"On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."

Isaiah 9:2, NIV

CHRISTMAS: AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME

ONE CHRISTMAS I MET AN ANGEL

"NOTHIN' ... WITH SUGAR ON IT"
This is the season for Christmas programs and cantatas. It is a happy and enjoyable time as our congregations celebrate the birth of Jesus in song, verse, and drama. On reflection it provides an opportunity to review the relation between performance and worship. For, in some instances, what was once a seasonal activity, the presentation of impressive performances, has become year-round programming.

Religious performance has reached a new state of perfection and acceptance. Highly developed amplifying systems, coupled with skilled technicians, add to the artists' effectiveness. Through the miracle of transcription, music of blessing and inspiration is welcomed into our homes, offices, and cars. All of this has opened a new area of "ministry" that in years gone by was only an impossible dream. How good it is to have an alternative to the other options thrust at us at every turn of the dial!

As with most all new ideas and opportunities, this also has some pitfalls. The abuse of a blessing can be detrimental. We need to be aware of some of the hazards. They could lead us to a total dependence on religious performance to meet emotional and spiritual needs rather than participation in deep and meaningful acts of worship. There are times when the two must be separated.

In order to compete with the secular world and its attractive distractions, we may be tempted to incorporate religious entertainment into our worship traditions. Carried to an extreme, pulpits are removed, microphones neatly arranged; what was once a focal point for worship and the proclamation of God's Word becomes a stage for religious performance. Audience participation, with the singing of many choruses without the interjection of theologically sound hymnology, may lead to a personal faith that is regulated by "the best religious show in town" rather than experience based on sound doctrine. All too often the wholesale pull-outs of segments of existing congregations are the result of performance-oriented church services. The exodus is prompted by a search for a better show.

Frequently one hears where our own church has allowed a place for talented and godly religious performers. This is not to imply that such activities are not a blessing. To the contrary, they are often used to reach people for Christ. Nor is this an appeal for stilted, ritualistic, lifeless worship services. The burden being expressed here is to develop a balance in worship among God's people.

This is an appeal, then, for worship to be just that—worship. Let singers and preachers alike experience the anointing of the Holy Spirit on their ministry. How heartwarming to be in a service where the choir or the soloist can repeat a chorus, or a verse, without waiting for the tape to be rewound; recognizing, of course, the value and usefulness of tape backgrounds when used in good taste and moderation. How blessed when a saint, or a newborn Christian for that matter, feels free to stand and testify to the glory of God without "taking over" in a manner contrary to Scripture.

Although we are still a young denomination, a Nazarene style of worship has characterized our church down through the years. Diversion from that style, either to the liturgical and ritualistic extreme on the one hand, or to the emotional extreme spurred on by human manipulation on the other, has never left a congregation satisfied and healthy. Let us do what we do best—that is, be ourselves under the authority and leadership of the Holy Spirit. And let our worship be unto Him in a manner that brings glory to His holy name.

Applying these principles of worship to Christmas programming will entitle our people to God's special blessings at this wonderful season of the year.
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God’s redeeming action came at the right time for the outcasts of Adam’s race. Under bondage to sin, and to a powerless law, by God’s grace we have been made heirs of the fullness of grace by the Spirit of holiness. The law was unable to declare us part of God’s family. However, the gospel of God’s Son wiped out the charges of insurrection that were posted or filed against us, and we became eligible for adoption.

God’s redeeming grace has transformed us from slaves to children; thereby, we are free and able to call God father, or even more spiritually close, “Daddy.” (That’s what “Abba” means in the Hebrew! cf. Galatians 4:7.) Our bondage is broken, and we have become heirs, heirs to the fullness of time, who is none other than Jesus the Christ.

Our inheritance is God himself, and the treasures of heaven. Wherever we go, and whatever our circumstance, by repentance and faith we have access to the blessings of the Eternal Word. The access key or the personal signature number of our account with God is Jesus. He is one of us, because made of a woman through the Holy Spirit. Yet He is one with God, as eternal Son. What more could time hold for us than the fullness of the legacy of the Son? Our inheritance is even now being compounded for that eternal day.

Oh, yes, I just had a letter from the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba. It was not yet installed as Lieutenant-Governor, the Queen’s representative in Manitoba, His Honour could not yet avail himself of the official stationery, nor yet move into the official residence, nor yet know his official schedule for the New Year. But on the 12th of December, the day of his installation, that all will have changed. His fullness of time will have come. His stationery will show it in his next reply, as will also his place of residence and knowledge of schedule.

God had a time, a perfect time for this earth, when Jesus should be born. He was incarnated by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary. He took our nature; He laid hold of our environment; He received the limits and frustrations of our infirmities. He never lost His Godhead, but He emptied himself of the accoutrements of divinity, according to Philippians 2:7. His humanity was as real as His deity, for He took the essential attributes of man as well as retaining the essential attributes of God.

He was installed as the Savior of humanity by the angelic choirs bursting forth in praise over Bethlehem hills, scattering shepherds out of their wits, and by the lowering of cattle in a manger-cave. He had been the Savior-designate at the crested foundations of the world. From Bethlehem on, He was in full inheritance of the predicament.

His coming was adequately timed for us poor sinners of Adam’s race. Born under law, whether Mosaic or the law written on our consciences, we were guilty of covenant-breaking. He came to redeem us, the alienated, and give us back our birthright of being God’s “sons.”

God’s time is still “full,” for the age of the Son is still in force. All who receive Him may be adopted! Until Jesus comes again, we live in the fullness of time.

Full-time is God’s time. It is ripe time, that is time that has come to the full term of its fruition. It is time that has become complete, in the sense that its purpose and its nature are mature. The intended use of a particular segment of time has blossomed into the reality that God planned. It is the time of opportunity, for grasping the purpose that is in line with God’s intention.
Family Christmas—we see so many pictures of laughing children, firelight, goodwill and harmony, and gently falling snow. For a great many families this Norman Rockwell view of Christmas is very different from reality. Christmas for many is the hardest time of year, in part because of the glaring contrast between their experience and the romanticized image of Christmas projected by television specials and women's magazines.

For millions of families, their struggles to put enough food on the table and pay utility bills are mocked by commercials urging them to buy more and more expensive toys. The working mother, whose energy barely seems enough for the demands of the rest of the year, grows increasingly frazzled as she tries to produce all those little extras that are expected of every good mother at Christmas time. Families hurting from a chronic illness, or a recent devastating loss through death or divorce, feel alienated by the cheerfulness of society that expects them to put on a brave front for the holidays.

The world that Jesus came into as a baby was a dark and cruel place. He chose to come to working-class parents in an enemy-occupied country. He was born in a stable, a temporary homeless shelter. Soon His parents became refugees, fleeing Herod's wrath, seeking sanctuary in an alien land. The circumstances of Jesus' birth suggest that God chose to identify with the poor, the powerless, the needy. Emmanuel means God with us—in the tough times of life.

Jesus was born into a family, a godly family specially prepared to love Him and care for His human childhood needs. Yet even in this best of families Jesus knew the frustration of parents who could not fully understand His adolescence and who struggled with letting Him go; He experienced the disappointment of His own brothers not believing in Him and His mission; He faced the difficult choice between caring for His family and needing to follow His own vocation. Jesus grew up to understand the force of family ties—those strongest of all bonds that can bring us great joy and comfort as well as deep and lasting pain.

It is at Christmas that the pain of fractured family relationships is perhaps most keenly felt—the pain of children whose parents have neglected or abused them, or failed to accept or affirm them; the pain of parents whose children have opposed or scorned or ignored them; the pain of husbands and wives who have forgotten how to care for each other and now concentrate on building shells for self-protection. In families marked by tension and hostility, or merely by an inability to express to each other individual feelings and hopes and needs, those family get-togethers at Christmas are endured behind smiling masks.

Jesus came as the light for our darkness. He came to show us the Father. His death on the Cross is a demonstration of God's unconditional love for us. The best of human relationships will disappoint our need to be loved and understood. God's love for us is perfect, compassionate, individual, understanding, constant. Once we begin to experience this love as the foundation of our individual and family lives, then we can begin to hope for healing, for forgiveness, for reconciliation. The process may be slow, we may need to draw on outside support and help, but the good news of Christmas is that God cares about our pain, we can be honest with Him about our hurts, He supports us in our struggles and does not expect us to hide from Him behind a false front of Christmas cheer.

Come, Jesus... Come, Jesus, to the stable of my heart. Transform the wood, hay, and stubble into a throne where You can work and reign.

—SARA ANN DuBOSE Montgomery, Alabama
For many, 1907 promised a bleak Christmas; for others, perhaps their last Christmas. Tuberculosis or consumption was spreading, everyone knew someone suffering with the disease. Who would be next to come down with it? Any cough produced a worried glance, a quick explanation. Tuberculosis was fatal in one out of seven cases and certainly no respecter of person. The disease affected every social and economic class.

Dr. Joseph Wales faced an immediate crisis at his tuberculosis "laboratory"—better called a shack—in the hills outside Wilmington, Del. He desperately needed money to keep it open. People had strange ideas about TB—maybe the patient deserved it. Some were hesitant to be too compassionate. Wales approached his cousin, Emily Bissell. "Could you do something?" What? He wasn't sure.

How could a spinster make a difference with a disease as prevalent as tuberculosis? Didn't she need to be a doctor or a nurse or a scientist to make a difference? No. Clearly, he had asked the right person. Emily's compassion had been shaped by her Sunday School teacher in Wilmington, Del., who urged Emily to visit in the homes of the city's needy. The visits impacted Emily profoundly.

In 1899, Emily had organized the city's first free kindergarten as well as the Boys' Brigades, a forerunner of the Boy Scouts. She opened the first public playground for children in the state of Delaware. She was a temperance advocate.

As she considered her response to Dr. Wales' request, Miss Bissell remembered an article she had read. The Danish government each year sold "Christmas seals" to finance their sanitariums for children with TB. Christmas would soon be coming. If that idea worked in Denmark, it would work in Wilmington.

She wrote the American Red Cross for permission to use their well-known symbol, then consulted with artists in the advertising department of the Du Pont Company. So far, so good. When she suggested to the postmaster general that the post office sell the stamps, she got a prompt "No." However, he would permit volunteers to sell the stamps in the lobby of the post offices.

On December 7, 1907, she set up her booth in the Wilmington, Del., post office, selling her Christmas seals for a penny each. The first year's sales produced $3,000. Emily was elated. Many people would have been satisfied with that amount and moved on to a new project. Not Miss Bissell! If the seals sold in Wilmington, seals would sell elsewhere. So she recruited the expertise of Mabel T. Broadman of the American Red Cross for the 1908 national campaign.

About $135,000 worth of seals (a small fortune in those days) was sold.

It was a long way from her home to the TB patients. Not everyone thought it was the right thing for a single, refined, Christian woman to do. Emily ignored her critics. Tuberculosis found its biggest enemy in one determined Christian single adult.

One woman, one single woman, didn't wring her hands and say, "But what can I do?" She saw an opportunity in what some labeled "misfortune" and responded creatively.

Eighty years later millions of dollars have been raised through Miss Emily's "idea." Tuberculosis is something of a rare disease; few die of it. Today, Christmas Seals raise money for research on a variety of lung diseases.

Christmas Seals are a living reminder that one Christian can make a difference. This Christmas could be your opportunity to make a difference.

The story of Emily Bissell reminds me of a point often made by Henrietta Mears: "We begin our Christian life, our Christian..."
ministry, where we are, and let God lead us from that moment on.”

Many see ministry beginning when I get to point B, C, or perhaps D. Emily Bissell understood her launch point to be Wilmington.

Emily Bissell is an example of the benefits of the Sunday School. Who was that teacher that so impacted her? We do not know her name but God does. Sometimes the end of a calendar year causes teachers to question their effectiveness. But you need to remember: Some of the results of your time before a class are not always visible.

Emily Bissell is a reminder of the “dangers” of reading. If she had never read about the work of the Danish Christmas seals, would she have developed the American version?

Sometimes, through an article or a book, the Lord plants a seed. Then He carefully tends that seed, sometimes for a long time. Eventually, in His season, the seed comes to life.

I like Paul’s instruction to Titus: “Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need” (Titus 3:13, NIV, italics added).

You see, God intends that, even in the Christmas season, we not be content to be spectators in the ministry and dreams of others, but participants. God intends that Christians make a difference.

Emily Bissell participated in Joseph Wales’ work. Whose dream and work are you participating in? H

BY HAROLD IVAN SMITH
A Nazarene layman, free-lance writer, and frequent speaker at seminars and conventions. He resides in Kansas City, Missouri.

— E. RUTH GLOVER
Lake Elsinore, California

WE ESTEEMED HIM NOT
(ISAIAH 53:3)

Why are no rich and costly robes
Spread on the manger bed?
And why does only straw shine golden
On the crownless head?
These courtiers on bended knee—
What mean these shepherds’ crooks
Within their workworn hands?
And why do only cows and donkeys
View the scene from shadowed stands?
Where are the heralds,
Running with the happy word?
Where are the subjects,
Riotous in celebration
Of the little Lord?
Majesty is sleeping in a stable,
Divinity in swaddling bands is dressed,
Omnipotence is capsuled in a baby,
And finds its comfort at a mother’s breast.

Lord of lords and Kings of kings—but He
Chose to be born a commoner . . .
Like me.

BY C. NEIL STRAIT
Supervisor of the Michigan District, residing in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given…” (Isaiah 9:6, NIV).

ON December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright were able to keep their handbuilt airplane in the air for 59 seconds. It was a moment that changed history. In their excitement, they sent a telegram to their sister in Dayton, Ohio, stating: “First sustained flight today in 59 seconds. Hope to be home for Christmas.”

Their sister was so excited by the news that she took the telegram to the editor of the local newspaper. The next morning the headlines simply said: “Popular local bicycle merchants to be home for holidays!” (Related by Ken Crossman, “Questions Jesus asked—Who Will Answer”)

The biggest news of the time passed without notice. A newspaper editor missed the point.

It is easy to miss great spiritual moments. The big gets lost amidst the little. The spiritual is lost amidst the earthly. Jesus comes with no pretensions, no fanfare, no marching army. He comes in love, with gentle voice and tender call. It is easy to miss Him.

Advent maybe needs to be a time to slow the pace, tune the heart, to listen, to feel, to wait. And amidst the waiting and the listening, He comes! And when He comes, all is changed!

Because He is so often expected in fantastic ways, shattering experiences, earthshaking dramas, or emotional moments, we forget that He may be present in stillness, quiet moments, common experiences, and in daily events.

The Advent is surely a time for His presence, His joy, and His hope. For if the Advent is to mean what it is supposed to mean, then we must see Him in our daily living, in the tears and common traumas, in the ordinary, and in the small. For if God is too big to validate himself in these, He is not the God you and I seek.

But the hope of the Advent, the good news of it all, is that God is there in all the experiences and episodes of daily existence. He is there wanting to be Lord, Helper, Healer, Savior, and Comforter. He is there wanting to enter into our lives, just as He tried to do those years ago at the first Advent.

At that first Advent God had to seek another place, another entrance into His world. May He find it in your heart and mind this Advent time.
It was the most depressing Christmas of my life.
My wife and I had been married for nine years. Since our second year together, she had been ill. Now she was facing brain surgery.
Her illness forced me to leave my midwest pastorate. We moved to my in-laws' home in New England. Medical tests followed. Then the day of surgery.
It was Christmas, but it did not seem like Christmas to me. Traditional lights were glistening everywhere and churches were abuzz with excitement, but I felt a coldness in my heart akin to the freezing rains that hit me as I trudged uphill to the hospital.

A world-respected physician, Dr. James L. Poppen of New England Baptist Hospital in Boston, believed the operation would relieve my wife's constant head pain. He would place a shunt in her head, connecting the brain to the heart for the release of pressure under her skull.

I spent many hours in the hospital's chapel. I recall vividly bathing in the quietness of that attractive space as I sought God's peace for my troubled soul.

Our only daughter was in Connecticut with her grandparents while my wife and I endured a morbid holiday. I could hardly believe that the season could turn so dismal.

The hospital is located atop a city hill. To get there one must climb a narrow street often treacherous with December's ice. I drove up that tiny passage each day to be near my wife.
But where would I stay while in the area? Our Christmas Day would be spent in the old section of the hospital with its barren walls and spooky alcoves. But where would I sleep at night?

An unmarried friend of ours lived in a suburb nearby. Knowing that Priscilla would be going through the ordeal of surgery and that I would be stranded in a strange city, she invited me to stay over at her apartment.
I took her up on her invitation.

During the day, she worked as secretary to the dean of students at our college in Quincy. In the evenings, she was there waiting for me with her genuine laughter and a cup of hot tea. I needed both.

One night when I left the hospital, I discovered that my tire was flat. There I was, parked on the top of this lonely mound of concrete. My feet and hands were freezing in the awful winds. At my feet was a tire that had gone on strike—at Christmas, no less.

After changing it, I was in no mood for celebrating any holiday, let alone the most meaningful one of the year. I was anxious to ditch it all and get on with a new year, praying that it would be a lot better than the one we had just staggered through.

However, when I arrived at Marian's apartment, I discovered that she was in a festive mood. The tiny apartment was lighted throughout. Simple refreshments were waiting on the small table. And her heart was merry.
I thanked God for the pull-out couch in the den that was awaiting me. And I was particularly grateful for this warm abode where I could dry out my dampened spirit.

"Marian, you need some practical additions to this place," I said one evening while taking stock of her living quarters. I noticed that there were a number of items missing from her kitchen—tools, baskets, racks for this and that.
"Oh, I know. And I could have bought them a long time ago, but I guess I never got around to it," she replied.

I knew one reason that she had not gotten them was because she gave a lot of her money to college students in need. One by one she would have them into her place to feed them, listen to them, and pray with them.
In fact, she became so popular with the students that they set aside a special day one year and named it after her. They made her the guest of honor in that day's chapel service, presenting her with a gift from the whole student body.

So I knew why she was missing one convenient device after another. Therefore, when returning one night from the hospital, I decided the Lord was nudging me to pack a collection of household gadgets into a large plastic clothes carrier.
I must have looked strange walking into that apartment building with this array of items. Nevertheless, I had more of a Christmas feeling as I climbed the several flights of stairs to her door on the top floor.
I knocked. She opened the door and I rushed in with my assortment of...
Because you gave, our seminary has a growing library of scholarly materials necessary for the graduate level student needs. Whether research is needed for reports, leadership training, or preparing sermons, resource material is available.

Because you gave, Dr. LeBron Fairbanks, our president, has been able to order thousands of books from a source in Europe which handles complete libraries on given subjects. Last year we were able to purchase a valuable collection of books, mostly written from the Wesleyan theological standpoint, which included many historical books.

Over the campus intercom recently, Dr. Fairbanks joyfully announced that APNTS had just been given official recognition by the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports. This is a vital forward step, increasing the possibility that other nations will recognize APNTS as an accredited graduate level institution. We thank God for this answer to prayer. Many factors entered into the decision of this committee. Our facilities and tools were examined and evaluated, including the library. Because you gave, an adequate library is becoming a reality and was recognized as a part of an ongoing growth process. We now have close to 17,000 volumes on the shelves.

We are thankful for the generosity of Nazarene colleges, retired elders, and friends of the seminary who have donated many volumes of good used books to the library. These are invaluable. But because you gave, there is also a generous yearly allocation from General Budget especially designated for the selection and purchase of new literature and equipment. Because you gave, APNTS students and faculty are being equipped with tools for learning, and they are thankfully taking advantage of them.

In April, 18 students received degrees in the second annual graduation ceremonies. Of this number, one is going on toward a doctoral program, four are now teaching in Nazarene Bible colleges, and 13 are in pastoral ministry. We are thankful for your part in the early success of APNTS.

By Mildred Gibson
She and her husband, Cordan, are missionaries on specialized assignment to the Philippines.
WALK WITH THE WIND

I popped the last bite of a candy bar into my mouth and chewed it angrily. Just a while ago we had sung “Jingle Bells” and “Joy to the World” in the schoolhouse, but I had nothing to be joyful about. Christmas was only three days away. I had watched Howard climb the bank from the railroad where I stood, cross the road, and take the drive up to their white house on the hill. In my thoughts I hurled nasty words after him. Squeezing the candy wrapper in a clenched fist, I dropped the crumpled ball into the gravel under the heel of my brogan. It wasn’t fair! The Great Depression of the 1930s wasn’t something that an eight-year-old, caught in the grip of its talons of poverty, understood. Still, what was happening to me wasn’t right. It couldn’t be! Howard disappeared behind their house. I faced into the cold Appalachian wind blowing up Left Beaver Creek and started down the railroad, taking two ties at a stride.

This drama on the railroad was the consummation of events that had begun two weeks earlier in our two-room country school. According to custom each student had put his or her name on a slip of paper and dropped it into a hat. We then “drew names.” Each would buy a present for the person whose name was drawn, to be placed under the Christmas tree and presented on the last day of school before the holidays. I had drawn Bonnie’s. Word gets around. I learned that Howard, a cousin of mine, had my name. His dad worked for the gas company. They even had a car! This year, I thought, I’ll surely get a nice present. Why, it could be something worth a whole dollar. He might buy me a cap pistol! Maybe even a pair of leather gloves. Howard always wore leather gloves during the winter.

On that last day of school, the Christmas program over, our teacher passed out the gifts. My mother managed somehow to buy for Bonnie a box of handkerchiefs. Bonnie opened her gift, looked shyly at me, and smiled. That pleased me. I kept waiting for my name to be called. Finally just one big present remained. Mine. No! It went to another. Suddenly I felt numb. Shocked. Howard hadn’t bought me anything. Nothing. And I had hoped . . .

The teacher wished us “Merry Christmas” and dismissed the class. Walking the tracks toward home, I passed the little combination post office and country store. Howard came out the door.

“Hey, Jack! Wait a minute,” he called. I stopped. He came up with outstretched hand. The gloved hand held a candy bar.

“Here. I bought you something for Christmas.”

I took the nickel candy bar. Howard left me standing there staring alternately at his retreating figure and the candy bar. Ripping the candy wrapper back, I took a large bite. The turmoil within wouldn’t allow me to enjoy it.

Walking homeward into the wind, I brushed tears from my cheeks with one cold, knuckle-cracked hand, and thrust it back deep into the pocket of my denim jacket. A chilling wind in your face brings tears to your eyes. The wind of bitter disappointment was far colder than that blowing up the valley. It wasn’t so much that Howard hadn’t bought me the most expensive gift of all given that day; rather it was his attitude that I really wasn’t worth anything—even a nickel gift was given grudgingly. No one should be subjected to depreciation. To make another human being feel worthless intentionally is surely a sin against mankind, if not against God. Perhaps both. Many who lived then, and many who live now in affluence would prefer not to be reminded that those in poor circumstances had the same grandparents as they.

Years later I met a Man who had been treated far worse than I. He understood bitter disappointments. His name was Jesus, whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. He reminded me that, “He came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:11). He came to help and heal. His own in Nazareth “. . . thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill wherein they cast him down headlong” (Luke 4:29). Others mockingly

You won’t have to face into the bitter wind of disappointment. Walk with the wind of divine Love.
said, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46). He was from the other side of the tracks also. He loved. They hated.

He asked me to "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). I found I could do that by His grace and with His example and Spirit of love as my guide. Yet I cannot help but remember that drama of bitter disappointment at Christmas, although more than half a century has passed. We are products of our past. Ofttimes we are changed products by God's grace, but still products. Many will be disappointed this year as Christmas comes and goes—disappointed children and disappointed adults. Can these disappointments be eliminated or alleviated? I think so.

In our materialistic society we are conditioned to want "things." We like gifts, don't we? Yet the One whose birthday we celebrate said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Without the love imparted by the Spirit of the One who said that, it's hard for adults to accept, and even harder for children to comprehend. But therein lies the solution to disappointment—be a giver. Enjoy seeing others happy and excited with gifts given. Give out of love. Give with no expectation of reward or recognition. Give because He gave.

Parents shouldn't lead their children to expect more in Christmas gifts than they can afford. The road to post-holiday disappointment and even depression may be paved with plastic credit cards. Wouldn't it be better to find out what each son or daughter really wants? Not a lot of things, but one central item. If that "want" is unreasonable for the child or unaffordable for the parents, provide guidance for an alternate selection. Don't lead those you love to expect something under the Christmas tree that won't be there.

Why not plan Christmas activities centered around togetherness and sharing? Make cookies or popcorn balls. Buy nuts in the shell for making fudge and have a nutcracking time. The best Christmases leave fond thoughts of family and friends—not things. Most disappointments are over things.

Want to have a Christmas without disappointments? Surely you do. Then make it one with sensible activities, sensible gifts, and a central sense of Christ's presence and love. You won't have to face into the bitter wind of disappointment. Walk with the wind of divine Love. Tears at Christmas will then be tears of joy and happiness, truly to be treasured.

BY JACK CONN
A free-lance writer who resides in Nashville, Tennessee.

NAZARENE ROOTS

"MOVEMENT JOURNALISM" AND C. J. KINNE

IN HIS STUDY OF THE POPULIST MOVEMENT OF THE LATE 19TH CENTURY, SOCIAL HISTORIAN LAWRENCE GOODWIN IDENTIFIED CRITICAL FACTORS IN THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF ANY MOVEMENT SEEKING TO ORGANIZE ITSELF AND PROPAGATE A DISTINCTIVE IDEOLOGY THAT CONTRASTS WITH ESTABLISHED PATTERNS OF THOUGHT. ONE SUCH FACTOR WAS THE NECESSITY OF INTERNAL LINES OF COMMUNICATION TO FACILITATE THE MASS EDUCATIONAL PROCESSES AND TO CARRY NEWS OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MOVEMENT'S STRUGGLE TO DEFINE ITS PURPOSE AND MISSION. IN THE WESLEYAN-HOLINESS AGITATION OF THE SAME PERIOD, HOLINESS JOURNALISM PLAYED THIS ROLE OF PROMOTING COHESION AND SOLIDARITY, AND CONTINUED TO DO SO DURING THE TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY TRANSITION FROM "A HOLINESS MOVEMENT" TO "HOLINESS CHURCHES."


"THAT WAS THE SPRING OF THE DEEP SNOW. HOW COLD IT WAS IN THAT OLD RESIDENCE BUILDING, WITH ITS TWO FLOORS, ATTIC, AND BASEMENT. DOWN IN THAT DARK BASEMENT WERE FINALLY INSTALLED A CYLINDER PRESS, A JOB PRESS, A SECOND-HAND LINOTYPE MACHINE, TWO IMPOSING STONES, AND A SMALL CABINET OF TYPE.

"KINNE WAS GENERAL MANAGER—THAT IS, ALL THE PLANNING, ALL THE HARD JOBS, ALL THE DISAGREABLE ONES, HE SEEMED TO CONSIDER HIS OWN PARTICULAR PROPERTY. WHAT A MAN KINNE WAS, AND HOW WE LOVED HIM. IT IS NOT A FIGURE OF SPEECH TO SAY THAT HE PUT HIS LIFE INTO THE FOUNDATION OF THE PUBLISHING HOUSE."

AFTER LEAVING THE PUBLISHING HOUSE, KINNE MADE THE BUILDING OF BREESE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN CHINA HIS SPECIAL PROJECT, LABORING ON IT THROUGHOUT THE 1920S UNTIL ITS COMPLETION.

AS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE CLOSES, IT IS WORTH A MOMENT'S REFLECTION ON THE MAN WHO MORE THAN ANY OTHER WAS ITS FOUNDER.

(SOURCES: HERALD OF HOLINESS, NOVEMBER 18, 1932; APRIL 17, 1937. PHOTOGRAPHS: C. J. KINNE FILES AND MPH COLLECTION)

STAN INGERSOL, ARCHivist
Dennis, that sage of comic strip fame, makes wise observations from his lofty pinnacle of wisdom as our favorite perennial five-year-old. Today he and Joey are licking at giant cones of that pink fluffy stuff known as cotton candy.

Dennis says, mid-lick, “It tastes like nothin’... with sugar on it.” What if, instead of the fair scene Hank Ketcham drew in the background, he had drawn a picture of a Sunday morning congregation? A picture of a weekly Bible study? A picture of someone at their morning devotions? A picture of the last Christian concert in your community?

There seems to be a pervasive attitude among Christians that “if it’s hard, I don’t want to do it.” If the Sunday morning sermon takes thought and effort to understand, I’ll volunteer for nursery duty. If the weekly Bible study gets beyond superficial conversation and social niceties, I’ll opt for cleaning the oven. If consistent Sunday evening church attendance becomes too burdensome, I’ll watch the newspapers to see who’s having a film or a concert and I’ll attend that instead. Or maybe I’ll stay home and watch the tube... there’s always a good family show on Sunday nights. Don’t misunderstand. Films and concerts are great, but only as a once-in-a-while treat. Cotton candy gets old quick. In fact, cotton candy sort of withers away all by itself even if it isn’t eaten. The humidity in the air is enough to consume it, and what is left is an unappetizing glob.

Remember Paul? He was a little frustrated at cotton candy eaters. He called them something different, but meant the same. Talking to the Corinthians he said, “Brothers... I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it” (1 Corinthians 3:2, NIV). Solid food—something to chew on. The Psalmist knew what it meant to chew on God’s Word. Psalm 119:97-104 gives us some insight into the results of his study habits:

- I love your law
- I meditate on it all day long
- Your commands make me wiser than my enemies
- I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes
- I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your Word
- I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me
- I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path

Tucked into this list of benefits from deep study is this verse: “How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (v. 103, NIV).

Time and effort are required for such study, but there is sustenance in the depths of God’s Word for us. Whether in public worship or private devotions, the time spent in real study is the meat and potatoes of Christian existence. When the junk food is left at the vendor’s stand, and true spiritual nutrition is worked for, the benefits are those the Psalmist had:

- an abiding love for the Word
- an ability to meditate on it for long periods of time
- Godly wisdom
- fresh insights
- understanding and discernment
- avoidance of evil ways
- faithfulness to the commandments of God
- a hatred of the wrong

And in it all, God provides just that right proportion of sweetness as an extra benefit of the study of His Word.
Let's not settle for "Nothin' . . . with sugar on it." God has so much for us. He desires and provides all that we need to be healthy, fit, strong Christians—Christians who are sustained by the Word, who can draw on that strength for the trials and testings of life; Christians who possess the endurance needed to live, to their final day on earth, a life pleasing and acceptable to Jesus. He is the One who said, "... it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world" (John 6:32-33, NIV).

Dennis can be forever that lovable, perpetual five-year-old, but God wants us to move beyond childish things and strive to attain that wonderful balance of the mature Christian life: childlike, but not childish. Proverbs 25:27 cautions, "It is not good to eat too much honey" (NIV), nor is it good for us to live on the fluff of life. Spiritual nutrition is there for each of us, if we don't settle for "nothin' . . . with sugar on it."

During the Christmas season, as we see more and more Xs filling in where Christ should be, we need to be reminded that the world can't take Him away. In fact, it seems like the harder they try, the more He shines through from unsuspecting places. They couldn't kill Him years ago so why would they think they could "X" Him out now?

Xalt the Lord Jesus
To His Xcellent position in your life.

Xpress His wonderful love,
and Xperience an
Xtremely wonderful Christmas!

MERRY XMAS!

BY BETTY ROSS
Secretary of the Ellet Church of the Nazarene in Akron, Ohio.

The lights are lit down Adderley Street. Christmas stars, synthetic snow, carols sing from every corner—flowers down the row—black and white and shades of both mingle in the mall—peace on earth goodwill to men—to all.

P. W. Botha speaks of bombs—a boy with dangling stunted arm runs gaily through the throng—among the smiling faces stride the grim or those who hide their pain—it's wrong.

Yet without Easter Christ of Christmas would not be our song.
RAINING NOW—MORE THAN EVER!

It was a day like any other day—clear blue skies, the gentle lapping of Mediterranean seas against the brown sands of a pleasant beach. White clouds, softly propelled by northerly breezes, puffed along.

On the seas, fishermen pulled in their nets from the dawn’s early catch, storing their gear as they finished their work. Soon they would be in home port, working, laughing, talking together.

Shopkeepers set up their displays of wares, awaiting early customers hunting bargains for table and pantry. Professionals read the report of business activity from the previous day. Children sat at the feet of their tutors listening raptly to heroic tales.

Housewives chatted with neighbors. Laborers toiled beneath the watchful eyes of master and foreman.

Then, without warning, the earth shook, the sky ignited. In minutes, a catastrophe of cosmic proportions caught the residents of Pompeii unaware, engulfing them completely, along with their history, society, and routine. One moment, all was as it had been from ancient memory. In the next, only unrecognizable shapes and forms, boiling and smoking in glowing trails of molten lava, mutely marked once tranquil settings.

Just so, changes in our churches and Sunday School have caught many of us unaware. All around us, the world has been changing. While our Sunday Schools beckon students to participate in routine investigations of the Greatest Story Ever Told, rough rumblings of major changes in social organization threaten status quo observances with sudden obsolescence.

President Reagan’s report, “A Nation at Risk,” called Americans to focus attention on the schooling of our children, while, quietly and without fanfare, training in the workplace accelerated as the major provider of education, equalizing the size of our elementary, secondary, and higher educational systems combined.

Training, not formal education, will largely determine what a person will earn throughout the work life. Today’s college or university graduate who walks down the aisle with a diploma in hand will walk into training classes tomorrow to learn the information necessary to participate as a functional employee in the company of his employment.

Seventy percent of the nation’s executive, professional, and technical workers are retrained on the job for other positions. One in eight working Americans participates in a formal training course each year.

While fully 50 percent of the nation’s chief executive officers (CEOs) hold no more than a high school diploma, 18 major corporations offer college-level degree programs on site. In the next two years, 13 additional corporations will join this list.

America is no longer a nation of youth. We are struggling to understand and respond to the needs of a new majority.

The U.S. government annually spends $70 billion in federal funding of formal continuing education and training. American business has accepted as fact that the human resource is an asset to be developed. Fortune 500 companies have learned that training helps them identify and equip people who can think, create, nurture initiative, and inspire excellence.

Let us consider this question: “Who is
Church of Jesus Christ has transmitted the vision of these five bulwarks to its adherents. From generation to generation, we have alternately fanned or doused the sparks from the embers of these cross-beams. In one generation, koinonia blazed with such intensity that the glow of the other embers was hardly distinguishable. In other generations, liturgy, blazed across the horizon of the Church’s life, until the didache, the apostle’s teaching, was all but neglected.

Today, voices from our cultural setting awaken us to a rekindling of the embers of dying fires, the fires of training. Valued members of our communities of faith are being immersed in training programs from their employers, their interest groups, and their communities. Now is the hour for the Church of the Nazarene to become a full partner in their lives by offering them the appropriate opportunity of training, education, and development. Now is the hour for the Church of the Nazarene to recognize the opportunity to declare the value of every laayerson by according him the opportunity for meaningful participation in the full life of the faith community.

Changing world scenarios remind churchmen of their critical role in society. Delivery systems evolve. Methodologies appear, change, and disappear. Epochs, once glacier-like in movement, now burst upon human consciousness with mainframe speed. The church can only respond with the Cross and its cross-beam message if it paces its performance with training for its front-line troops.

What would the citizens of Pompeii have done differently had they known that in only hours the world as they had always known it would be forever changed? If we could look out over the horizon of time and see the moving hand of God writing history’s timetable, what would we do differently in the Church of the Nazarene?

How would we fill the ministry opportunities to laypersons? Would we spend precious moments equipping them to serve the needs of an age rapidly approaching holocaust? Would we invest our energies in repetitive programs of dependency-producing behaviors, ignoring the fact that without a vital partnership of trained laity and Spirit-filled, Spirit-led clergy we will never impact our communities on a scale sufficient to properly evangelize them?

Let us accept the challenge today of re-emphasizing the role of training in the lives of our congregations. Let us capitalize on a tidal wave of momentum already developed for us by the forces of social organization. Let us offer needs-driven responses that empower, equip, and enable believers for works of service and ministry. Let us form a partnership of listening. Let us listen to the neglected, the enslaved, the oppressed; hearing their cry, let us respond to their need with the message of the Savior.

BY DAVID J. FELTER

General coordinator of training in the Division of Christian Life and Sunday School, and consultant for evangelism projects at international headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri.

BOOK BRIEF

THE JABEZ PRINCIPLE

Paper, 195 pages. To order see page 23.

HAROLD IVAN SMITH author

A nyone who can gain and hold the attention of 3,000-plus single adults has got to be worth some attention. Harold I. Smith can do this with both tongue and pen. Since many of us are neither single nor able to hear Smith in person we will have to settle for a piece of him we can hold in our hand and listen to with our mind.

The book begins with an invitation from the author to join him in the writing. You are offered the opportunity to do a little self-analysis regarding your work. That’s right, I said “work”—W-O-R-K—the everyday garden variety.

Being a “man on the go” himself, Smith writes out of the familiar crucible of daily living. Something about the book hints at being especially for the layperson. With a few decades of being an ordained elder under my belt, I felt like I might be intruding when I peeked inside the covers of this volume. However, I didn’t find any “No Preachers Allowed!” signs in the book. So whoever you are, turn the page and get yourself some good sound straight-to-the-point advice for dealing with such things as work stress and job depression and a whole lot more.

If you ever faced a situation where you felt you “didn’t have a prayer,” you can find hope in these pages about a man whose life is summed up in the prayer he prayed. His whole biography is contained in two verses in the Old Testament.

Jabez, whose name is a direct reflection of the pain he caused his mother when he entered the world, may not be all that familiar, but the prayer about his work has sweat and tears in it. You’ll find yourself praying it, too. And after reading this book, you’ll want to put the “Jabez Principle” to work in your life.

Glen Lewis Van Dyne
Pasadena, California

BEACON HILL PRESS OF KANSAS CITY
CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The first Christmas gifts were three in number—gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

They were offered to the infant Christ by three “wise men” from “the east.” Precisely who they were, what they did, and where they came from is not revealed in Scripture, and has been the subject of scholarly inquiry across many centuries.

We are not even sure how many were in this group of early worshipers of the Christ child. “We three kings of Orient are” is song but not Scripture. From the number of gifts we have inferred the number of givers, but that is sheer guesswork. There are many countries and cultures east of the Holy Land from which they could have come, so pinpointing their origin and class is also a matter of educated guesses.

Does it matter? Not greatly. They were not wise because they came from the East, or because they belonged to some priestly or scholarly class. They were wise because they came to Christ, because they worshiped Him. All who come to Him are wise, and all who don’t are otherwise.

And where gifts are concerned, while their gifts to Christ had value, Christ himself, as God’s gift to mankind, is of infinite worth. His Godhead wrapped in flesh, He was at once like us and unlike us. As Henry A. Buttz said, “He entered into our humanity, bearing its infirmities and weaknesses, but not its sins.”

His experience of our humanity assures His perfect sympathy. His sinless manhood, offered in atoning sacrifice for us, assures our complete salvation. Since He binds up, in His incarnation and crucifixion, all we can ever know of God, of humanity, and of salvation, He is the most priceless gift ever given by anyone to anyone.

The gifts of the magi probably financed the flight of the holy family into Egypt to escape the murderous insanity of Herod. The gift of God in Christ is the ransom price that finances our flight from the bondage of sin to the freedom of forgiveness, cleansing, and peace. In gratitude our gift to Him can be nothing less than ourselves—totally.

SHADOWED CHRISTMAS

The slaughter of the innocents recorded in the Gospel of Matthew and celebrated in later art cannot be forgotten. Its connection with the infancy of Christ guarantees the event an enduring place in history.

As an act of savage cruelty on Herod’s part it was of a piece with his nature and career. He murdered without question or hesitation anyone perceived as a threat to his throne. To put all the baby boys of a village to the sword, hoping thereby to assure the death of a certain one, was not out of character for this demented monster.

This shadow side of Christmas is really a minor incident compared to the mass destruction of fetuses going on in America today. Since convenience abortions were legalized by the U.S. Supreme Court, over 10 million human lives have been deliberately and callously destroyed annually. This wholesale slaughter rivals the death camps of Hitler in magnitude and wantonness. That “holocaust” should become a descriptive term for this horror is no surprise.

The practice of violence against the unborn is as reprehensible as the practice of violence against those who live to reach childhood, youth, or adult years. To crusade against the abuse of children or the elderly, while defending the right of a woman to destroy human life within her womb, is farcical.

To declare that life is human only when it has emerged from the womb is both illogical and unbiblical, a pathetic concession of politicians to a misguided concept of “liberated” womanhood. Enslavement to egoism and hedonism is masked as freedom. One day the verdict of history or the judgment of God will strip off that mask.

The infants of Bethlehem were a handful among millions of infants murdered in our violence-ridden world. They are remembered because of their association with Jesus. One day we shall realize that all children, including the unborn destroyed in the name of liberation, are connected to Him.
CAUTION, SURGEON!

In my reading today I came quite unexpectedly upon these lines from Emily Dickinson:

Surgeons must be very careful  
When they take the knife!  
Underneath their fine incisions  
Stirs the Culprit—Life!

The quatrain arrested me immediately, for Doris is scheduled to undergo major surgery in five days. (By the time you read this, the operation will be over and recovery will be complete.) Her life is exceedingly precious to me, and I certainly want the surgeon to be extremely careful.

When a slip of the knife could maim or destroy, the responsibility of surgeons is awesome. I am sure that most of them feel it and respect it. The very few who do not will not long survive as surgeons. It used to be said, “Doctors bury their mistakes.” In this day of frequent malpractice suits and huge court awards, the creaking criticism no longer holds.

Someone’s life is in your hands. Have for it the respect and care you would wish a surgeon to have for yours if you were going under the knife.

Preachers, too, bear delicate responsibilities and need to work with great caution. The gospel we proclaim is destiny-determining. Life and death are the issues when the Word of God encounters the mind of man. Consequent upon the response one makes to the gospel is heaven or hell. Eternal damage could result from a preacher’s malpractice.

When you think about it, every person’s influence has a potential for enhancing or destroying life. We should all be as careful as possible that our speech and conduct are helpful, not baneful. Especially is this true where our influence upon “little ones” is concerned, as Jesus Christ pointed out with blunt warning (Matthew 18:5-14).

Someone’s life is in your hands. Have for it the respect and care you would wish a surgeon to have for yours if you were going under the knife.

“Reverence thyself,” said Pythagoras. Others, also!

Unto you is born this day... a Savior.  
(Luke 2:11)
I heard a speaker quote John 17:15 as proof that the church would go through the tribulation. To me, the verse has no connection with that subject. What do you think?

I think you are right.

In this passage Jesus, praying for His disciples, says to the Father, “I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.” His disciples are different from the world because He has given them the word of God. The world reacts to that difference with hatred (v. 14). Nevertheless, they are not to be withdrawn from the world, but are sent into the world in order to bear witness to Christ (v. 18). He prays, therefore, not for their exemption from conflict but for their protection from evil.

The tribulation period at the close of the age is not in view in this passage. It does make clear, however, that God protects the church, not by isolating it from suffering, but by insulating it against evil.

To my knowledge, I have never read in the Bible that we are to allow the Lord to enter our hearts. It may be biblical but I have never seen it. Is there Scripture which says, “Allow the Lord to enter your heart”? There is a wonderful promise in Revelation 3:20 that reads, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.” This “door” is generally understood as “the heart’s door,” for “heart” is used in Scripture as a figure for the inner life. Christ does not force the door open but awaits our welcome. He is never guilty of breaking and entering!

Paul speaks of “Christ in you, the hope of glory” in Colossians 1:27, and prays that “Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith” in Ephesians 3:17. Such passages are sufficient warrant for this common way of speaking which recognizes (1) that Christ desires to possess our hearts, but (2) He never coerces our submission to that desire.

Our Sunday School teacher told us that the devil has nothing to do with a person’s decision to commit sin; that such desires originate solely within the mind of the individual. He said the devil, being a single entity, has only a limited range of contacts; that the Bible records only a few instances where he tempted someone, such as Eve and Jesus.

It is true that Satan is a creature and therefore limited. He should not be thought of as everywhere at once and as the possessor of all knowledge and all power. He should not be elevated to the status of God in these respects.

I think it is instructive and encouraging that Satan had to get a permit to try Job, and when He issued the license God placed a limit on what Satan could do to Job. The devil is tied, but with a long rope. He is compelled to respect the limits imposed on him by God. As Luther put it, “he is God’s devil.”

However, he masterminds a vast army of evil spirits and he has an ally in every carnal heart. For these reasons he does not have to be personally present in all instances of temptation.

James said, “each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust” (1:14, NASB). “Lust” here means “strong desire.”

Peter, however, warns, “Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8, NASB). And Paul said, “Satan disguises himself as an angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14, NASB). A roaring lion who travels with the speed of light—that’s scary. Personally or through his emissaries Satan can get around to a lot of people each day!

Nevertheless, we are assured, “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7, NASB). Whatever the direct source of temptation, Satan’s wiles or our desires, we can overcome them and keep true to Christ.

Conducted by
W. E. McCUMBER, Editor
We welcome questions on biblical and doctrinal matters. The editor is not able to send replies to questions not selected for publication. Address: ANSWER CORNER, Herald of Holiness, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

LETTERS

LOOK AHEAD

Today’s Church should be the most excited and busiest of all that have ever been. Why? Because every day that passes draws us closer to the day when our Lord and Savior will return to gather His Church and take them home with Him.

Instead, I’m afraid a lot of people in the Church today are living in the past and thinking of how it used to be. No matter what used to be.

We can’t rest on our past accomplishments and become satisfied with our efforts.

God pity us when there ceases to burn in our hearts a desire to do something greater for God.

Dave Duncan
Mount Dora, Florida

THANKS FOR COMING

It was our pastor’s last Sunday with us. For almost six years our lives had blended together in a small rural church.

As he preached his last sermon, I kept thinking about what I could say to someone with whom I had shared spiritual mountaintops and valleys, graduations, anniversaries, car accidents, deaths ... At the end of the service, having come up with no appropriate words, I simply shook his hand and smiled, giving myself one more day to find the right words to express my appreciation for his ministry.

As we were eating after the service, my 11-year-old daughter proudly announced, “I told the pastor thanks for coming.”

As the men put the last piece of furniture on the van the next day, Pastor shook my hand, and I found myself saying, simply, “Thanks for coming, Pastor.” Somehow, that seemed to say it all.

Sarah Cleckner Cearns
Willisburg, Ohio

ON TARGET

Thank you for your “Standpoint” of June 1, 1987. Again you are right on tar-
DENOMINATION'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE
INCREASES FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The 1986-87 Sunday School enrollment increased during this past statistical year from 1,231,288 to 1,264,876, or a plus 33,588. Average attendance totaled 635,132, for a gain of 8,374 over the same period one year ago. These annual statistics were released by the General Secretary's Office for the Church of the Nazarene in all world areas and confirmed that Sunday School has continued to grow for the fifth consecutive year. The present enrollment figure is just 100,000 below the goal set for Year Two of our march to TWO MILLION by 1995.

“LIFT HIGH THE TORCH” FALL EMPHASIS
BOOSTS ATTENDANCE AND NEW ENROLLEES

During the six-week Fall Sunday School emphasis, “Lift High the Torch,” a total of 36,336 new people were added to the enrollment in U.S. and Canada districts. Average attendance increased by nearly 16,000 each Sunday over the 1986 average, and the Rally Day attendance total was 457,813. Two districts were declared winners in each of the five Olympic categories:

**NUMERICAL WINNERS**

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**PERCENTAGE WINNERS**

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25 Largest Sunday Schools in Average Attendance

1. Mindelo (Cape Verde) 2,104
2. Salem First (Oreg.) 1,828
3. Bonteheuwel (South Africa) 1,700
4. Bethany First (Okla.) 1,681
5. Denver First (Colo.) 1,483
6. Pasadena First (Calif.) 1,432
7. Olathe College (Kans.) 1,200
8. Long Beach First (Calif.) 1,060
9. Cleveland St. Church on Wheels (Ohio) 1,000

Top 25 Districts in Sunday School Attendance

1. Guatemala Las Verapaces 17,908
2. Southern California* 10,769
3. Oregon Pacific 9,540
4. Central Florida 9,239
5. Central Ohio 9,047
6. Colorado 9,040
7. Southwestern Ohio 8,779
8. Los Angeles 8,725
9. North Central Ohio 8,582
10. Northeastern Indiana 8,526
11. Kansas City 8,332
12. Korena Central 8,270
13. Eastern Michigan 8,009
14. Swaziland North 7,971
15. Southwest Indiana 7,668
16. Tennessee 7,863
17. Illinois 7,846
18. Indianapolis 7,660
19. Kansas 7,576
20. Washington Pacific 7,531
21. Akron 7,027
22. RSA Western Cape 6,941
23. Michigan 6,699
24. Northwest 6,733
25. Depreciation of Cape Verde 6,693

Top 10 Sunday Schools in Numerical Gain (U.S. and Canada)

1. Salem First (Oregon Pacific) +285
2. Los Angeles First (Los Angeles) +217
3. Tampa Faith (Central Florida) +154
4. Alanson Lakeview (Northern Michigan) +148
5. Yuma First (Arizona) +139
6. Bethany First (Northwest Oklahoma) +132
7. Kailua (Hawaii Pacific) +128
8. Morenci (Eastern Michigan) +120
9. Phoenix Deer Valley (Arizona) +112
10. Guthrie (Northwest Oklahoma) +112

Top 10 Sunday Schools in Numerical Gain (International)

1. Manzini First (Swaziland North) +709
2. Santa Rosa (Peru North) +560
3. Merlo (Argentina Central) +460
4. Praia (Cape Verde) +452
5. Bonteheuwel (RSA Western Cape) +417
6. Yaxbatz (Guatemala Las Verapaces) +350
7. Haut de Trou (Haiti North East) +327
8. Campbell (Guatemala Las Verapaces) +324
9. Panã (Guatemala Las Verapaces) +318
10. La Colina (Colombia Coast) +311
### The Five Largest Sunday Schools in Average Attendance for the 1986-87 Assembly Year

#### U.S. and Canada (under roof)

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<th>Attendees</th>
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**Joplin**
- 249 Carthage
- 239 Independence
- 194 Springfield First
- 187 Lebanon
- 185 Fort Scott First

**Kansas**
- 978 Wichita First
- 315 Salina First
- 293 Hutchinson First
- 287 Wichita Linwood
- 274 Hutchinson Bethany

**Kansas City**
- 1,200 Olathe College
- 660 Kansas City First
- 325 Kansas City Central
- 321 Overland Park
- 295 Kansas City Nall Avenue

**Kentucky**
- 291 Lexington Lafayette
- 255 Columbia
- 178 Georgetown
- 177 Louisville Farmdale
- 168 Science Hill

**Los Angeles**
- 1,432 Pasadena First
- 392 Los Angeles First
- 379 New Life Community
- 305 Lompoc
- 290 San Luis Obispo

**Louisiana**
- 159 Shreveport Huntington Park
- 123 Baton Rouge First
- 115 Ebenezer
- 106 DeRidder
- 97 Alexandria First

**Maine**
- 260 South Portland
- 164 Bangor
- 153 Millinocket
- 149 Skowhegan
- 105 Dover-Foxcroft

**Michigan**
- 263 Chapman Memorial
- 256 Sturgis
- 237 Lansing South
- 222 Grand Rapids First
- 213 Owosso First

**Minnesota**
- 254 Minneapolis First
- 140 Litchfield
- 137 Fergus Falls
- 129 Osseo
- 119 Backus

**Mississippi**
- 206 Meridian Fitkin
- 179 McComb First
- 123 Jackson First
- 112 Grenada
- 111 Jackson Emmanuel

**Missouri**
- 183 Hambal First
- 176 St. Louis Southwest
- 175 Harvey
- 170 St. Louis Webster Groves
- 158 St. Louis Overland

**Navajo Nation**
- 100 Chinleobeto
- 74 Shonto
- 56 Montezuma Chair
- 54 Leupp
- 52 Ramah Sandmountain

**Nebraska**
- 233 Lincoln First
- 185 North Platte
- 151 Hastings
- 150 Cozad
- 131 York

**New England**
- 339 New Bedford International
- 276 Lowell
- 213 Manchester
- 183 Nashua
- 178 Quincy Wollaston

**New Mexico**
- 321 Clovis First
- 317 Albuquerque Heights First
- 222 Albuquerque Sandia
- 185 El Paso First
- 175 Roswell First

**New York**
- 393 Brooklyn Beulah
- 255 Valley Stream
- 173 Fishkill
- 147 Lakeland
- 145 Bronx Bethany

**Northern California**
- 289 San Jose First
- 231 Eureka First
- 218 Concord First
- 214 Santa Rosa
- 159 Monterey
- 159 Santa Cruz

**Northern Michigan**
- 148 Alanson Lakeview
- 112 Reed City
- 105 Beaverton
- 104 Traverse City
- 84 Cadillac
- 84 Cherry Grove

**Northern Oklahoma**
- 1,681 Bethany First
- 428 Bethany Williams Memorial
- 340 Oklahoma City Lake View Park
- 307 Oklahoma City First
- 236 Enid First

**Northwestern Illinois**
- 532 Sterling First
- 249 Rock Island First
- 231 Pekin First
- 214 Galesburg First
- 172 Ottawa First

**Northwestern Ohio**
- 292 Lima Community
- 249 Springfield First
- 205 Piqua
- 204 Lima First
- 203 Wapakoneta

**Oregon Pacific**
- 1,828 Salem First
- 666 Portland First
- 340 Medford First
- 285 Oregon City
- 283 Bend

**Philadelphia**
- 583 Fairview Village
- 337 Mifflinburg
- 309 Ephrata
- 293 Vineland
- 266 Bridgeton

**Pittsburgh**
- 245 Warren
- 217 Waynesburg
- 212 Oil City
- 181 Pittsburgh South Hills
- 154 Homer City

**Rocky Mountain**
- 154 Kalispell
- 150 Sunnyside
- 112 Bozeman
- 109 Casper
- 102 Great Falls
1988 SPRING SUNDAY SCHOOL EMPHASIS

“LOVE REACHES OUT TO BABIES”
March 6—April 3, 1988

“Love Our Babies” Day March 6
“Love Is Intergenerational” Day March 13
“Love Finds a Baby” Day March 20
“Love Celebrates Babies” Day March 27
“Love to All Families” Day April 3

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me.’” Matthew 19:14
get. Wouldn't it be nice if church boards had some performance evaluation procedures built into the structure of their administrative tasks which could give pastors positive feedback without the sometimes bitter, often insensitive, occasionally cruel ways dissatisfaction is communicated?

Who is more aware of the "strange clothes" the Holy Spirit has chosen to preach His Word than the messenger? They are often inadequate. They are often mistaken. Their leadership is sometimes suspect. Rarely are they moral failures. Often they are mortally flawed. Yet I believe that most are willing to be corrected, even rebuked, in love and kindness.

If they are cut, they bleed. If they are hurt, they cry. If their reputations are destroyed, they die, and the church dies a little, too.

Thank you for speaking a strong word in favor of kindness and courtesy.

Gary A. Slusher
Dallas, Texas

NOT FORGOTTEN
Gone but not forgotten are the days of Old North Reading Camp. What precious memories to us who remember the great preaching of Dr. Chapman, Uncle Bud Robinson, J. Bona Fleming, Rev. J. Neilson, Sr., Dr. Earle, Lon Woodrum, and many more, plus the great praise meetings led by Uncle Frank Smith, with Sister Rundlett at the piano.

Gone but not forgotten also is the great singing of DeVerne Mullen and Brother Patch, plus many others.

Thank you, New England District, for the years you kept the camp open, and may the power of camp meetings never die but continue until Jesus comes.

Ralph W. Bailey
Jamestown, New Jersey

Please keep your letters brief (50-150 words). Letters responding to other letters are not printed. We cannot reply personally to letters not selected for this feature. Address: LETTERS, Herald of Holiness, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Note: Unsolicited Manuscripts Will Not Be Returned Unless Accompanied by a Self-addressed, Stamped Envelope.

BY ALL MEANS...SAVE SOME

REJECTED, ACCEPTED

Maria, a lovely blond in her early 30s, walked into our church foyer one Sunday, alone. I was there, welcoming visitors, being sure the bulletins were ready, etc.

"Hi, I'm the pastor's wife. I'm so glad you have come to worship with us today." I got her a visitor's card, and she filled it out while we were talking.

Maria told me, "I've been going to another church, but they don't want me, because I wear some jewelry, my hair is too short, and I wear blue jeans." Her face told me that the rejection she felt had hurt her deeply.

"You won't find that attitude here," I told her. "We will love and accept you as you are."

Maria went into the pastor's Sunday School class and found immediate acceptance. The next Sunday she came back and brought her 12-year-old daughter with her. Now they both come regularly and Maria sings in the choir.

I visited her home one day, and learned that she had told her mother all about our loving, caring church. Maria went on vacation recently, and sent us a card saying, "Please save my place, I'll be back."

Maria has suffered many rejections. She was rejected by her husband because of her faith in Christ. She was rejected by a church because she did not fit their mold. Now she has found love and acceptance.

Maria and her daughter have both joined our church. We are thankful that she came to us, instead of turning away from the church after being rejected.

BY JUANITA BUCHANAN
NWMS president and Continuing Lay Training director at the Tampa, Florida, Town and Country Church.

ONE STAR IS SHINING STILL

Our world is wrecked with violence;
Our world is battered, bruised, and torn—
But one bright star is shining still:
The one that shone when Christ was born.
The swords of terror strike us down
And men's weak hearts are failing them—
But one bright star is shining still:
The one that shone on Bethlehem.
Atomic gods belch out their wrath
And melt our weapons and our shields—
But wait, I hear the angels' song:
The one sung above shepherds' fields.
The missiles fly and many die,
We ask when will the struggle cease?
But wait, the angels sing again
The song of goodwill and of peace.
Dictators shake their fists at God
And glut themselves with saltless greed,
But one bright star appears again:
The one that shone on Jesse's seed.
The carnal sins of men increase
And Satan's puppets multiply—
But wait—I hear a virgin groan—
And then I hear a baby cry.
The wise men knelt with costly gifts;
I hear a hallelujah shout—
The Star of Ransom shines again
And all hell cannot put it out!

—CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH
Bethany, Oklahoma
Incredible Love

I had heard some incredible stories about Christian love and forgiveness that became a part of the healing process following the Korean War. But these stories were distant—they had taken place a long time ago. One day, however, I became aware of another incredible story of love and forgiveness. This story took place in Korea in the proximity of our home.

Our neighbor, the son of a Methodist pastor and himself a professor of theology at a college in Taejon, Korea, had taken his mother into his home to live out her final days under his care. This was Korean custom. Daily she walked up and down the hill in front of our home on her way to the little Methodist church where she was a faithful teacher, group leader, and encourager.

One day I received a call from our neighbor’s wife. Her mother-in-law had collapsed on the floor and the wife could not contact her husband. She asked for my assistance in taking her mother-in-law to a clinic across town. When I arrived at their home I was joined by the pastor of the church and together we took her to the clinic. Later, after a short visit to the hospital, the elderly saint passed to a well-deserved eternal reward.

She was a remarkable lady. She and her husband had a fruitful ministry. But the eulogies at her funeral revealed that her life and ministry was far from ordinary; they told of amazing love and forgiveness.

She and her pastor husband were the parents of a beautiful and vivacious young girl who had just graduated from high school. But tragedy struck the pastor’s home and the life of the young girl was taken by a jealous lover.

It is difficult to comprehend the way these Christian parents reacted to the situation. All natural reactions were laid aside and true Christian love prevailed.

The murderer, himself a young man, received a life sentence for his crime and went to prison. The young girl’s parents, in spite of deep grief, visited the young man in prison and witnessed to him about the love of Christ. The pastor petitioned for the young man’s life to be spared and for his sentence to be shortened.

The young murderer found Christ because of the Christlike love of those who should have hated him. He became a model prisoner and witnessed to others in his cell.

One day in 1980 a man walked toward our neighbor’s home and turned into the driveway. At that very time our neighbor’s parents (the pastor and his wife) were visiting their son’s home. When they saw the man coming into the driveway they jumped up and ran out the door and embraced him as they would a member of the family. The man could not stop crying even after entering the house. Our neighbor did not recognize the man and was puzzled by his parents’ actions. But soon it became known that sitting there in their living room was the young murderer, recently released from prison, visiting those whom he had deeply hurt. But he was no longer seen as a murderer but as a beloved son.

Eventually the man became a pastor and now serves a church in Korea.

Perhaps such a story should not seem so incredible. After all, there have been other murderers who have been changed and became servants of God. The murderous Saul, so zealous in his pursuit of Christians, had them bound, beaten, and killed. Even after he became a changed man, the early apostles were reluctant to accept him. Barnabas had to intercede on his behalf, and he was finally accepted by the church. Their reluctance was probably due to the fact that Saul had been responsible for some of their loved ones being put to death.

We are unaware, perhaps, of the extent to which God calls us to love and forgive. The love that was shown to the young murderer was not natural love; it was supernatural love.

“See how much love they have for one another!”

ROY STULTS
A Nazarene missionary, teaching missions at Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary in the Philippines.
Craig Doane, director of the Endowment Fund for Mid-America Nazarene College, recently resigned to begin a career with the National Kidney Foundation. Doane's position with the foundation will be chief development officer. He will be involved in fund-raising with a primary emphasis on soliciting from major corporations and foundations. The Kidney Foundation's head office is in New York City. Doane will commute between the Kansas City regional office and New York City.

In 1981, Doane joined the MANC staff as the administrative assistant in Admissions and Financial Aid. During his years at MANC, Doane's position with the foundation will be chief development officer. He will be involved in fund-raising with a primary emphasis on soliciting from major corporations and foundations. The Kidney Foundation's head office is in New York City. Doane will commute between the Kansas City regional office and New York City.

Social Security Reminder
January 1, 1988, new Social Security tax rates will go into effect. Employees will have 7.51 percent of their wages withheld for Social Security (FICA) taxes. The employer will also pay a matching amount. The combined amount of 15.02 percent will be sent by the employer to the IRS for each employee. These new rates will affect all Nazarene churches who employ laymen. However, the minister's situation will be different. Although employed by the local church, elders and district-licensed ministers are required to pay Social Security (SECA) at the self-employment rate. For 1988, the effective rate will be 13.02 percent. (Deacons may request MEMO: CHURCH MANAGEMENT No. 12 from the Nazarene Pensions office regarding their tax status.)

The minister is individually obligated to pay the Social Security tax quarterly, along with estimated income taxes. Nearly all local church boards are "helping" their ministerial employees with the payment of Social Security taxes by way of a tax-able cash allowance equal to the full amount due.

Local churches should follow the instructions found in IRS Publication 15, "Circular E—Employer's Tax Guide," for 1988. Questions on how the Social Security taxes affect local Nazarene churches may be directed to the Board of Pensions and Benefits USA, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131; telephone: 816-333-7000.

Deadline for Issuing W-2 Forms to Church Employees
Every local church in the United States should issue a Form W-2 to each of its employees no later than January 31, 1988, according to current tax procedures. This W-2 should report wages earned by the employee during 1987.

Although ministerial employees and lay employees of a local church are treated differently for income tax and Social Security purposes, the IRS has clearly stated that both types of employees are to receive a W-2 by the deadline. IRS Publication 15, "Circular E—Employer's Tax Guide" (available from the IRS), states that there are criminal and civil penalties for willful failure to give a statement of required information.

By the same date, Form 4782, "Employee Moving Expense Information," must be given to any employee for which moving expenses have been paid or reimbursed. (See MEMO: CHURCH MANAGEMENT No. 15.)

Additional information on how these apply to Nazarene churches is available upon request from the Board of Pensions and Benefits USA, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131. When requesting information, please ask for MEMO: CHURCH MANAGEMENT Nos. 3, 6, 7, 8, and 15.

The Christian Musicians International of Christian Life and Sunday School was the sponsor of a three-day seminar held at the Nebraska District parsonage, October 5-7, 1987. The above six students and church pianists are working toward their Church Pianist Certificate, which is awarded through the Continuing Lay Training office. Evonne Neuenschwander was the instructor. Pictured (l to r) are: Ernestine Hendrickson, Ruby Henderson, Linda Shipman, Faye Anne Hughes, Mary Baney, and Vicky Darling.

Sunday, July 26, Russell B. Hartzell was honored in a special service for being church treasurer of Morgantown, W.Va., First Church for 50 years. Pictured (l to r) are: Mr. and Mrs. Russell B. Hartzell, their daughter Catherine; former pastor, Rev. Pat LaFon; and present pastor, Rev. Paul D. Sydenstricker.
To qualify for the Stewardship Honor Roll, a church must pay all budgets in full and meet the formula for 10% Giving.

Listed below are 49 churches that have qualified for the Stewardship Honor Roll for 30 or more consecutive years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONSECUTIVE YEARS</th>
<th>CHURCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>ALEXANDRIA (ALEXANDRIA, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>BETHEL (ARENZVILLE, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>ELKHART FIRST (ELKHART, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>HARRIS CHAPEL (SELMA, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>KANSAS CITY FIRST (KANSAS CITY, MO.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>MONONGAHELA (MONONGAHELA, PA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>MOUNT HOPE (BERNE, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>SUBLETTE (SUBLETTE, KANS.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>WARREN FIRST (WARREN, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>WINCHESTER (WINCHESTER, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>ZION (BROIT, IOWA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>MARION FIRST (MARION, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>BEARDSTOWN (BEARDSTOWN, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>CHATTANOOGA FIRST (CHATTANOOGA, TENN.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>COLUMBIA (COLUMBIA, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>NEW BRIGHTON (NEW BRIGHTON, PA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>HARMAITAN (OLDS, ALTA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>LOWELL (LOWELL, MICH.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>PEORIA FIRST (PEORIA, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>CONCORD (CONCORD, CALIF.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>EAST ROCKAWAY (LONG ISLAND, N.Y.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>WARREN (WARREN, PA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>BERNE (BERNE, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>BRADFORD FIRST (BRADFORD, PA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>DINUBA (DINUBA, CALIF.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>DURANT (DURANT, OKLA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>ELKHART (ELKHART, KANS.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>GRAND HAVEN (GRAND HAVEN, MICH.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>BRESEE AVENUE (PASADENA, CALIF.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>OTTAWA FIRST (OTTAWA, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>BELLE (BELLE, W.VA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>BETHEL (BETHEL, KANS.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>CLAYTONIA (WEST SUNBURY, PA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>FORT RECOVERY (FORT RECOVERY, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>PENIEL (HUTCHINSON, KANS.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>WESTBROOK (INDIANAPOLIS, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>YUMA (YUMA, COLO.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>CHICAGO OAK PARK (OAK PARK, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>IRONION FIRST (IRONION, OHIO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>MUNCIE SOUTH SIDE (MUNCIE, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>NYSSA (NYSSA, OREG.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>GEORGETOWN (GEORGETOWN, ILL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>FAIRVIEW (Nampa, Idaho)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>BETHANY (HUTCHINSON, KANS.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>SOUTH PORTLAND (SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>NORTH PLATE (NORTH PLATE, NEBR.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>EVANSVILLE FIRST (EVANSVILLE, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>ROANOKE FIRST (ROANOKE, VA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>WASHINGTON FIRST (WASHINGTON, D.C.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listed below are the 10 churches on the Stewardship Honor Roll with the highest percentage of giving to General Budget and mission specials:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>CHURCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>132.08</td>
<td>FLUSHING KOREAN (FLUSHING, N.Y.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107.99</td>
<td>GREENVILLE (GREENVILLE, ALA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105.04</td>
<td>LONG BEACH FIRST (LONG BEACH, CALIF.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>72.47</td>
<td>DOVER CALVARY (DOVER, DEL.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65.29</td>
<td>MOUNT PLEASANT FIRST (MOUNT PLEASANT, MICH.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63.90</td>
<td>HOUSTON DENVER (HOUSTON, TEX.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63.00</td>
<td>BURLESON (BURLESON, TEX.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.13</td>
<td>ROANOKE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS (ROANOKE, VA.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56.61</td>
<td>MOUNT HOPE (BERNE, IND.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.09</td>
<td>DETROIT FIRST (NORTHVILLE, MICH.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listed below are the districts with 50 percent or more of their churches qualifying for the Stewardship Honor Roll:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>SUPERINTENDENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SACRAMENTO</td>
<td>WALTER M. HUBBARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAWAII PACIFIC</td>
<td>DARRELL B. YEARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIANAPOLIS</td>
<td>JOHN F. HAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>JAMES M. BEARDEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>ROY E. CARNAHAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CANADA QUEBEC</td>
<td>HARRY A. RICH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHIGAN</td>
<td>C. NEIL STRAIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA SOUTHERN</td>
<td>MAX STONE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHWEST OHIO</td>
<td>M. V. SCOTT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA NORTHERN PACIFIC</td>
<td>JOHN N. WHITE</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA WESTERN</td>
<td>JOHN KERR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERMOUNTAIN</td>
<td>HOYLE C. THOMAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANSAS</td>
<td>W. T. DOUGHARTY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHWEST</td>
<td>WALTER LAMAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILADELPHIA</td>
<td>TALMAGE N. HAGGARD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listed below are the top 14 districts who reached or overpaid their accepted budget for 1987:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>SUPERINTENDENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAINE</td>
<td>J. E. SHANKEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>JAMES M. BEARDEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW ENGLAND</td>
<td>NEALE O. MCLAIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN LATIN AMERICAN</td>
<td>RAYMOND Z. LOPEZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAWAII PACIFIC</td>
<td>DARRELL B. YEARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACRAMENTO</td>
<td>WALTER M. HUBBARD</td>
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<tr>
<td>KANSAS</td>
<td>MILTON PARRISH</td>
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<tr>
<td>SALEM</td>
<td>ROY E. CARNAHAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>CLARENCE J. KINZLER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILADELPHIA</td>
<td>TALMAGE N. HAGGARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROCKY MOUNTAIN</td>
<td>ARNOLD R. CARLSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALASKA</td>
<td>ROGER J. WEGNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILLINOIS</td>
<td>JOHN J. HANCOCK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
<td>GEORGE E. TEAGUE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOARD OF PENSIONS

ISSUES “14th MONTH” CHECK

The Board of Pensions and Benefits USA issues a “14th month” check to each retired minister and widow of a minister who was on the “Basic” Pension Roll as of December 1, 1987. This check equaled the amount of each member’s regular monthly pension check.

A “13th month” check was issued in June, Dr. Dean Wessels, administrator of the Board of Pensions and Benefits USA, says these “bonus” payments are made possible by the continued strong support of the Pensions and Benefits Fund. Over 3,000 retired ministers and widows of ministers throughout the United States and Canada are served by the “Basic” Pension Program.

FRANCO VISITS NICARAGUA

At the request of Rev. Nicanor Mairena, district superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene in Nicaragua, Dr. Sergio Franco, administrator of Spanish Publications, spent nine days ministering there, October 23-31.

His activities included an intensive Writers’ Workshop in the capital city for 11 pastors and leaders from various parts of Nicaragua; a pastors’ retreat in the city of Rivas; and two holiness meetings for the 10 churches in Managua and the 19 in Rivas and San Jorge.

He also met with the Executive Board of the interdenominational agency that has channeled aid for various parts of Nicaragua; a pastors’ retreat in the city of Rivas; and two holiness meetings for the 10 churches in Managua and the 19 in Rivas and San Jorge.

He also met with the Executive Board of the interdenominational agency that has channeled aid for Nicaragua, first when Managua was destroyed by an earthquake (1972), and since the revolution in 1979.

The Church of the Nazarene is a part of that agency.

“A spirit of joy, in the presence of pain, commitment in the face of uncertainty, and of obedience to God’s Word in the context of much confusion” is how Franco describes the meetings with the pastors. The theme was the biblical basis of the holiness faith. Fervent praise and joy characterized the sessions with the pastors of 66 organized churches and nearly 30 missions. In some cases, their attendance was through many difficulties and peril.

According to Franco, there is a spirit among Nazarenes (and Christians in general) of pressing the gospel throughout the country. As they sang in the closing meeting of the minicrusade in San Jorge (the town where the Nazarene church was born in Nicaragua), “Nicaragua seré para Cristo!” (“Nicaragua shall be for Christ!”). To that end, and under the leadership of Superintendent Mairena, the Nicaraguan Nazarenes go forward. In their own words, writes Editor Franco, they ask their brethren around the world: “Do not forget us. Pray for us.”

“Spanish Publications is a part of the Communications Division at international headquarters in Kansas City.

NEW MISSIONARIES COMMISSIONED

Missionaries appointed during the 1987 General Board meetings were formally commissioned in a special sending service August 18. Held at Olathe, Kans., College Church, the service was the culmination of three days of orientation for the new missionaries. The orientation was coordinated by John Sme, administrative assistant in the World Mission Division, and featured Mary Scott along with various division and headquarters personnel.

General Superintendent William M. Greathouse commissioned the following missionaries who were present at the service: Dean Fleming, Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary; Debby Flippo, MAC Region; David and Laura Runyan, Azores; John and Rose Sprunger, Africa Region; Timothy and Jadonna Trout, Philippines; and Jerry and Andrea Phillips, specialized assignment to Papua New Guinea.

Other missionaries in the 1987 class who were not present for the sending service are: Karen Frye, Swaziland; Harry and Deborah Wiese, Swaziland; Kenneth and Karen Bryant, specialized assignment to Seminario Nazareno Mexicano A.C.; Rene Chandler, specialized assignment to Japan; William and Phyllis Gentry, specialized assignment to Papua New Guinea; Alberto and Lilian Guanz, specialized assignment to the Seminario Nazareno Mexicano A.C.; Keith and Karen Horwood, specialized assignment to Swaziland; Jay and Carol Hanton, specialized assignment to European Nazarene Bible College; Donald and Bonnie Krockenberger, specialized assignment to Swaziland; Wayne and Joan LaForce, specialized assignment to Papua New Guinea; Giovanni and Elina Monterroso, specialized assignment to the MAC Regional Office; Ben and Janell Moore, specialized assignment to the Philippines; John and Vicki Moore, specialized assignment to Australia; Jim and Joy Nash, specialized assignment to Australia; and Sam and Grace Pickenpaugh, specialized assignment to Western Australia.

—NN

Four Nazarene police chaplains met with Chaplain Bowers at the International Conference of Police Chaplains in Cincinnati. There are 27 Nazarene pastors serving part-time as police chaplains in addition to their pastoral duties. Two Nazarene elders, Ch. Rosegrant and Ch. Cawman, serve as fulltime staff for police work in Ohio and Louisiana. Pictured (l. to r.) are Chaplains Stanley Ogden, Robert Gardner, Robert Cawman, Curt Bowers, and Alan Rosegrant.

THE JABEZ PRINCIPLE

By Harold Ivan Smith

196 pages. Paper. See page 15 for description

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Herald of Holiness/December 15, 1987
TWIN WELLS OPENS TO GREAT THINGS

Tremendous things are happening at Twin Wells Indian Schools, according to administrator Rev. Roy Lynn. The 1987-88 school year began with a grand opening celebration August 26.

About 250 persons attended the ceremony, including parents; representatives from the local business community of Holbrook, Ariz.; and an official representative from the Navajo Nation who gave greetings. Also present was the board of directors along with Rev. Beulah Campbell, pastor of the Mesa, Ariz., Lehi Church. Rev. Campbell was one of the first workers at Twin Wells 25 years ago.

Other persons who brought greetings included Rev. Michael Estep, Church Extension Ministries director; Rev. Denny Owens, Nazarene Indian Bible College president; Mr. Robert Prescott, Compassionate Ministries assistant coordinator; Rev. John Nells, Navajo Nation district superintendent; and Rev. Julian Gunn, Southwest Indian district superintendent. Rev. Roy Lynn welcomed the 85 students and guests to the school. The institution was donated to the Church of the Nazarene by World-Wide Missions, June 2, 1985.

Within the 90 days prior to the beginning of the fall semester, at least 300 persons in 9 Work and Witness teams and 25 other groups visited the school site to perform a wide variety of needed work, making it possible for the school to open on time.

One week after the beginning of classes, following Wednesday evening prayer meeting, two sixth grade girls felt the need to return to the chapel to pray. Accompanied by their counselors, the two girls were saved. They returned to their dorms where, during their evening devotional time, nine more girls accepted Christ.

"This is what Twin Wells is all about," said Rev. Lynn.

Tuition for the children at the boarding school is $250 per student per year, but the actual cost per student is $2,500. The actual operating cost at the school is $1,000 per day. Staff members are volunteers who raise their own support.

Twin Wells is an approved 10 Percent Special. Rev. Lynn and his staff are available for mission services in local churches. The school address is P.O. Box 13, Sun Valley, AZ 86029.

—NN

NAF Airlifts Supplies to Twin Wells School

In October, Twin Wells Indian School was the beneficiary of over 2,700 pounds of school and office supplies, library hooks, clothing, and other items donated by Sterling, Ill., First Church. Nazarene Aviation Fellowship members Jack Archibald, Jerry Brockhaus, Rollin Gilliland, and John Sprunger airlifted the supplies from Sterling, Ill., to Holbrook, Ariz. NAF member Chuck Hoover aided in organizing the airlift. John Sprunger is the first missionary to be appointed by the Church of the Nazarene as minister/aviator.

The airlift is the first project completed by the newly formed NAF. It was organized in July of 1987 and held a constitutional assembly in October. A 12-member board of directors was elected. Directors are: Jerry Brockhaus, Robert Chengowith, Mike Duncan, Gregory Fordyce, Charles Hoover, Ray Mattix, Lee McCleery, Gerald Oliver, Monty Ottman, B. J. Schramm, John Sprunger, and Don Stelting. The board will elect executive officers to serve through June 30, 1988.

NAF's constitutional statement of purpose is "... to support the worldwide evangelistic mission of the International Church of the Nazarene through those aviation-related resources, facilities, skills, and interests held by its members or in the trust of its membership." NAF charter membership is open until February 29, 1988, and regular membership will remain open after that date. Interested persons may contact NAF, P.O. Box 2961, Olathe, KS 66062.
SOUTHEAST ASIAN WORK GROWING

The second Southeast Asian Conference and Camp Meeting of the Church of the Nazarene attracts more than 150 persons to the Central Ohio District campgrounds in Columbus, August 19-21.

Cosponsored by the Central Ohio District and Church Extension Ministries, the conference was coordinated by Central Ohio District Superintendent J. Wilmer Lambert.

Participants came from Nazarene churches throughout the United States. Special evening speakers included Dr. John C. Kounthapanya, pastor of Laotian United Methodist Church of Columbus; Dr. Joe Kong, head of the Cambodian Evangelical Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in the United States; Michael Estep, Church Extension Ministries director; and President Bill Prince of Mount Vernon Nazarene College.

Throughout the day, various seminars and workshops were conducted for adult members of Southeast Asian churches. Training sessions were also held for leaders involved in sponsorship of such churches.

Youth camp activities were coordinated by Kathy Kizzee from the Cleveland Westlake Cambodian Church of the Nazarene. The workshops were coordinated by Mrs. Judy Millard of Minneapolis First Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Columbus and Eileen Figge of the Gahanna, Ohio, Shepherd Church of the Nazarene.

Special activities were also held for children. Those coordinating these included Mary Lou Roabaugh of the Columbus Northland Church of the Nazarene.

Pastor Ed Grindley of the Columbus Wilson Avenue Church coordinated the operation of the camp.

ESL COMMITTEE MEETS

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Committee of the denomination met in Kansas City October 12-16, according to Bennett Dudley, director of Publications International to which the committee is responsible. The meeting was called to review previous work of the ESL ministry and to help determine direction for the future. Committee members included Nancy Clark, Wes Eby, Karen Phillips, and Nancy Zumwalt.

The ESL ministry, a relatively new one in the church, has been charged with the development of curriculum materials that are adapted to meet the linguistic needs of adults and older youth who are limited in their English proficiency or who are second language learners.

The major work of the committee during the meeting was to finalize a set of lessons on basic Bible doctrines (related to the Articles of Faith) at a first-second grade reading level. It is primarily targeted to non-Christians and people who are being introduced to the Christian faith. The first of two books should be available after the first of 1988.

East Liverpool, Ohio, First Church raised $1,302 in its September Alabaster march. The emphasis was "The Missionaries Are Our Feet to the Mission Fields," with a special push for the children to bring 100 pounds of money in their Alabaster boxes. At the close of the Alabaster march, the money weighed in at 105 1/2 pounds, a total of $1,106.82. Rev. Paul R. Nesmith is the pastor.

January Selections

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Herald of Holiness/December 15, 1987 25
The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of Eastern Nazarene College was October 26-28, 1987. One of the highlights of this year’s meetings was Heritage Day Convocation October 27 when Dr. Ruth A. Cameron was installed as the first occupant of the Munro Chair of Literature. This first endowed chair at ENC was established in memory of the late Dean Emeritus Bertha Munro. In her address, “Character Formation and the Teaching of Literature,” she reviewed Dean Munro’s approach to the teaching of literature and analyzed the current calls for reform in education.

Ruth Cameron also majored in English under Dean Munro, graduating in 1950. She earned her Ph.D. at Boston University in 1972 and has taught from 1964 to the present on the faculty of Eastern Nazarene College, where she serves as chairman of the Department of English.

The board voted to confer the honorary degree doctor of divinity on President William Patch of Korean Nazarene Theological College. The board elected Rev. Manuel Chavez and Dr. Raymond Dunlop to three-year terms as members-at-large. In addition, the board elected to the Executive Committee Dr. Roy Carnahan, chairman; Dr. Richard Schubert, vice-chairman; Dr. Dallas D. Mucci, secretary; Mr. George Gressett, treasurer; Dr. Henry Henderson, lay representative; Dr. Howard Chambers, ministerial representative; and Rev. Neale McLain, district superintendent representative.

President Stephen Nease reported payment on church budgets reached 81.6% of the allocated budget with four of the eight districts achieving 90% status. He also announced that the Master Design Campaign for the library expansion has now reached $1.3 million in cash and pledges.

Dr. Nease also announced the resignation of Vice President for Financial Affairs Robert E. Bollinger. Bollinger has served at the college 23 years, the last 18 as the Chief Financial Officer of the college. ENC has operated in the black every year under his fiscal management. He will continue on a part-time basis with the college, working in the area of wills, annuities, life gifts, and deferred gifts, to the institution.

Approval of several building projects highlighted the annual fall meeting of the Mount Vernon Nazarene College Board of Trustees held at the college November 4-3.

The biggest board item was approval to proceed with the chapel/auditorium/fine arts building in the spring of 1988. The college in the fall of 1968. The college is in the final fund-raising stages on the $5 million building, which will provide a 2,000-seat chapel-auditorium, classrooms, offices, a recital hall, and choral music and band practice area for the music department.

Dr. Ron J. Phillips, director of development and college relations, reported $3.72 million has been pledged toward the project. A substantial part of the money needed has been obtained through pledges from the Nazarene churches in Ohio, West Virginia, and eastern Kentucky; from individuals; the Mount Vernon community; and from foundations.

Dr. Stanton Parry, vice president for finance and management at...
NEWS OF EVANGELISM

REVIVAL RESULTS IN OUTREACH

Bloomington, Minn., Faith Church recently held revival services with evangelists Marvin and Linda Dennison. Rev. David L. Frisbie, pastor, reports:

"The most prominent feature of this revival was outreach. Each evening, more than half of those attending were the result of outreach. As the revival concluded, we had identified more than 30 unchurched prospects for further personal contact. "

"A highlight of the revival was Marvin Dennison's portrayal of the disciple John, in full costume, speaking and singing. This dramatic service concluded our special services. It was a time of spiritual impact and challenge."

MANC NURSING PROGRAM IS REEVALUATED

The Board of Review for baccalaureate and higher degree programs of the National League of Nursing voted to grant continuing accreditation to the baccalaureate program in nursing at MidAmerica Nazarene College. The official reaccreditation was announced October 15, 1987.

A reevaluation is necessary every few years to assure the quality of the program is consistent. The National League for Accreditation is a voluntary accrediting process that recognizes this standard.

The nursing program at MANC accommodates registered nursing students who are returning for a B.A. degree as well as the traditional four-year baccalaureate student.

Members of the first classes in the master of ministry program at Northwest Nazarene College and the staff are, from left: Douglas Dodson of Caldwell, Idaho; Robert Armstrong of John Day, Ore.; Richard Jorgensen of Kuna, Idaho; Jeffrey Boyer of John Day, Ore.; Dr. Irving Laird who taught Multiple Staff Ministry; Joe Farrow of Spokane, Wash.; Alan Mortimer of Tillamook, Ore.; Kelly Davis of Boise, Idaho; Dr. Wendell Bowes, director of the program; Brad Sattell of Palouse, Wash.; Carolyn Schoenborn of Meridian, Idaho; Professor Ed Crawford who taught Ministry and the Church; Carl Henson of Woodland Park, Colo.; Brad Edgburt of Mollala, Ore.; and Arthur Maendl of Sheridan, Wyo.

MVRNC, reported the college recorded its 14th consecutive year of operation with a balanced budget.

The Board of Trustees also approved adding another 30-bed apartment unit north of Oakwood Hall, dormitory for men, and east of Cedar (men) apartments. Dr. Parry said this complex is scheduled to be completed in fall 1988.

A seventh academic division for business administration, accounting, office administration, and comprehensive business education was approved by the Board of Trustees. Currently MVNC has six academic divisions—education and physical education; fine arts; language, and communication; natural science; religion and philosophy; and social sciences. The business area was under social sciences.

Dr. Jack Anderson, academic vice president, noted the new business division will already have over 20 percent of the students enrolled at the college.

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General Superintendent William M. Greathouse (r.) congratulates Rev. James Bearden, superintendent of the South Carolina District, and Mrs. Lenta Downing, former district NWMS president, for their district's overpayment of its General Budget goal by $16,638.10.

In the world teens live in—

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Thrust To The Cities Is A Call

...to the neglected quarters...to the wasted places
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...to the city of Los Angeles.

Perhaps no other American city is feeling change like Los Angeles. You see it in the large influx of Vietnamese, the flood of illegal aliens, the drug trafficking on street corners, the vast number of homeless and the $177,000,000 cost of two earthquakes. Los Angeles is hurting.

It is not a call to judge and condemn. But it is a call to care, to love and to pray.

The Church of the Nazarene has committed itself to bring about a spiritual change to the city of Los Angeles.

It was here our vision of ministering to the poor, the unreached, and the forgotten began. Today the need is even greater. And we are called to respond to this need by:

- starting 30 new churches
- strengthening existing churches
- ministering both physically and spiritually

We are called to have compassion for every need!

HOW YOU AND YOUR CHURCH CAN HELP US ANSWER THIS CALL

- **PRAY** — Pray for the funds that are needed. Pray for the Work and Witness teams. Pray for the pastors and laity of the inner city. Pray for the volunteers who will give of their time and talent.
- **GIVE** — Pastors must be supported. Workers need to be trained. Churches have to be built. And operating equipment has to be purchased. But it can't be done without the giving of dollars.
- **WORK AND WITNESS TEAMS** — Assistance will be required in various building projects. Plan now on how you can join in these life-changing programs.
- **ADOPT** A SISTER CHURCH — Beginning a new church can be difficult and very lonely. “Adopting” a church can be a special way to help, encourage and support a new congregation and at the same time motivate your church into greater giving.
- **VOLUNTEER** — This can be a highly rewarding experience for people with special abilities and talents. Someone in your church needs to use their gifts in this great outreach.

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New York New York

And through “Thrust to the Cities,” the denomination’s decadal outreach plan, the Church of the Nazarene will have a big part in impacting the Big Apple for Christ in 1988!

Proposed methods of reaching New York include:

**Evangelistic Crusades**

Crusades are an important part of every “Thrust.”
Those planned for New York include:
- Haitian Crusades
- Spanish Crusades
- Youth In Mission Crusades
- Queens Days Multi-Ethnic Crusade

**Compassionate Ministries**

Proposed programs include:
- Substance Abuse Programs
- Christian Counseling Center
- Children’s Outreach
- Migrant Workers’ Ministry
- Food Program for the Elderly
- Language Training for Chinese

**Church Planting**

During the New York Thrust, a projected 23 new churches will be planted. These include several new ethnic congregations, including:
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Hispanic
- Haitian
- Arabic
- Indo-Pakistani
- Korean
- Filipino
- Portuguese
- Multi-Ethnic

Contact Rev. Willis Scott
New York Thrust Coordinator
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At the Illinois district assembly, District Superintendent John J. Hancock reported two new churches organized: East St. Louis Rush Memorial and Springfield Friendly Chapel. Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent, ordained Timothy W. Bates, Russell F. Gumm, and Rodger D. Strong. Pictured (l. to r.) with District Superintendent Hancock are the pastors who received the Great Commission Leader Award: Earl Jones, Barry; Richard Unger, Glenview; Russell Brewer, Monticello; and Duane Schmidt, Decatur West Side. Others who received the Great Commission Fellowship Award were Gary Clark, Harrisburg; and Stephen Berger, Clinton.


At the Northern Michigan district assembly, District Superintendent Milton House reported two new churches organized: Benzle and Grayling. General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland ordained Dennis J. Noble and James E. Young. Jr. Pictured (l. to r.): are the pastors who received the Great Commission Leader Award: John Carr, Alanson, and David Wilson, during the assembly year, with Rev. Blair McKim, pastor of the sponsoring church. Other churches receiving the Great Commission Fellowship Award were: Charlevoix, Kalkaska, Manistee, and Temple.
FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA

At the Northwest Oklahoma district assembly District Superintendent Jesse C. Middendorf completed the first year of an extended term. General Superintendent Raymond W. Hurn ordained James Walker Ballenger, Richard Douglas Gunasalas, and Robert Jay Shepard. The credentials of Stephen Mark Holmgren were recognized. The Great Commission Leaders Award were received by pastors Edwin Morse, Guthrie; Robert Shepard, Piedmont; Kevin C. Rodgers, Ponca City; John K. Stanley, Tulsais; and Stanley A. Toher, Oklahoma City First. Other pastors and churches that received the Great Commission Fellowship Award were David Dawson, Pawnee; Charles McKinnon, Fairview; James Ballenger, Helena; Terrell Earnest, Guymon; Philip Heap, Stillwater First; Byron Strange, Waterloo; and Mevin McCullough, Bethany First. Pastor Jim Cooper, Enid First, received the Citation of Merit Award.

SOUTHWEST INDIANA

At the Southwest Indiana district assembly District Superintendent B. G. Atwood reported that District Superintendent Harold Latham was reelected to a four-year term. General Superintendent Raymond Hicks and Jack Brannon Smithwick. Sr. The credentials of Timothy L. Bost, R. Gene McLendon, and Kenneth F. White were recognized. Shown (I. to r.) are pastors who received the Great Commission Fellowship Award (front row): Dublin First, T. Daniel Casey; Fort Valley, Paul Barnes (also Great Commission Leader Award); Albany Grace, Don Hicks; Blaisdell First, John Strickland (also Great Commission Leader Award); Cairo, Harold Hatton; Savannah First, Gary Jakes; Graham Memorial, James Frost; South Trion, Robert Bledsoe; Smyrna, Skye Allison; Fitzgerald, James Hubbard (also Great Commission Leader Award); (back row) Dalton First, Thomas Cook (also Great Commission Leader Award); Battlefield Parkway, Mike Clyburn; Donalsonville First, Steve Hood; Gainesville Bethel, Michael Bryant; Pine Mountain, James Laymon; Rowland Chapel, Lyde Killingsworth, Wilkes, Al Soles, Jr., and Wrens, James Dunn.

At the Georgia district assembly District Superintendent Harold Latham was reelected to a four-year term. General Superintendent Raymond Hicks and Jack Brannon Smithwick, Sr. The credentials of Timothy L. Bost, R. Gene McLendon, and Kenneth F. White were recognized. Shown (I. to r.) are pastors who received the Great Commission Fellowship Award (front row): Dublin First, T. Daniel Casey; Fort Valley, Paul Barnes (also Great Commission Leader Award); Albany Grace, Don Hicks; Blaisdell First, John Strickland (also Great Commission Leader Award); Cairo, Harold Hatton; Savannah First, Gary Jakes; Graham Memorial, James Frost; South Trion, Robert Bledsoe; Smyrna, Skye Allison; Fitzgerald, James Hubbard (also Great Commission Leader Award); (back row) Dalton First, Thomas Cook (also Great Commission Leader Award); Battlefield Parkway, Mike Clyburn; Donalsonville First, Steve Hood; Gainesville Bethel, Michael Bryant; Pine Mountain, James Laymon; Rowland Chapel, Lyde Killingsworth, Wilkes, Al Soles, Jr., and Wrens, James Dunn.

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☐ After the birth of your first grandchild.
☐ When one of the “old gang” expires suddenly.
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Herald of Holiness: December 15, 1987 31
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Wiggs completed the first year of a four-year term. General Superintendent William M. Greatheath ordered Thomas Keizer, Rodney Lindsay, Homer Mersey, Charles Parsons, Brent Poe, and Paul Robinson. The Great Commission Leader Award was given to pastors Claude Chastan, Jr., Shoals, Robert Shepherd, Clarksville Parkwood, and Gene Clark. Terre Haute Southside.

INTERRIMENT

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L. KENNEDY ADAMS from Eau Gallie, Fla., to Palms, Fla.
RONALD K. ADAMS from Watertown, N.Y., to associate, Rochester (N.Y.) Trinity
WALLACE A. BELL, JR., to Roanoke, Va.
LARRY BENJAMIN to Heppner, Oreg.
FREDERICK E. BLAUSER from Mifflinburg, Pa., to Woodstown, N.J.
ROBERT L. BOLTON from Tampa (Fla.), to pastor, Palms, Fla.
DOUGLAS M. MOYER, associate, Los Angeles, Calif.; to EVANGELISM AGENCY, N.Y., to pastor, Harrisonburg, Va.

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MR. JOHN and CAROLYN MILLER, Peru, Field address: Apartado 193, Chilcaya, Peru
MISS MARY MILLER, Peru, Furlough address: 6161 Perins. No. 820, Houston, TX 77036
REV. GIOVANNI and ELINA MONTEROSSO, M.A. Regional Office,
World Vision steps up efforts in Africa to counter famine

As famine threatens many African countries this season due to the drought and the lack of the “long rains” in June and July, World Vision is making extensive attempts to step up their agricultural assistance work, water improvement projects, medical assistance programs, and food distributions. The Ethiopian government has requested almost 1 million tons of food aid for 1988 in anticipation of its food needs as a result of a drought. World Vision President Bob Seiple visited Ethiopia in late October to survey areas of need.

Famine relief is not food relief only, according to World Vision. Most of World Vision’s projects are development oriented. “I don’t do things for people,” said Rebecca Cheronu, director of World Vision in Kenya. “I find out why they don’t do things for themselves, and then help them do things for themselves.” Cheronu, the first woman to head an African ministry of World Vision, oversees the organization’s second largest African ministry and its largest child-care program on that continent.

Gutenberg Bible brings $5.39 million

A Gutenberg Bible, printed in 1455 in Mainz, Germany, was sold at an auction October 22 for more than twice the record price for a printed book. The Bible is one of 48 surviving of the 185 believed to have been printed partly by Johannes Gutenberg.

Johannes Gutenberg, a German printer who was born around 1400, is credited with inventing the first printing press with movable type. The Gutenberg Bibles were the first books printed from his presses and paved the way for mass communication. The Bibles were an edition of the Vulgate.

The Gutenberg Bible is in pristine condition, according to Christie’s auction house, in charge of the auction of more than 130 printed books from the 15th century. The pages are clean and are bound in their original binding. The Bible is the first volume of a two-volume set, and includes Genesis through Psalms of the Old Testament. The second volume in the set is not believed to have survived.

The buyer was Maruzen Co. Ltd. of Tokyo, Japan’s largest bookseller, who paid $5.39 million for the Bible. The previous record for a printed book sold at auction was $2.2 million when another Gutenberg Bible was sold in 1978.

NRB’s new ethics and integrity commission hopes to clean up religious broadcasting

In an effort to step up self-regulation of the TV and radio broadcasting industry, the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) have formed the Ethics and Financial Integrity Commission (EFICOM), a new “watchdog” division of the NRB.

“EFICOM is now in place and calls on the 1,300 members of this religious broadcasting association to comply with a code of ethics that will deal with areas of ethics and fund-raising practices,” stated Dr. Ben Armstrong, executive director of NRB. “The EFICOM seal will be, essentially, our ‘Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval.’”

NRB President Robert C. O’Malley added, “Although this effort was well underway before the [PTL founder] Jim Bakker downfall, the announcement of this commission is timely. The self-regulatory agency will insure the highest of standards and practices by our members.”

Cook explained that main points of the EFICOM program, recently approved by the NRB board, include public disclosures of annual independent audits; complete disclosure of source of donations, expenditures, salaries, perks, etc.; review of fund-raising materials used by member organizations; and a decertification procedure for members who fail to meet EFICOM standards.

“Religious broadcasting has experienced an explosive growth in America,” continued Armstrong. “We now have 1,370 radio stations, 2,100 television stations, over 2,000 radio programs, and five cable networks. Many place our regular viewing audience at 20 million households.”
THE CHURCH SCENE

Under the leadership of Rev. Chester L. Kneir, Cape Girardeau, Mo., First Church had a mortgage burning service Sunday, July 26, 1987. In approximately 3 months $20,000 was raised and the church was paid off nearly 12 years ahead of the due date. Rev. Paul Aldrich of Corpus Christi, Tex., guest speaker, was pastor during the building of the church in 1973-74. Rev. Hiram Sanders, superintendent of the Missouri District, and Rev. Douglas Clem of Port Orchard, Wash., a former pastor, also took part in the service.

Others who participated in the service were Bill Cheek, chairman of the mortgage burning campaign; DeWayne Toole, church treasurer; and Mrs. Joyce King, church board secretary. Two charter members of the church were present. They were Mrs. Earl (Jeanette Limbaugh) Sams and Mrs. Ben (Virginia Limbaugh) Howard. The property is now valued at over $745,000.

The funeral for Pastor Rodriguez of the San Antonio de Areco church, in Argentina, became an installation service. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Elena Rodriguez said, "I wish to continue serving the Lord." Right before the casket of her husband, before the Antonio de Areco congregation and surrounded by other pastors and wives, District Superintendent Juan Chumba installed her as the pastor.

The Clarksville, Mich., Elmdale Church burned the mortgage to their parsonage Sunday, July 26, 1987. Speaking at the service, led by Pastor Gregory Freed, was District Superintendent C. Neil Strait. Also participating were Kendall Porritt, Archie Duncan, and Carl Peterson, members of the Board of Trustees who were on the construction committee in 1983, and about 30 members and friends from the community. The house is located on a nine-acre lot where the congregation plans to build their new church facilities. It was built under the leadership of Pastor Bob Evans.

The Webster, Tex., NASA Church dedicated a new educational building July 25. Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent, was the guest speaker. District Superintendent D. W. Thaxton, since deceased, also participated in the services. The new building is a two-story facility (8,000 sq. ft.) with a 50' x 20' lobby designed to accommodate more than 250 students. Groundbreaking was in 1984 under the leadership of Pastor Darrell Hall. The church borrowed $95,000 to start the project. In 1986, under the leadership of Pastor Wayne Hicks, the first floor and the second story were completed. Volunteer labor from members and friends did the work. Money and supplies were also donated to the church from outside sources. The entire church complex is now appraised at $1.2 million, with a total indebtedness of $150,000.

The Laurinburg, N.C., church was dedicated August 2, with District Superintendent D. Eugene Simpson bringing the dedicatory message. This "Home Mission First Unit Worship Center" is located on four acres of choice property south of Laurinburg. The building comprises a sanctuary seating 100, an education/fellowship area, and pastor's study, totaling 3,000 sq. ft. The building was built mostly by volunteer labor from the local congregation and workmen from cross the North Carolina District. The indebtedness is $35,000, with a total evaluation of the property at $125,000. The church was organized January of 1986, with 20 members. Rev. Gale L. Goode is the present pastor.

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**Late News**

**Nazarenes Lend Hand in Indianapolis Disaster**

Two Nazarene pastors were among those offering assistance after a military jet plowed into the airport Ramada Inn in Indianapolis, killing nine persons, October 20. Steve Powell, pastor of Richmond, Ind., St. Paul's Church, and his associate, Cecil West, were returning from visiting a parishioner at the Plainfield State Correctional Facility when they heard about the accident and rushed to the scene.

"It looked like a battle scene," said Powell. Both men added that they were unprepared for the job, but they spent the day at the Red Cross center in a nearby hotel trying to console families of the victims.

Powell also serves as a chaplain at the District 72 State Police Post in Connersville, Ind. —NN

**NCC Dean Improving**

NCC Academic Dean Kenneth Watson, 43, is recovering from last month's car crash in Denver. He was among the 55 survivors of Continental Flight 1713, which crashed at Denver's Stapleton International Airport, Sunday, November 15, killing 27 persons. Watson came out of a coma November 20, and has been showing improvement since that time.

Watson was returning to Nampa from Kansas City where he had been attending a meeting of the church's Bioethics Commission.

The flight from Denver to Boise flipped upside down and crashed as it was taking off Sunday afternoon at 2:16 Mountain time. The plane went down in the midst of Denver's first heavy snowstorm of the season.

—NN

**IMPACTO Draws Hispanic Church Planters to San Antonio**

Hispanic church planters from across the United States converged in San Antonio October 21-23 for IMPACTO '87. About 60 persons participated in the daily sessions, with more than 225 in one of the evening worship services which were held at the East Terrell Hills Church.

General Superintendent Raymond W. Hurn opened the event with the Wednesday morning keynote message. Carl Clemen Diez, professor of church growth at Nazarene Bible College, Mike Estep, Church Extension Ministries director; and other resource persons presented lectures that were translated into Spanish.

Four pastors, Carlos Fernandez of the Phoenix Hispanic church; Roberto Hodgin of the Hispanic congregation at Washington, D.C., First Church; Jose Gonzalez of the Santa Fe Springs, Calif., Belvedere Church; and Rogelio Lopez of the Houston, Hispanic church shared methods that they are using to take the gospel to Hispanics in their communities.

IMPACTO '87 was a joint project sponsored by Central Latin American, Southwest Latin American, and the four Texas districts in cooperation with Nazarene Bible College and Church Extension Ministries. Its principal goal is to train church planters to reach Hispanic communities.

R. T. Bolterjack, NBC's vice president in charge of ethnic training, served as chairman of the committee that coordinated the event.

Mike Estep and Joe Rodriguez, director of Instituto Teologico Nazareno (an extension center of NBC in Los Angeles) spoke in the evening services.

—NN

**Excitement in Mexico**

Assemblies on the districts of Mexico just ended with reports of growth and the creation of a new district, according to Jerry Porter, Mexico and Central America Regional director.

More than 1,400 new members joined the Church of the Nazarene in Mexico, for a total of 26,351 members (including probationary). Sunday School average attendance was up by 1,403 while in the area of giving, the total amount raised jumped 102% from 485 to 981 million pesos.

Fourteen new churches were organized, and pastors set a goal of 336 new churches by May 1989.

Three districts, Northwest, West, and East, requested Regular status at their assemblies. North District will not be large enough for Regular status, but it will be self-supporting next year.

Much activity was generated around the country by the growth and enthusiasm of the Thrust to Mexico City and Encounter '87. More than 75 preaching points (toward a goal of 100) were created in Mexico City in the past year. The district grew to the point that the Mexico Gulf District was created by motion, served as chairman of the committee that coordinated the event.

—NN

**BASKETBALL Boot Camp Changes Lives**

An ad in the Chicago Tribune and the volunteer time from the Chicago Central District and Olivet Nazarene University gave a group of 27 young blacks an opportunity to learn more about basketball and a chance to meet Jesus. The basketball boot camp was held at a building belonging to Nazarene elder Gilbert Leigh.

ONU athletic director Larry Watson and head basketball coach Ralph Hodge, along with eight members of the ONU basketball team, directed the young men in drills during the month of October 31. At noon, chicken dinner lunches were provided along with a brief devotional from L. Wayne Quinn, Chicago Thrust director. At that time he announced that some of the pastors who are planting churches in Chicago would be circumspering among the young men as they ate with the specific purpose of inviting to them to make Jesus their Savior.

"After lunch I invited everyone who had accepted Christ to join me out at center court," said Quinn. "It was worth it all when nine of those big fellows walked out to me, and one guy reached down and hugged me.

"The pastors who serve in the areas where the young men live were then identified in an effort to connect the new converts with a fellowship of believers."

The boot camp was preceded by an intensive personal evangelism training seminar for the planters. David L. James, pastor of Yorba Linda, Calif., Faith Community Church, trained 66 pastors and laymen in how to present the gospel one-on-one. Hispanic, Arabic, Black, and Vietnamese church planters participated. The boot camp was underwritten by the Davis Creek, WA, Church. Another such camp is planned for next March.

—NN

**Similar Names Create Confusion**

Persons who heard rumors about Jerry Johnson being on the PTL Club in recent weeks can rest easy. The guest with PTL host Gary McSpadden was actually Overland Park, Kan., evangelist Jerry Johnston.

"I'm flattered to be compared with such a dynamic, young, handsome evangelist, but I have never been a guest on the PTL Club, and I don't expect to receive an invitation," said General Superintendent Jerald D. Johnson.

—NN

**Nazarene Seminary Graduates Serve Around the World as**

- Missionaries
- Pastors
- Church Planters
- Teachers
- Evangelists
- Administrators

**Remember January 31, 1988! Seminary Offering Sunday**

Let's keep a steady flow of workers going to the fields with the best in theological education.

RAYMOND W. HURN, Secretary
Board of General Superintendents
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RAYMOND W. HURN
General Superintendent,
Church of the Nazarene

DENOMINATION-WIDE CONTINUING LAY TRAINING STUDY

SEE PAGE 32 FOR SPECIAL REGISTRATION FORM AND ORDER BLANK