Scripture, or are based upon a paraphrase. They are arranged in four parts, with guitar chords. Featured composers include Otis Skillings, Ralph Carmichael, Andrae Crouch, Tom Fettke, Charles Wesley. The scriptural content of the 123 numbers is reinforced by inclusion of the songs' background biblical passage or reference. 128 pages; plastic "lie-flat" binding. A two-record album of 39 of these Bible verse songs provides good listening as well as an opportunity to sing-along on a special split channel arrangement.

MB-439 Book $2.50
L-7205 Double Album $7.98
L-7205C Book/Album $9.45

A gift of music will make the heart SING

Music will be a welcome gift in every home this Christmas. To Christians, the songs of faith serve as daily reminders of God's love, and care. Whether it comes from stereo speakers, an old parlor right, or from the happy heart of a believer, music is a priority item on everyone's Christmas gift list.

- RECORDS for family member, the pastor and church staff, a witness to unsaved friends.
- A HYMNAL for someone special, to use at church or for personal quiet time.
- MUSIC BOOKS for family togetherness, for that piano student who enjoys picking out familiar melodies, for the church musician, and for just about anyone else who has a song in their heart.
AN EXCEPTIONAL GIFT ITEM

JOYSPRING
Give the young on your gift list 103 of today's happiest songs by Bill Gaither, Andrae Crouch, Mosie Lister, and a host of others. Arranged in four-part harmony with guitar chords, this book contains the songs that the young of all ages want to sing. Included are: "Holy, Holy," "Learning to Lean," "I'm Gonna Keep on Singing," "We Have Come into His House." Modern graphics and the use of scripture passages enhance the message of many songs. Also available is a two-record album of 40 songs from the collection. The split channel arrangement makes it possible to use the record for accompaniment or listening.

WORSHIP IN SONG and KJV BIBLE
Here is a deluxe devotional duo for the special people on your gift list. The saddle brown leather Bible and matching hardbound Nazarene hymnal come boxed in a beautiful presentation box. Pastors, Sunday school teachers, and others will receive this gift package with excitement and then will use it with appreciation.

SING WHILE YOU GROW
New songs for preschoolers and primary boys and girls make this collection a natural to share with parents and children's workers. The 63 original songs by Claude and Carolyn Rhea are related to scripture and to real-life situations. Some of the titles are: "Always First," "Bragging," "Clean and Neat," "Getting Even," "Hypochondriac." Tough cloth covers and colorful, memorable illustrations make this a wonderful Christmas gift. Doubling the pleasure of SING WHILE YOU GROW is the matching album. All of the songs in the book are included on the record, with voices on one channel and instruments on the other. Voices may be tuned out for sing-along use.

OTIS SKILLINGS PIANO
"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"; "Jesus, I Love You" Medley; "He Is the Way, He is the Truth, He is the Life"; "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"; "The Bond of Love"; and others.

ADORANCE
RICK POWELL Orchestra
"Victory in Jesus"; "I'll Fly Away/When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"; "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"; "Jesus Loves Me"; "Kum Ba Ya/God Is So Good/He Is Lord"; "Blessed Assurance"; "What a Friend"; "The Old Rugged Cross"; and more.

RECORD ALBUMS
FOR THE SOUNDS OF FAITH

SING WHILE YOU GROW
All 63 titles from Claude and Carolyn Rhea's book Sing While You Grow are on this quality record. For children, and all those who minister to them, this album is a happy blending of catchy music and practical truth. A unique feature of the record is found in its split channel format—the voices are on one channel and instruments on the other. The voices may be tuned out for sing-along use.

JOYFUL
OTIS SKILLINGS ORCHESTRA
"Lord, We Praise You"; "All That Thrills My Soul"; "Ten Thousand Angels"; "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"; "It Is Well with My Soul"; "Now Walk with God"; "All Hail the Power"; and more.
JOYSPRING!
40 songs, including: "All Day Song"; "Because He Lives"; "Faith Is like a Child"; "Gentle Shepherd"; "Goin' to Build My Life"; "Hallelujah! I'm One of His!" "Happiness Is Following Jesus"; "He Has Surely Borne Our Sorrow"; "His Banner over Me Is Love"; "Holy Holy".

TA-7228 Double Album $7.98
TA-7228 8-track Tape $8.95
TA-7228C Cassette $8.95

SCRIPTURES TO SING
39 songs, including: "Seek Ye First"; "Behold. He Cometh"; "2 Corinthians 3:18"; "Psalm 19"; "Bless His Holy Name"; "Let the Words of My Mouth"; "Clap Your Hands"; "I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord"; "We Are the Light of the World"; "The Trees of the Field"; "Thou Art Worthy"; "O Come, Let Us Sing"; "Can't Wait Till He's Here"; "Worthy Is the Lamb of God."

L-7205 Double Album $7.98
TA-7205 8-track Tape $8.98
TA-7205C Cassette $8.98

THE COURIERS...LIVE!
(double album)
"I Sing the Mighty Power"; "Happiness Is Following Jesus"; "I'm the Lamb"; "Rise and Be Healed"; Medley—"There's Something About That Name. He Touched Me. Family of God. Let's Just Praise the Lord. The King Is Coming. Battle Hymn of the Republic"; "Country Church"; "For Those Tears I Died"; "Statue of Liberty"; "Empty Hands"; "The Lord's Prayer"; "How Great Thou Art"; "Because He Lives"; and more.

L-7134 Stereo Album $10.98
TA-7134 8-track Tape $11.98
TA-7134C Cassette $11.98

A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
TEMPO SINGERS

L-7026 Stereo Album $6.98

BY MY SPIRIT
TEMPO SINGERS

L-7084 Stereo Album $6.98

CHRISTMAS ALIVE!
20 songs, including: "[I Know Now]"; "No Longer a Baby"; "A Thousand Candles"; "My Christmas Gift"; "Mary. Sing Alleluia"; "Beautiful Saviour"; "Stranger in the Straw"; "What Did You Say Was the Baby's Name?"; "Some Children See Him"; "Messahmas Carol"; "Let All Mortal Flesh"; "I Wonder as I Wander"; "Burn. Candle. Burn."

L-9001 Double Album $7.98

CHRISTMAS ALOHA THE HAWAIJANS
"Mele Kalikimaka"; "Gesu Bambino"; "Gloria"; "Bells" Medley; "Medley of the Manger"; "Some Children See Him"; "This Little Child"; "O Holy Night"; "Silent Night".

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“Average” is a mediocre term that lumps everything together in kind of a bland arrangement. “Average” is a statistical term that indicates a middle or central tendency which takes into consideration all of the highs and lows and finds a midpoint.

Such a term as “average” or “ordinary” is certainly not very productive when applied to the Christian life. A call to discipleship is always a call beyond the commonplace or average. We already have too many “average” Christians. We need more Christians with an intensity of purpose and a dynamic of life which demonstrates to a lost world that knowing Christ in a personal way really does make a difference.

There is a decided difference between being a follower of Christ and a disciple of Christ. Thousands followed Him in His year of popularity, but the disciples were the inner core who stuck with Him clear to the Garden of Gethsemane and then recovered to follow Him after the Resurrection.

Christ’s call to you is a call to a higher level of discipleship than the average or commonplace. It is a call to the “inner circle.” While Christ was on earth only 12 could be in the inner circle, but now anyone can enter this privileged position who will respond to the call to discipleship.

Becoming a real disciple means following Christ into a deep commitment and dedication to prayer, concern, and service. It means involving yourself in the hurt of the world. It means going forth, touched by His hand, commissioned by His voice, and empowered with His presence so that you can perform what will seem like miracles to others.

There is certainly not much personal satisfaction or sense of fulfillment in being one of the crowd—satisfied with a mediocre existence vaguely described as “doing as well as anyone else.”

The thrill of following Christ is in the heroic, challenging life that asks no quarter and expects none—a life that risks all and counts not the cost. This is dynamic discipleship—a long way beyond the average.

Becoming a Whole Person

To follow Christ into this more meaningful discipleship means becoming all He has in mind for you to be—a whole person.

POINT TO PONDER: How can I stir myself from lethargy to committed discipleship?

Thank You, Lord, for Your gift of autumn,
The feel and touch of the shortening days,
The air so still I can hear the whisper
From painted hills of a song of praise.

Thank You, too, for the autumn flowers,
For panoramas of flaming trees,
For nights that sparkle, for days that shine
With skies the color of summer seas.

Thank You, Lord, for the golden harvest,
For big machines bringing in the sheaves,
For the crisp delight of a shiny apple,
The acrid sweetness of burning leaves.

And thank You, Lord, for Your gift of love
Made mellower by the autumn touch,
For hand-held walks in the filtered sunlight,
For silent worship that means so much.

And thank You for the peal of church bells
Ringing the Indian summer air,
For comfort known and hearts made whole
Though one is missing who once was there.

Yes, thank You, Lord, for this lovely season
For things remembered and yet all new,
And all we ask as the leaves drift by
Is keep us all, Lord, close to You.
PEOPLE AND PLACES

Mark Eppler, son of Rev. and Mrs. John W. Eppler, received his Ph.D. (Cell Biology) from Purdue University in May. The major part of his undergraduate training was at Olivet Nazarene College, but he completed his B.A. requirements at Alaska Methodist University.

He is now a postdoctoral fellow at a University of Minnesota research facility in Austin, Minn., where he investigates relationships of cell membranes to cancer and atherosclerosis. He and his wife, Holly (Creasman), and their 19-month-old son, Eric, live in Austin.

BOARDMAN RESIGNS YOUTH POST

James H. Boardman resigned his position as director of Early Youth Ministries, Department of Youth Ministries, to return to Olivet Nazarene College to complete his graduate work. Mr. Boardman came to the International Headquarters on October 15, 1975, serving as junior high editor for the Department of Church Schools. During the reorganization of the church in the 1976 General Assembly, his office was moved to the Department of Youth Ministries where he has served as director of Early Youth Ministries.

Mr. Boardman's former areas of ministry include director of day care services in Fort Wayne, Ind., and youth minister in the Fort Wayne, Ind., church. During his ministry in Indiana he was elected district president of the NYI’s for the Northeastern Indiana District.

Mr. Boardman graduated from Olivet Nazarene College in 1969 with a B.S. degree in religious education. He returns to the school to pursue his graduate work and serve as an assistant instructor.

Mrs. Boardman is a member of the staff of the Department of Children's Ministries, serving in nursery and toddler curriculum. The Boardmans will make their home in Kankakee, Ill.

CHRISTIAN LIFE EMPHASIZES TRAINING

August 30-31 the Division of Christian Life sponsored a meeting of an ad hoc committee on training. The objective of this Training Task Force was to establish the framework for the new training emphasis of the Division of Christian Life for the coming quinquennium. In reaching this objective, the group made recommendations concerning a new training format, innovative training tools, and constructive workshop situations (Teaching-Learning Conferences).

The Task Force members, who represented a broad spectrum of laymen and clergy in our denomination, included:

- Dwight Douglas, general director of Christian Life Training and Task Force chairman; Richard L. Spindle, executive coordinator, Division of Christian Life;
- M. A. (Bud) Lunn, executive director of Publication;
- Miriam Hall, executive director, Children’s Ministries;
- Herb McMillan, youth pastor, Bradenton, Fla., church;
- June Cole, director of evangelism, Grove City, Ohio, church;
- Don Whitlock, associate in administration and Christian education, Seattle First Church;
- Dr. Lilburn Wesche, director of teacher education, Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Id.;
- Dr. Tom Goble, pastor and district Christian Life chairman, San Diego University Avenue Church;
- Stan Wilkins, assistant superintendent of schools, Altamont, Kans.;
- and Don Neal, director of Christian education, Colorado Springs First Church.

The results of this committee’s efforts will be seen in future training programs and tools which will be geared to specifically meet the needs of local teachers and Christian Life leaders. By next summer's General
Assembly, several new individualized training packets and video cassettes will be available for local and district use. The Teaching-Learning Conference (TLC) program will be available to every district for intensive weekend training sessions aimed at training teachers and administrators in curriculum usage, classroom technique, and leadership development.

With the vision for evangelism and church growth, the Division of Christian Life is accepting the challenge and the mandate to make training happen in the Church of the Nazarene in the 1980s.

Shown (l. to r.) are: Don Whitlock, Gene Van Note, June Cole, Miriam Hall, Wilma Snowbarger, Clara Olson. Not pictured are Bud Lunn, Tom Goble, Herb MacMillan, Don Neal, and Stan Wilkins.

JAMAICA DISTRICT YOUTH CAMP A SUCCESS

A record-breaking crowd of 108 Jamaican teens participated in youth camp this summer at the beautiful Mount Forest Bible Camp Grounds in Manchester, Jamaica.

One of Jamaica’s own young people, Mark Lawrence, served as camp director. Mark felt that this year’s camp was not only a time of good fellowship but a special time of meeting with God. Mike Estep, of the Department of Youth Ministries in Kansas City, was the camp speaker. He brought challenging messages throughout the week.

This was not only the largest camp in Jamaica’s history, but many believe it to be the best. According to sports director Elijah Wright, this is partly because of the high level of interaction and cooperation among the campers. Although these are important, the camp succeeded because of the Holy Spirit’s presence in each service of the camp.

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Hartford City, Ind., First Church proclaims June 10, 1979, as JOH N WEI St day. John Weist had just completed 25 years as Sunday school superintendent and was starting his 26th year. Pastor Daniel S. McNutt (L) presented a mantel clock to John, a gift from the congrega tion in appreciation for his service. Letters of commendation were read from Dr. Bruce Taylor, district superintendent of the Northeastern Indiana District, and Carl Greek, district chairman of Christian Life.

FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

AKRON—Floyd O. Flemming, 7810 Lakefield St. N.E., Louisville, OH 44541

Thanksgiving Program Ideas

Compiled by Grace Ramquist

Why not plan a special program this Thanksgiving season from the recita tions, songs, readings, drama, and other material in these two booklets? It is graded for nursery through adult and suited for PTA and school pro grams as well as the church. You will need three copies: one for the director and two to clip.

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MISSOURI—Arthur E. Mottram, 4557 Harvshire Dr., St. Louis, MO 63126

NEBRASKA—Thomas Cox, Box 1468, Cambridge, NE 69001

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NORTHEAST INDIANA—Bruce T. Taylor, 2122 Valley Ave., Marion, IN 46952

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA—Grady Cantrell, 3000 Citrus Circle, Suite 106, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

NORTHWEST— Walter Lannan, 14510 N. Gleneden Dr., Spokane, WA 99208

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WEST TEXAS—Gene Fuller, Box 6650, Lub­bock, TX 79419

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INTRACONTINENTAL ZONE I

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BRITISH ISLES SOUTH—T. W. Schofield, 196 St. Helens Rd. Bolton, BL3 3JD England

MIDDLE EUROPEAN—Richard Zanner, 6 Frankfurt 50. An der Nachtw eide, West Germany

 MOZAMBIQUE LIMPPO—Simeon Mbnza

 MOZAMBIQUE MAPUTO—David W hitehead, P.O. Box 48, South Africa

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 REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE—Gilberto Evora.

 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA—David Whitehead, P.O. Box 48, Florida, Trans­vaal, 1710 Republic of South Africa

 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA SOUTH EAS­TERN—Frank Mncina, P.O. Box 199, Carolina TVL 1185, Republic of South Africa

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**DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

The 74th annual assembly of the Northern California District met in Hayward, Calif., with District Superintendent Grady Cantrell, completing the first year of an extended term, reporting.

Dr. Eugene J. Slowe was the presiding general superintendent.

Elders: Elda Freeborn, Tom Floyd, and James Shaw were elected to the Advisory Board. Laymen elected were Ray Jackson, Paul Price, and Galen Wilcox.

Mrs. Wilma Shaw. NWMS president; Rev. Rick Savage, NYI president, and Rev. Ken Coit, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

**ILLINOIS**

The 36th annual assembly of the Illinois District met at the Decatur, Ill., West Side Church. District Superintendent James E. Hunter, completing the second year of an extended term, reported the organization of the Springfield, Ill., Abundant Life Church.

**INDIANAPOLIS**

The 54th annual assembly of the Indianapolis District convened at the District campground in Campby, Ind. District Superintendent John F. Hay, completing the second year of an extended term, reported.


Elders Ralph Lee, R. B. Acheson, and Garland Johnson were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Mrs. Hardin was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Dennis Apple was elected NYI president, and Rev. Ralph Lee was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

**VIRGINIA**

The 65th annual assembly of the Virginia District met at the District Center, Buckingham, Va. District Superintendent Reedford L. Chaney, completing the second year of an extended term, reported two new churches, the Arlington Korean and Seven Mile Ford.

Dr. William M. Greathouse, presiding general superintendent, ordained John Perkins and Ronald Shingleton.

Elders James Bearden, C. L. Thompson, and Carl Sherman and laymen Larry Cox, J. E. Fox and Harry Triby were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Reelford L. (Barbara) Chaney, NWMS president; Rev. Ernest C. Lewis, NYI president, and James M. Bearden, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

**GEORGIA**

The 65th annual assembly of the Georgia District was held in Macon, Ga. District Superintendent Jack H. Lee, completing the first year of an extended term, reported.

General Superintendent George Coulter ordained John R. Lightfoot and Sharon Burke (Continued on page 26)

ATHIE, DICK: Bloomfield, IA (First). Oct. 2-7; Ottumwa, IA (First). Oct. 9-14; Decatur, IL (Tent). Oct. 22-28.


BAKER, RICHARD: Lizemores, WV. Oct. 1-7; Walton, WV. Oct. 3-7; Weirton, WV (First). Oct. 30-Nov. 4.


BENDER EVANGELISTIC PARTY: Toledo, OH (First). Oct. 2-7; Cincinnati, OH. Oct. 9-14; Las Vegas, NV (First). Oct. 16-21; Huntington, WV (First). Oct. 23-28; Fort Devens, MA (Base Camp Meeting). Oct. 31-Nov. 4.

BUCKLES-BURKE EVANGELISTIC TEAM: Toledo, OH (First). Oct. 2-7; Chicago, IL (First). Oct. 9-14; Louisville, KY (First). Oct. 9-14; Nashville, TN (Benson Memorial). Oct. 28-Nov. 4.


BROOKS, EDWARD & JUNE: Coeur d'Alene, ID (First). Oct. 2-7; Kalamazoo, MI (First). Oct. 9-14; Louisville, KY (First). Oct. 16-21; Huntington, WV (First). Oct. 23-28; Fort Devens, MA (Base Camp Meeting). Oct. 31-Nov. 4.


BUCKETT, GRENVIE: Columbus, OH (First). Oct. 2-7; Cambridge, OH. Oct. 9-14; Columbus, OH (First). Oct. 16-21; Lexington, KY (First). Oct. 28-Nov. 4.


Buczek, A. M.: Kalamazoo, MI. Oct. 5-7; Kalamazoo, MI. Oct. 12-17; Kalamazoo, MI (First). Oct. 24-29; Portage, MI. Oct. 30-Nov. 4.

Buckley, RAYMOND: Lebanon, OR. Oct. 9-14; Lynnwood, WA. Oct. 16-21; Myrtle Point, OR. Oct. 23-28; Mount Shasta, CA. Oct. 30-Nov. 4.


BUEHLER, ROY: Oklahoma City, OK (First). Oct. 9-14; Oklahoma City, OK (North). Oct. 28-Nov. 4.


NOTE: The evangelist’s sprints are printed in the Herald monthly.
The full directory is published quarterly in the Preacher’s Magazine.
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By Reuben Welch
Life-relating, Jesus-centered thoughts from Second Timothy by a widely accepted speaker concerning our personal development as Christians. 104 pages. Paper. $2.95

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By Gene Van Note
Beautifully expresses the Christian view of death and the glorious hope and anticipation of being ushered into the presence of God. 80 pages. Paper. $1.95

Go Tell It
By Shenwood Elliot Wirt
Here is a choice selection of some 40 free-verse-style poems by the now retired but yet active editor of Decision magazine. 64 pages. Paper. $1.95

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By Alice J. Kinder
Warm-hearted glimpses of life in the Kentucky hills through one who shared his faith by both word and deed. 120 pages. Paper. $2.50

The Autumn Years
By Pauline E. Spray
Advice, inspiration, challenge, and optimism on how to approach, adjust to, and enjoy retirement to the fullest. 136 pages. Paper. $2.95

Toward His Image
By Audrey J. Williamson
Meditations from Romans 5:2 in which Mrs. Williamson probes into problems of daily living, lovingly applying the truths of God's Word. 52 pages. Paper. $1.50

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Elected to the Advisory Board were elders B. J. Garber and John Moles, and laymen Martin Cherry and A. H. Motley. Mrs. James C. Hester, NWMS president; Rev. Tom Daniels, NYI president; and Rev. B. J. Garber, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions. DALLAS

The 71st annual assembly of the Dallas District met at Dallas First Church. District Superintendent W. M. Lynch, completing the third year of an extended term, reported a new church in Athens.

General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Bill Bray, Bruce Schooling, and Ulysses C. Griffis.

Elders J. Lewis Ingwelt, Leon Martin, and W. M. Dorrough; and laymen J. David McClung, Ariess Wilson, and Ralph Randall were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Betty Lynch was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Geoffrey Gunter was reelected NYI president; and Rev. Jay Bybee was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

KANSAS

The 70th annual meeting of the Kansas District was held at Wichita. Kans. First Church. District Superintendent C. Marcelle Knight, completing the third year of an extended term, reported a new church at Syracuse, Kans.

Mrs. Orville W. Jenkins, presiding general superintendent, ordained Carl Craig, John Sipes, Gregory White, and David Wightman, and recognized the credentials of Lilly Finkenbinder. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Leon Jennings, Gene Williams, and Charles Pickens; and laymen Dwight Sauer, Don Bird, and Marvin Snowball.

Mrs. Betty Knight, NWMS president; Rev. Lyle Curtis, NYI president; and Rev. D. Eugene Simpson, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

NORTHWEST INDIANA

The 37th annual assembly of the Northwest Indiana District convened at South Bend, Ind. District Superintendent George Scott, completing the second year of an extended term, reported.

General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Michael O. Bright and William S. Kidd, Jr. Elders Carlton Hansen and Everett Robertson, and laymen Bud Gobie and Theren Evans were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Kay Scott, NWMS president; Rev. Stephen Gladding, NYI president; and Rev. Oscar Sheets, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

KANSAS CITY

The 55th annual assembly of the Kansas City District met at the Olathe, Kans. College Church. District Superintendent Milton B. Parrish, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

Presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse ordained James G. Cooper, Donald Dunn, Dennis Krumlauf, William C. Manning, Maxie Harris III, and David Wilson. He recognized the credentials of Rev. William G. Martin, Jr., and commissioned Mr. Mickey Cox as Minister of Christian Education.

Elders Howard Borgeon, Gordon Wettore, Paul Cunningham, and Richard Young were elected to the Advisory Board. Laymen elected were Leland King, W. C. "Bud" King, Howard Hamlin, and Frank Rice.

Mrs. Milton B. Parrish, NWMS president; Rev. Leon Skinner, NYI president; and Joseph Biscock, Jr., chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

SOUTH ARKANSAS

The 27th annual assembly of the South Arkansas District met at Little Rock, Ark. First Church. District Superintendent Thomas M. Hermon, completing the first year of an extended term, reported.

General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Jim Armstrong.

Elders Dallas Hudspeth and Joe Lee Tompkins, and laymen I. L. Stivers and C. R. Sawrie were elected to the Advisory Board.

NWMS president Mrs. Thomas M. Hermon, NYI president Dave Smith, and chairman of the Board of Christian Life Charles L. Kirby were all reelected.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The 37th annual assembly of the South Carolina District convened at the Columbia Inn. Columbia, S.C. District Superintendent D. Moody Gunter, completing the second year of an extended term, reported a new church at Batesburg, S.C.

Dr. George Coulter was the presiding general superintendent.
Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Harold M. Liner and Harry Wideman, and laymen J. B. Hucks and Oscar B. Pullen.

Rev. Nina G. Gunter was reelected NWMS president. Rev. Raymond L. Dow was reelected NYI president; and Rev. Harry Widener was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

WISCONSIN

The 44th annual assembly of the Wisconsin District met at Madison. Wis. District Superintendent Ted Holstein, presently serving by appointment, was elected for one year. He reported two new churches, the Racine Community Church and the Eleva Church.

Presiding General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Ronald Miller and Errol Webb.

Elders Laural Matson and David Sorell, and laymen Alton Goerlitz and Harold Flom were elected to the Advisory Board.

Rossette Brunner, NWMS president; Laural Matson, NYI president; and Don Budd, chairman of the Board of Christian Life, were reelected to their respective positions.

MOVING MINISTERS

DAVID W. AASERUD from Bangor, Me., to Syracuse (N.Y.) Community

EDWIN ABLA from Hastings, Neb., to Decatur (Ill.) First

CALVIN R. ALEXANDER from Preston, Conn., to Indian Head, Md.

VANE M. ANDERSON from Clarksville, Ark., to Horsehoe Bend, Ark.

C. ANN ANDERSON from evangelism to Apoka (Fla.) Calvary

DONALD K. ALT from Evanston, Ill., to Chicago (III.) Hickey Springs

KENNETH R. FRAZIER from Sweetwater, Tenn., to Three Rivers, Mich.

RICHARD DEVENDORF from Woodsville, N.H., to Three Rivers, Mich.

HAROLD DеПОTT from Macon (Ga.) to Shelby, N.C.

EDWIN A. BLAIR from Hastings, Neb., to Decatur (IIl.) First

DAVID W. AASERUD from Bangor, Me., to Syracuse (N.Y.) Community

GLEN L. KELL from Grafton, Colo., to Sioux Falls, S.D.

HAZEL KINCAID from student, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., to associate, Memphis (Tenn.) Friendship

DENNIS KNIIGHT from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, to Regent, N.D.

RICHARD E. KNOOLE from student, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., to associate, Memphis (Tenn.) Friendship

JOHN A. KURZ from student, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., to associate, Memphis (Tenn.) Friendship

JOHN W. DAVIS from Pekin (III.) to Shreveport (La.) Huntington Park

JOHNNIE L. DEMPSEY from from student, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., to associate, Memphis (Tenn.) Friendship

DAVID FALK, Swaziland, New Appointee, Field Address: P.O. Box 14, Manzini, Swaziland, Africa

DON L. HARDING, Swaziland, New Appointee, Field Address: P.O. Box 3, Simbithi, Swaziland, Africa

HORACE CONRAD, Costa Rica, Furlough Address: 9150 Kenwood Dr., Spring Valley, CA 92121

DAVID FALK, Swaziland, New Appointee, Field Address: P.O. Box 14, Manzini, Swaziland, Africa

WASHINGTON

ROY EDWARDS from Fairfax, Okla., to Blossom, Tex.

DONALD K. AULT from Chicago (III.) Hickory Springs


THOMAS SCHATZLINE from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to White River, S.D.

HOLLIS RODGERS from student, Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill., to associate, Memphis (Tenn.) Friendship

JERRY HOLLOWELL from Edgewood, Tex., to Mena, Ark.

JOHN B. LAUNCH from Irving (Tex.) to Virginia Beach (Va.) First

RAYMOND MILLARD from Rock Springs, Wyo., to Butte, Mont.

J. MELVIN MILLER to Longview (Tex.) First to Three Rivers, Mich.

HARRY L. HEMSWORTH from Kent (Wash.) First to Little Rock (Ark.) First

KYLE LONG from associate, Carthage, Mo., to Jamestown, N.D.

R. D. McCVEY from West Branch, Mich., to evangelism

MONT MILLER from Fruitland, Wash., to Butte, Mont.


JIM REEVES from Pecs, Tex., to Pilot Point, Tex.

JUDITH CLARIDGE from Jubilee, Mo., to Stratford, Iowa

WARD A. COTTRELL from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to Butte, Mont.

JERRY HOLLOWELL from Edgewood, Tex., to Orangeburg, S.C.

MARVIN M. WOODHOUSE from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to Butte, Mont.

DAVID W. AASERUD from Bangor, Me., to Syracuse (N.Y.) Community

H. R. ROBERTS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, to Butte, Mont.

WILLIAM PATTON from Salem, Mo., to Terre Haute, Ind.

HARRY WIDENER from 2506 52nd Ave., Kalamazoo, Mich., to Fort Wayne, Ind.

NORMA WILSON, Swaziland, Furlough Address: P.O. Box 15, Glens Fork, KY 42741, or call 502-384-2897.

DONNA SUTTLES, Papua New Guinea, Furlough Address: 6610 Brooklyn Ave., Kansas City, MO 64111

CARL ROMEY, Brazil, New Appointee, Field Address: c/o Mr. Rex Tudrun, Caixa Postal 5165, Curitiba, P. R. Brazil 80000

R. B. SAVILLE, Hong Kong, New Appointee, Field Address: Ho King View, 2 Braemar Hill Rd., Flat 4-B, Hong Kong

JOHN SLUTTER, Ecuador, New Permanent Address: Casita 4934 CCI, Quito, Ecuador, South America

DONNA SUTTLES, Papua New Guinea, Furlough Address: 6610 Brooklyn Ave., Kansas City, MO 64111

DAVID W. WALKER, Papua New Guinea, New Field Address: Nazarene Mission Tabubigua Bag, Via Mount Hagen, W.H.P., Papua New Guinea

JERRY WILSON, Dominican Republic, New Field Address: c/o Louise Bultie, Apartado 1819, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

NORMA WILSON, Swaziland, Furlough Address: 423 Ronalds St., Iowa City, IA 52240

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Friendship Church, near Fort Jassup, La., will celebrate its 50th anniversary October 28. Special services will be held morning and afternoon. Former pastors, members, and friends are invited. For further information, contact Pastor Joe Holliday, Rte. 1, Box 39, Rebelle, LA 71465.

The Clearview Wash., church will observe its 45th anniversary and dedication of the new church October 28. The dedication service will be at 2:30 p.m. with District Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Vogt speaking. Pastor Nels Nelson and the congregation invite former pastors, members, and friends to attend and/or send greetings and current addresses. For further information may be obtained from Rev. Nels Nelson, 17220 State Highway 5, Snohomish, WA 98290.

The Glens Fork, Ky., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Sunday, October 28. All former pastors, members and friends are urged to attend the all-day services. Dinner will be served following the morning service. For further information contact: Pastor Charles Tone P.O. Box 15, Glens Fork, Ky. 42741, or call 502-384-2997.

Paris, Ill., First Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary October 21. Pastor Jonathan Sparks and the congregation invite all former pastors, members, and friends to attend and/or send greetings, old photographs, and current addresses. To send items of interest or for more information write: Rev. Jonathan Sparks, 1102 Marshall St., Paris, IL 61944.
RECOMMENDATIONS

It gives me pleasure to recommend REV. DONNELL ARMSTRONG as an evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene. For five years he served as pastor on the Tennessee District. God honored her ministry, the congregation doubled, finances tripled under her leadership. She maintained an evangelistic fervor and effectiveness during her pastoral ministry. Now, commissioned as an evangelist, she is available full-time for revivals, conventions, etc. I am happy to commend her to our pastors and churches. She can be contacted at Rte. 1, Box 231, Dover, WV 26554, Phone (304) 367-0331.—M. E. Clay, West Virginia district superintendent.

This is to recommend REV. MRS. JOYCE HUGHES as an evangelist. For five years she served as pastor on the Tennessee District. Her family ministers with him and they provide the music. Contact him: Rev. Donnell Armstrong, Rte. 9, Box 464-K, Fairmont, WV 26554. Phone (304) 367-0331.—M. E. Clay, West Virginia district superintendent.

I recommend DAVID WELCH to all of our churches. He is entering the field of song evangelism and has some meetings scheduled this fall. He is an excellent singer, is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College, and has served as music director in several churches. He may be contacted at his address: 815 Heather Dr., Bourbonnais, IL 60914; or by calling 815-939-0323.—Forrest W. Nash, Chicago Central district superintendent.

REV. AND MRS. C. G. BOHANNAN, after 10 years as pastor at Eletteville, Ind., Zion Church, are entering the field of evangelism as evangelist and singers. Rev. Bohannan is an able preacher and soul winner, and Mrs. Bohannan plays the organ and piano. They are talented and spiritual. I recommend them wholeheartedly for conventions, revivals, camps, etc. They may be contacted at 420 S. Curry Pike, Bloomington, IN 47401. Phone (812) 332-4289. —B. G. Wiggs, Southwest Indiana district superintendent.

REV. DOLORES MELVIN, Route 1, Greenup, KY 41144, is now recovering from surgery and is able to resume her schedule of revival meetings. She and Wilma Hale, preacher and singer, are excellent evangelists and I recommend them wholeheartedly to our people everywhere.—John W. May, Eastern Kentucky district superintendent.

Evangelists may be reached through the Department of Evangelism’s toll-free number, 800-821-2154.

VITAL STATISTICS

MRS. MAXINE BROWN SUCCUMBS

Mrs. Maxine Brown, 50, wife of Roger Brown, Nazarene song evangelist, died August 31, at her home in Bourbonnais, Ill., after a 15-month battle with cancer.

Mrs. Brown traveled extensively with her husband, singing and conducting song evangelism as the group consisting of the Browns and their two sons was known as the Roger Brown Family singers. Her final major public appearance was during the Pittsburgh District camp meeting in early August.

The Browns had traveled together in song evangelism since 1962. They celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary August 24.

Funeral services were held September 4 in Kankakee, Ill. First Church Pastor John J. Hancock officiated, assisted by Evangelist W. E. Varian and Forrest Nash. Chicago Central District superintendent.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three sons, Roger D., Curtis A., and Brian K.; and two daughters, Sharon and Theresa.

REV. SCHNEIDER DIES

Rev. Albert Schneider, 80, a Nazarene minister for 64 years, died August 22 in Kankakee, Ill., after a short illness. He pastored at Georgetown, Ill.; Chicago Northside for 15 years; Vincennes, Ind.; First Church; Columbus, Ind.; and after retiring in 1964 he moved to Sarasota, Fla., where he pastored the Venice, Fla., church, until moving to the Kankakee area in 1973.

He was a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College and served with the army in France during World War I. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, the former Beatrice Rosnett; a daughter, Wanda; and two sons.

Funeral services were conducted in Kankakee First Church August 25 by Pastor John J. Hancock, assisted by Rev. Forrest Robbins, director of senior adult ministry. Interment was in Chicago.

PIONEER PASTOR AND EVANGELIST DIES

Rev. E. Homer Land, 72, died in Rifle, Colo., August 20.

He has suffered a heart attack two years ago while conducting a revival in Louisville, Ky., which took him out of the active ministry.

Rev. Land’s father, Rev. Hope Land, was one of the founding fathers of the church who met at Pilot Point, Texas, in the early years; Vincennes, Ind., First Church; Columbus, Ind.; and after retiring in 1964 he moved to Sarasota, Fla., where he pastored the Venice, Fla., church, until moving to the Kankakee area in 1973.

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CENTENARIAN DIES

Mr. Otto C. Ludwig, 102, went to be with the Lord on July 30. He was the uncle of the late Dr. S. T. Ludwig, former general secretary of the Church of the Nazarene. He was the 12th of 13 children; saved while a boy under the ministry of the German Methodist Church.
ETHEL C. KING, 83, died July 28 in Yucca Valley, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. William D. Mowen and Rev. Thomas G. Spiker. She is survived by her husband, Elva; 3 daughters, Dorothy, Betty, and Margaret; 2 sons, Clair and Jerry; 13 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

MR. VIRGIL L. CARTER, 46, died July 16 in an accident near Alva, Okla. Funeral services were conducted in the Oklahoma City Oakcliff Church by Rev. Leon Hendrix, Wendell Paris, and M. L. Turbyfill. Survivors include his wife, Carol; three children, Lee, Lori, and Leslie; his mother; one brother; and three sisters.

MILDRED E. DURIGG, 82, died July 26 in Columbus, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted at the Wadsworth Church by Rev. Roy O. Watson and Rev. Philip Torgerson. Interment was in Armstrong Mills, Ohio. She is survived by three sisters, Rose Winland, Beulah Marie Perry, and Winifred Reffert.

GARLAND FLEMING, 67, died April 4 in Shawnee, Okla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Leland Watkins. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; one daughter; and two grandchildren.

ERIC "RICKY" GADSBURY, 18, died Aug. 6 in a car accident in Clifton, Ariz. Funeral services were conducted in Visalia, Calif.; by Rev. Phil May and Rev. A. D. Grany. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Marilyn and Alvin Gadbury; one brother, Harold; one sister, Desiree; one step-sister, Theresa; and his grandparents.

GEORGE H. JONES, 86, died Aug. 27 in Richmond, Va. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Charles Thompson, Ron Shingleton, and Tim Taylor. He is survived by his wife, Annie Lee; two daughters; and one son.

IRA "TURKEY" JONES, 87, died July 14 in Warren, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Keith Martin and Rev. Paul Hayman. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Cora Westbrook Jones; two sons, Ralph and Maurice; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

IRENA TAYLOR MONTANDON, 86, died Aug. 17 in Ephrata, Pa. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. William D. Mowen and Rev. Thomas G. Spiker. She is survived by her husband, Elva; 3 daughters, Dorothy, Betty, and Margaret; 2 sons, Clair and Jerry; 13 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Anderson.

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MISS MARIE K. WOLF, 86, died July 24 in East Liverpool, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Oval Stone. Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Elmer (Grace) Skelton and Mrs. Carl (Christine) Green.

BIRTHS
- to LARRY AND ANNETTE (BURTON) BODINE, Choctaw, Okla., a girl, Helen Jonette. Aug. 5
- to KENNETH AND VIRGINIA (FOGLE) BOWLING, Akron, Ohio, a boy, Michael Paul. June 12
- to DENNIS L. AND LYNDIA (AKINS) BURGER, Tyler, Texas, a girl, Misty Dawn. July 5
- to DANIEL AND ELIZABETH (MOORE) BYLER, Oklahoma City, a girl, Penny Dawn. Aug. 5
- to JIMMY AND GLORIA (MCGUIRE) CARLSON, Warsaw, Mo., a girl, Jennifer Anne. July 29
- to DEWAYNE AND BENITA COFFMAN, Minneapolis, Kans., a girl, Jolie Summer. June 21
- to JAMES K. AND HELEN FARGO, Bremerton, Wash., a boy, David James. Aug. 10
- to ROBERT AND MICHELLE FISCHER, New Windsor, N.Y., a girl, Jessica Lynn. Aug. 10
- to REV. NORVILLE LINTON AND JAMIE FOGLE, Rustburg, Va., a girl, Elizabeth. June 20
- to ROD AND KAREN KUHN, Oakridge, Ore., a girl, Christy Elizabeth. June 19
- to KEITH AND ESTHER (SCHLOSSER) MARTIN, Fayston, Vt., a boy, Timothy Jeremy. May 14
- to REV. GARY W. AND JANET L. KELLEY, Patchogue, Long Island, N.Y., a boy, Eric Paul. June 10
- to REV. TERRY AND JUDY (NICHOLS) ROWLAND, Mustang, Okla., a boy, Skipper Von. July 31
- to DOUGLAS AND MARY SANFORD, Newburgh, N.Y., a boy, Douglas Wayne. July 9
- to DON AND JAN (LARSON) JOSEPHSON, Sidney, Mont., a boy, Matthew Jeremy. May 14
- to REV. GEORGE A. AND LYNDA LANGDELL, Small, Norristown, Pa., a boy, Jason Allen. Aug. 10
- to GARRY AND SUSAN (McCLURE) THANGScheidt, Oklahoma City, a boy, Timothy Daniel. June 20
- to DON AND DIANE (FOUST) TUCKER, Oklahoma, Ill., a boy, Justin Wade. July 6
- to ROGER AND GLENNIA (BEST) VAN ALLEN, Keflavik, Iceland, a boy, Robert Lewis. Aug. 10
- to JAMES D. AND DESORAH (COMPTON) WADLEY, Arlington, Tex., a girl, Meredith Jean. June 29

“Showers of Blessing”

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

October 21
“People Matter Most” by W. E. McCumber

October 28
“Enduring Faith” by W. E. McCumber

November 4
“The Return of Jesus” by W. E. McCumber

POLL FINDS PREJUDICE DECLINING AMONG MAJOR FAITHS IN AMERICA. Religious prejudice in the United States has recorded a major decline in the last quarter century, says the latest Gallup Poll. The survey, which interviewed 1,500 adults from May 4 to 7, found a drop both in the numbers of people who were concerned about Catholics and Jews having too much power and in those who have had experiences that made them dislike Catholics, Protestants, or Jews.

A 1952 poll found that 41 percent of the Protestants surveyed felt Catholics were trying to gain too much power in the nation. That figure dropped to 30 percent in 1965, and fell to 11 percent in the latest survey. Protestants made up about 45 percent of the people questioned in the most recent poll.

Concerns among Protestants about Jews having too much power dropped from 35 percent in 1952 to 14 percent in 1965 to 12 percent in the survey taken this year.

FREE METHODIST BISHOPS CALL CHURCH TO SIMPLER LIFESTYLE. The bishops of the Free Methodist Church in North America called their church today to a simpler life-style “consistent with the challenge of the eighties.” The church, formed in 1860, has a world membership of 154,284.

In their pastoral address to church delegates meeting at the Convention Center for the church’s World Convocation, August 20, which gathers every five years to plan ministry and strategy, the bishops said World War III may prove not to be nuclear but economic.

“It may be that weapons will be oil, currency, life-styles, and material possessions or lack of them,” said Bishop W. Dale Cryderman, who delivered the address representing the five bishops. “Whatever it will be, there are many indications that point to the fact that the ‘have-nots’ are rising up in the world and demanding their share as the patterns of colonialism, arrogance, and superiority are being brought down.”

MUSLIMS IN DALLAS AREA PLAN $1 MILLION CENTER. The Islamic Association of North Texas has purchased a site here for a $1 million center to serve the estimated 5,000 Muslims in the Dallas area. The center will house a mosque with a minaret, a school, a library, and a clinic, said Mohammad Suleman, chairman of the coordinating committee of the project.

Members of the association include permanent U.S. residents and students from Iran, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Turkey, Sudan Taiwan, and the Arab world.

U.S. CATHOLIC CHURCH KICKS OFF NATIONAL EVANGELIZATION EFFORT. The U.S. Catholic church kicked off a campaign in Washington, D.C., to evangelize an estimated 80 million unchurched Americans, including some 12 million “fallen away” Catholics.

Some 1,500 priests, religious, and laypersons attended a score of workshops and heard speeches during a three-day National Catholic Lay Celebration of Evangelization.

Working through the laity and within an ecumenical and inter-religious framework was stressed at the sessions on the campus of the Catholic University of America. Persons belonging to other churches are not potential targets for evangelization efforts. “Spiritual righteousness can become aggression,” cautioned Mrs. Dolores Leckey, executive director of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops’ secretariat for the laity.

Rev. Alvin Illig, C.S.P., executive director of the NCCB’s evangelization committee, stressed that while methods of evangelization “varies with time and place,” the Holy Spirit is the “principal agent.” “If we do not rely on the work of the Spirit, we will be simply tinkling cymbals and sounding brass,” he said.
MARRIAGES
LUANNE KAY WRIGHT and JAMES BRADBURY BRUCE at Concord, Calif., Apr. 7
ANITA MARIE SIMPSON and MARK DUANE SELPH at Phoenix, Ariz., June 9
PAMELA K. MCLAUGHLIN and LARRY D. SPEECE at The Plains, Ohio, June 23
JANE ANNETTE JOHNSON and JAMES GARY FINNEY at Salinas, Calif., July 20
LINDA A. BURNS and STEPHEN M. MILLER at Kansas City, Mo., July 21
MARCella BENTLEY and DAVID SALMON at Garden City, Kans., Aug. 4
TONYA RENEE MATHERLY and RICKY EVANS at Drums, Okla., July 14
DEBBIE DUNKIN and STEVE SMITH at Oklahoma City, Aug. 11
BURY BRUCE and RICHARD ALLEN SUMMA at Concord, Calif., Apr. 7
TRESSA LOU CLARDY and DAVE PATRICK TRESSER at Salinas, Calif., Aug. 11
CLARDY at Warsaw, Mo., Aug. 17
MARILYN DIANE PAYNE and JOHN JACOB GERLING III at Greensboro, N.C., Aug. 11
TRESSA LOU CLARDY and DALE PATRICK RYAN at Warsaw, Mo., Aug. 17
PHYLIS SIMMS and DAVID CARL ROEHM at Glenwood, Ark., Aug. 19
THERESA ANN RAP and DAVID WILLIAM LEE at Helena, Mont., Aug. 25
PEGGY SINKARD and CURTIS SANDERS at Great Falls, Mont., Aug. 25
ANNIVERSARIES
MR. AND MRS. RAYMOND COMBS of Leesburg, Fla., observed their 55th anniversary Sept. 14. Mr. Combs has been a Nazarene since 1913; a member of the First Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, Long Island, N.Y. Mrs. Combs has been a Nazarene since 1918. They have one daughter and three grandchildren. They have been members of the Eustis, Fla., church since July 6, 1978
REV. AND MRS. GERALD B. COOK, residing at the Nazarene Camp Center, at Vicksburg, Mich., observed their 50th anniversary. A reception was held for them by their daughters and grandchildren at the Jackson, Mich., First Church, June 30.

MRS. FRANK AND FRANCES ROCK at Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 11
SANDRA SUE MARSH and EDWARD RAY CLARDY at Warsaw, Mo., Aug. 11
PHILLYS SIMMS and DAVID CARL ROEHM at Glenwood, Ark., Aug. 19
THERESA ANN RAP and DAVID WILLIAM LEE at Helena, Mont., Aug. 25
PEGGY SINKARD and CURTIS SANDERS at Great Falls, Mont., Aug. 25

Some of us have different feelings about Halloween at a Halloween party in our church, some of the little children were badly scared. What I want to know is: was Halloween started as a Christian night?

The origins of Halloween are hard to trace. Its church roots go back to early centuries. The churches observed, as a holy day, All Saints’ Day. This commemorated all the martyrs and saints, churches observed, as a holy day, All Saints’ Day. This commemorated all the martyrs and saints, known and unknown, in the church’s history. In medieval England it was called Allhallows, from which we get our Halloween—the eve of this special day.

But Halloween has some secular roots too, according to some authorities. These lie in ancient Roman festivals and Druid festivals. Frankly, most of our modern celebration of Halloween is more pagan than Christian.

It can be, on a secular level, an evening of harmless fun and happy fellowship. Unwisely used, it can be a time of destruction, materially and spiritually.

Since a person who is wholly sanctified has been totally freed from a sinful nature and therefore has a pure heart which loves God perfectly, it is possible for such a person to desire anything in his heart, and thus to ask for anything in prayer, that is contrary to God’s will? If so, please explain.

Jesus desired and asked, if possible, to be spared from the death of the Cross, yet He was sinless. One of my correspondents, dear Brother Bray, said in a recent letter, “As to promises in prayer, it seems to me the climax should be 1 John 3:14 — ‘according to his will.’ As a true child of God, dare I wish anything outside His will? No! My human (not carnal) nature may see values to my personal pleasing. But my true self must will and say ‘Thy will be done,’ as in Gethsemane.”

Our hearts, though pure, are limited by imperfect knowledge and understanding, and this could prompt us to desire and ask something our Father does not will to give.

In Revelation 16:2 it speaks of those who had the mark of the beast upon them and who worshipped his image. Who is the beast and what is the mark?

John probably regarded the Roman emperor and his empire as the beast. Down through the centuries, each generation of Christians, believing themselves to be living in the very last days, have named various world leaders as the beast. And in my own lifetime I have heard Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Roosevelt, Kennedy, and Kissinger named as this Antichrist.

I think that, in a sense, the beast represents every government that opposes God and persecutes His people. But I also believe that the beast is a godless ruler who will arise toward the close of history, the ultimate evil dictator who will bring to its climax the long war of rebellion against God which Satan masterminds. Precisely who this individual will be, I cannot say.

As for the mark of the beast, it is some means of identification necessary to social and economical survival. Precisely what, I don’t know. With our modern methods of numbering and marking, it is easy to think of several ways that such an identification could be placed upon hands or foreheads. I’ve heard the mark of the beast identified as Sunday worship, the blue eagle symbol of the National Recovery Act, Social Security numbers, and invisible tattoos, among other things.

My concern is to follow the Lamb, and then I won’t be marked by the beast, whoever he is and whatever his mark.
Washington, Ind.: The church had an outstanding revival with Evangelist David Street and Song Evangelists Dwight and Norma Jean Meredith. Two were saved in their home and Dwight and Norma Jean Meredith.

Kokomo, Ind.: Bon-Air Church had a revival with Evangelist Gary Haines. New seekers were present every night, with over 50 people finding spiritual help. Sunday morning was the greatest service with 20 to 30 people coming forward. New families were won. Gary’s ministry in both music and preaching were used of the Lord to strengthen the church.

St. Louis: Bridgeton Church had a revival with Evangelist William Varian and Song Evangelists Steve and Sue Caudill. There were two great services on the Lord’s Day with about 45 seekers. The evening service closed with an hour of praising God and several acknowledging physical needs were anointed.

Elgin, Ill.: The church had a revival with Evangelist Chuck Millhuff and Song Evangelist Pat Duncan. Fifty church leaders met for a prayer breakfast and leadership seminar on Saturday morning at a nearby Ramada Inn. A record attendance was set of 343 in Sunday school. Over 50 persons prayed at the altar. Several young couples re-established their lives to God and the church.

Burton, Mich.: South Flint Church had a revival with Evangelists Lenny and Joy Wisehart. This was truly a revival of the church as God’s people made fresh commitments to Christian service. Many gave testimonies of healing, sanctification, and growth in discipleship. The altars were lined each service with believers making new consecration and many visitors finding salvation.

Gary, Ind.: First Church had an exciting revival with the Buckles-Burke evangelistic team. Great music, powerful preaching, record attendance, and tremendous victories marked each weeknight service. Sunday brought the largest crowd ever, with a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit in both services. Griffith, Ind., church also joined for this revival. Results for both churches were outstanding.

Urbana, Ill.: Faith Church had a revival with Evangelist George Reader. He was wonderfully anointed each service and the church family was edified by his preaching ministry. Revival broke out one week before the scheduled meeting and a young couple was saved at the altar. During the meeting, a man was converted who had been on our prayer list for over four years. Several believers were sanctified wholly.

Falls City, Neb.: First Church had a great revival with Evangelist Harold Frodge and Song Evangelist Ken McWain. There were seekers in every service. Sinners were saved for the first time, believers were sanctified and the church was greatly blessed.

—Anthony L. White, pastor

—William Porter, pastor

—William Cole, pastor

—Sammy R. Sheehy, pastor

—Michael O. Bright, pastor

—W. L. Spengler, pastor

—Harold Durham, pastor
The 80-voice Sonshine Choir and Band from Wichita, Kans., First Church recently completed its summer ministry tour.

This teen choir sang at Conway, Ark., First Church; Nashville Bethel Church; and First and Central churches in Orlando, Fla. Fifty-six of this group lived in Lake Wales, Fla., and conducted vacation Bible schools in Bartow and Lake Wales, Fla.

The remainder of the group, a vocal and brass ensemble, toured the Dominican Republic, singing and playing their instruments. Dr. Gene Williams, pastor from Wichita First Church, accompanied the teens and preached through an interpreter. The ensemble presented all of their music in Spanish under the direction of Hank Oplinger, youth pastor at Wichita First Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON REBOUND

We are increasingly getting reports of: “good months,” “Summers with an increase,” “Our Sunday schools are beginning to turn around . . .”

Bud LeCrone, district Christian Life Board chairman, businessman, owner-publisher of Melody House Publishing Company, writes us: “I feel better about Sunday school than I have in a long time. I like to see Headquarters planning ahead, setting goals, and getting excited about God’s work.

“I came out of the committee [ad hoc Sunday school promotion committee] feeling as we all did, that when you’re doing the Lord’s work you need to think big. We need to plan for great things to happen, then make them happen.”

Bud and others have written:

“...Certainly a district increase of 200 or more average is beyond what we have done, but when it is thought of in terms of each Sunday school and what each needs to do, then it falls into the realm of possibilities . . .”

“...the program has already been presented to our recent district convention . . .”

“...If we could set the 20,000 annual increase for our denomination for the next five years, then that 100,000 for the denomination will be what possibility thinkers will be shooting for and achieving . . .”

When asked about what is happening in Sunday school, Richard Spindle said, “Almost everybody I talk to is saying things are beginning to move.

[emphasis his] . . . Some who have had a decline for years have begun to turn around . . . I haven’t heard one negative report! . . .”

Rev. Jerry Lambert, chairman of the Central Ohio District Board of Christian Life, organized and promoted an old-fashioned Sunday school rally night on Wednesday of their assembly week. They expected a great crowd—three or four hundred. Well over 3,000 came!

Each church brought a rally group which cheered, marched, and was in a contest to see who could make the most noise, express the most enthusiasm.

The winning church, Columbus Shepherd, had a big, noisy, enthusiastic bunch, each with cheerleaders’ pompoms, noisemakers, a special song, and a special cheer.

“Going Higher” Sunday school attendance campaign is launched, it’s up, it’s flying.

—Melt Wienneke, reporter

Upstate New York marriage enrichment retreat participants

UPSTATE NEW YORK—MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

Pictured are 14 couples who participated in a marriage enrichment retreat led by Dick and Kay Young of Shawnee, Kans. The Youngs are one of 22 Nazarene leader couples available to lead marriage enrichment retreats.

Wayne and Gloria Yerxa of Syracuse, N.Y., Community North Church organized and directed the retreat.

Leaders interested in scheduling a retreat or needing questions answered may write the Marriage Enrichment Contact Couple for the Eastern Zone—Ken and Beverly Christoffersen, 110 Marshall Avenue, Collingdale, PA 19023, or call (215) 532-2134.

Meditations for the Advent Season

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Professor, Nazarene Theological Seminary
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OCTOBER 15, 1979 33
A NEW LIFE FOUND AND SHARED

by LARRY A. SUTHERLAND
Fort Ord, California

THE STORY of how I became a Christian evidences the power of God to transform a sinner. My life has changed so abruptly from sin and sorrow to joy and peace. I grew up in a world of hate as a child. I despised my family, being a rebellious child. Fighting with everyone was my way of life. This carried over to school, where I only did well enough to find a legal guardian or get out of town. I decided to enlist in the U.S. Army and the next day found myself sleeping in the park under picnic tables.

My military career was a success as I found rank really fast. After going to Europe, I made the division basketball team. Success faded as I got involved with drugs while overseas. While I used LSD only once, marijuana and speed were a daily habit. High school was marred with sin as I drank, abused sex, and continually had problems with family relations. In my junior year, I ran away from home after having a fight with my father; I was put into a juvenile delinquency center, which included seven days of solitary confinement. After getting out, I did my best to get along until my 18th birthday, when I left home.

I attended a community college on a basketball scholarship, but I couldn't find work to support myself because of the life I led there. Eventually I found myself sleeping in the park under picnic tables. One day the city sheriff told me that I had a week to find a legal guardian or get out of town. I decided to enlist in the U.S. Army and the next day found myself on the way to basic training.

My military career was a success as I found rank really fast. After going to Europe, I made the division basketball team. Success faded as I got involved with drugs while overseas. While I used LSD only once, marijuana and speed were a daily habit. Slowly but surely I could sense my life filtering away into filth.

After completion of my army contract, I got out to return to college and even got married. Sin continued producing conflict which became unbearable. Within a year, I was divorced while I continued using drugs and lived in immorality. School was no better—problems, poor grades, suspension—all this produced a lot of depression.

Then one day in February of 1978 a friend of mine asked me to go to church with him. At first I told him he was crazy, but then I accepted. After attending a couple of Sundays, I became really depressed about my life. I realized I had nowhere to go. I wanted to die and couldn't care about anything.

I was sitting in my dorm room crying desperately in need of help. I looked into the sky and said, "Lord, please send someone to help me." No more than a few seconds later, the local Nazarene pastor walked by my window. I just said, "Lord, if he comes here, you must have sent him." He knocked on my door and I let him in. On February 23, 1978, I received Christ as my personal Savior. Since then, my life has been filled with miracles—answers to prayer—now that there was a positive direction in my life. Now I felt good about living.

After attending Northwest Nazarene College for a year, I decided to reenlist in the army. I was unsure about this at first, but after a lot of prayer, the Lord confirmed it as His will for me. I really felt the Lord's ministry was badly needed in the military.

Upon entering the reception station at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., I was put in charge of a platoon of 40 men. We were together a week before being shipped to our training units. Thirty of those recommitted their lives to Christ. What a beautiful answer to prayer, a sure sign that I could minister as a serviceman in the army!

When I arrived at my unit, witnessing became very difficult at first since the atmosphere was intense. It was not easy to find time to organize the platoons into prayer groups. I prayed with individuals but still could not minister as I liked to. I was laughed at by some soldiers for praying on my knees at night. I found that persecution could be real. As time wore on and became more available to us, I started to pray with my squad. Soon more people were joining with us and again it developed into platoon prayer. God was working!

I sought advice from two chaplains: Gene Ahlstrom, a Nazarene assigned to our brigade, and Robert Jenkins, who works with first battalion. How could I handle the trials and effectively witness? They were a great help in maintaining strength in Christ during hard times.

As our training drew to a close, in a three-week period I in my platoon accepted Christ. Soldiers from the other platoon in the company started coming upstairs to our area at night for platoon prayer. I have prayed with the entire company on several occasions. In less than two days, 5 more from first platoon accepted Christ for a total of 24 in less than four weeks. These workings of the Holy Spirit even had an influence on the whole chapel community.

As I prepared to leave my training unit, I sought the Lord's will for my life. I sense the Lord's leading toward the pastoral ministry one day. God will make it clear should He want me in full-time work. Meanwhile, at this present time I can effectively witness while being involved with others as a soldier striving to bring others to Jesus. I feel an immediate joy whenever another soldier gets right with God. I have found the new life! I want to continue to live in Christ and praise His name daily for the changes in my life that He has made.

"By ALL MEANS... Save Some"
LAYMEN MOBILIZED FOR ACTION

Seventy-five market coordinators of the 20/20 VISION Committee spent an intensive 14 hours in two days, September 7-8, to launch the drive for prayer and financial support of Nazarene television ministry.

20/20 VISION, a movement of Nazarene laymen for reaching some of the nation’s 71 million unchurched by means of television, is the instrument through which the $4 million enterprise is to be realized. These business and professional people responded to the plan of taking the challenge to laymen throughout the denomination.

Dr. George Coulter, general superintendent, echoing Jesus’ call to “launch out into the deep,” reminded the coordinators that “deep waters yield large results.” He said that the Board of General Superintendents realized that the cost of a denominational television ministry could not be included in existing budget funds. But he felt that the time had come when the church was best able to meet this new challenge and to do the job God had given it to do. It can and will be done, he predicted, in addition to and not instead of any other vital church program.

The market coordinators will supervise the enlistment of the market 20/20 Team which will include area coordinators and local church representatives. The local church representatives will invite their fellow church members and friends to share in the ministry. The fall and winter of 1979 is slated for the completion of the enlistment of personnel and support.

The 20/20 VISION Committee anticipates three prime-time specials in the 20-month period. Share givers will underwrite this first 20-month launching phase.

Nazarene ministers have been acquainted with successful mobilization for various projects during the history of the church. Nazarene laymen demonstrated that the confidence of the general superintendents that laymen will function in a similar way, was well placed.

E. H. Land presenting the challenge to market coordinators.

The intensive commitment of the people who met in Kansas City the first week of September was apparent in the discussion and planning. They concluded the conclave by responding to E. H. Land’s call to begin with their own pledge. $35,000 additional pledges brought the total figure for the television ministry since 20/20 VISION began to very close to the half-million mark ($442,001).

HAWAII NIROGA A SUCCESS

Two hundred fifty-nine senior adults attended the Hawaiian NIROGA August 29—September 7.

They went first to Kona on Hawaii. There Pastor Larry Coen and some of his singers greeted them and shared the evening meal. The tour then crossed the island to Hilo where there were four days of activities at the hotels.

Later on Oahu at Honolulu First Church, Superintendent Darrell Teare was the host for a service. The program consisted of special singing by two Samoan choirs, two Philippino families, native Hawaiian singers, and Chaplain Lowell Malliett of the Marine Corps. The children and young people charmed their guests. Many said it was the highlight of the tour. Some saw the General Budget in a new light.

Dr. Norman Oke was the chaplain. He spoke four times. On Maui, an open air vespers service included a gorgeous sunset and the lighting of the torches, plus celebrating Rev. Mark and Carol Smith’s 50th anniversary.

Mark Smith, who is in charge of the senior adult activities at Long Beach, Calif., First Church, arranged the travel details. Moving the NIROGA group from place to place required five buses and a van and two extra 737s on inter-island flights.

A cultural experience had been promised, and most were delighted with its results. Some experienced culture shock, according to Melvin Shrout, senior adult director in the Department of Adult Ministries.

In addition to an authentic luau, crafts were offered which included lei and hat weaving.

JOHNSON AND SKILES TO CHINA

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, and Paul Skiles, executive director of the Department of Communications, visited Japan, Korea, and China the first two weeks of October.

After meeting missionary John Holstead in Hong Kong, the three went together to China. The visit concentrated in the Shanghai area where they followed up a contact with people in China who are acquainted with the Church of the Nazarene.

Dr. Johnson cared for some administrative matters in Japan and Korea. Paul Skiles worked on national radio broadcast activities there. They also were testing the impact of Nazarene radio broadcasts in the populous and powerful nation of China.

THE FIRST TEN THOUSAND

Thursday, September 20, was a “red-letter” day for Nazarene television. With the first reports from the Indianapolis viewing, the total of responses to “FAMILY: HANDLE WITH CARE” passed the 10,000 mark; actually, 10,494.

This means that because of this first program, more than 10,000 viewers have asked for the book What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women.

It means also that many have received a visit or contact by a concerned Nazarene to get acquainted and to offer the warm welcome of a church and pastor whenever they are needing spiritual help. A sizable number have accepted these invitations, like the family in Stockton, Calif., reported in the August 15 Herald of Holiness, and have found help. They are now part of the church which followed up the phone call.

To the leaders of the church and the television ministry committee, it is clear evidence that the program is well under way.

—NCN

(L. to r.) are: Col. Thane Minor; Dr. George Coulter, speaker; Paul Skiles; Leon Doane.
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