

NOVEMBER 1998

# Herald of Holiness

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

**MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES  
CONFERENCE**

**THE BLUE CROSS**



**THINK**

About It...

**Forty-eight percent  
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provided by churches  
less than 20 years old.\***

**\*Note: Churches less than 20 years old are  
only 17 percent of all churches.**



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Nazarene Communications Network

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# *From the Board of General Superintendents—*

**T**he Board of General Superintendents wishes to express its concern over the plight of millions of refugees and immigrants around the world. In many world areas people have been forced by war, hunger, religious oppression, and chronic poverty to seek safety, shelter, and a better life in foreign countries. Compounding their problems, immigrants and refugees are often greeted with hostility as governments respond to population and citizenship issues.

As an international church with members in over 100 world areas, members and leaders of the Church of the Nazarene themselves have been among those seeking refuge in other countries. At the same time, many Nazarene churches are in host countries (such as the United States and Canada), the destination of refugees and immigrants.

We urge our Nazarene people around the world to treat refugees and immigrants with Christian love and respect as children of God, avoiding degrading or demeaning descriptions such as “illegal aliens.” We especially en-

## **Statement in Support of Refugees and Immigrants**

courage our churches to share God’s love and grace and provide support for those who, because of their refugee or immigrant status, are destitute. “You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Exodus 22:21, RSV).

It is important that our church leaders in every country understand their own citizenship laws and regulations in order to provide accurate and helpful legal counsel. The Multicultural Ministries office of the Evangelism and Church Growth Division is providing such information and assistance in the United States.

We encourage our members to strive for justice in keeping with the biblical mandate “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Hebrews 13:2, RSV).



Richard L. Ort

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*Board of General Superintendents:*

John A. Knight  
William J. Prince  
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Jim L. Bond

# Turn the World Upside Down

BEV BORBE



Beverlee Borbe, general NWMS president, has devoted her life to helping Nazarenes become world Christians.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO “turn the world upside down”?

Just last week I had an E-mail from missionaries Doug and Elaine Perkins. They told about their trip over endless miles of potholes and across the mighty, crocodile-infested Limpopo River in Mozambique to visit a tribe without missionary influence for 30 years. As they arrived on the bank, the pastor greeted them with tears and smiles and cried, “Oh thank you, thank you for coming!” As they trudged along the pathway to the village, suddenly, somewhere up ahead, they heard a song. Faintly at first but getting stronger with each step forward, “There is power in the blood, power in the blood of Jesus.” It rang out across the land and culminated in a great tumult of choruses, dancing, and laughter as the people came nearer and called out, “There they are! They have come! Look at them! They are our brothers!”

I love stories like this about missionaries who are out there “turning the world upside down” with their love. I’d like to do more to help them, wouldn’t you? The good news is, we can—through the traditional Thanksgiving Offering for World Missions. In this offering we’re asked to give generously to ensure support for our mission program and our missionaries around the world. All we have to do is count our blessings

and write the check. It sounds easy, but it isn’t. The problem we face is—how can we give generously with so many demands for our money?

Maybe we should be thinking about the difference between our *needs* and our *wants* and how our attitude toward them will determine our generosity. We want lots of things—different furniture, a cruise, new clothes, plants for the garden, and the list goes on. When we satisfy these *wants*, then we’ll be happy, we say. But it probably isn’t true. Lottery winners are able to satisfy all their *wants*, yet evidence proves the more they get, the less they are able to enjoy the commonplace pleasures of life that bring happiness.

Sometimes we get our *wants* mixed up with our *needs*. I read recently where a Midwestern bank is issuing credit cards to 12-year-olds. Can you think of anything a preteen needs badly enough to justify plastic purchasing? Parents might think so when a pair of name-brand tennis shoes, which all the kids want, costs \$150 and up, and the sunglasses needed to “be cool” begin at \$60! It’s a reflection on our materialistic culture—the extravagant things we *want* keep our pockets empty and our noses to the proverbial grindstone.

When we look at our *need* list it is much less complicated, because we really don’t need many things. If we have enough basic food, we don’t need all the interesting new products we find on the shelf. We can do without the “fattening” potato chips and dips that add the pounds. If we have a basic car, we don’t need the latest model or the one with all the added features and gadgets. If we have a modest home and a bed, we don’t need to furnish or decorate it lavishly. And we really don’t need fancy clothes. Didn’t Jesus say, “If . . . God

clothes the grass of the field . . . will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?” (Matthew 6:30, NIV).

The life of Jesus, with all its practical applications to help us understand the questions of life, gives us direction on the subject of “needs and wants.” His give-up-yourself attitude provides the answer. When He was here on earth, He didn’t have much of this world’s goods. Remember the scripture, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head” (Matthew 8:20, NIV). And although He lacked houses and lands, He didn’t lack a thing He needed. His Heavenly Father provided them all. He had complete trust in God for His basic needs and was so busy giving up himself to win the world, He didn’t even have time to make a list of things He wanted.

I guess the bottom line for us is: Can we get the focus off ourselves and spend our money on things that are really important? It may mean eating at home instead of eating out or wearing the old winter coat instead of buying a new one. And we could stop the paper for a year or forget that trip to the Grand Canyon. I bet there are many things we could do without that wouldn’t hurt us a bit. In fact, it might be interesting to see what

**The extravagant things we *want* keep our pockets empty and our noses to the proverbial grindstone.**

the Lord would provide in blessings if we sacrificed something special for Him.

This month as we write our check for the great Thanksgiving Offering, can we say to the Lord, “I’m going to give up some of my *wants* and buy only the things I *need*. I’m going to deny myself to share generously with others.” I think the Lord would like that. And who knows, together we may “turn the world upside down”!

HH

# Multicultural Ministries Co

by Bryon McLaughlin

**T**he Church of Jesus Christ is not a church that is separate or exclusive. It is a church for all people, regardless of color, language, or race. It is a church of all peoples. Praise God!" With these gripping words, General Superintendent Jerry D. Porter opened the first plenary session of the Multicultural Ministries Conference in mid-July. Dr. Porter's words set the tone for the service as well as the entire conference.

Church leaders from across the U.S. gathered to talk about a new face—the changing face of the Church of the Nazarene in America. Over 1,000 persons, representing hundreds of multicultural congregations and 20 multicultural strategy committees, met for the 2nd Quadrennial Multicultural Ministries Conference at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma. The campus, busy with construction to commemorate the school's first hundred years, seemed a fitting place to consider how to construct a church that can reach out to the diverse populations of the United States and Canada.

While strategy reports, dynamic ethnic music, training workshops, inspiring plenary messages, and mission planning and caucus meetings were all a part of the three-day event, the opening reconciliation service proved to be a historic moment in Nazarene history. From Dr. Porter's declaration to the benedic-

tion, the more than two-hour service forced participants to rethink and reconsider the changing face of the denomination called the Church of the Nazarene as they listened to representatives of the minority and immigrant church address reconciliation issues.

Rev. Roland Edouard, a Haitian pastor and representative of the refugee church, said: "We need your prayers. A long time ago we had no Haitian doctors or lawyers, but now we have them. There are many young Haitians in the U.S., and we want to reach them for the glory of God."

Rev. Roberto Hodgson, coordinator of Latino ministries on the Washington District, gave a clarification call to show compassion to immigrants: "There is no such thing as an illegal human being. It is not a crime for people to leave their country to choose between life and death. Let us not allow the immigration issue or any other issue to create barriers or separation among our brothers and sisters in Christ."

Dr. Kim Lundell, a Korean pastor, speaking for women in ministry, urged the assembly to embrace New Testament teaching and the Church of the Nazarene's early history by giving women an equal place in ministry beside men. "Women know how to nourish, feed, and give birth to babies. . . . The same principles can be applied spiritually to ministry."

Rev. Samuel Chung, a Chinese pastor, asked the audience to extend

**The opening  
reconciliation  
service proved  
to be a historic  
moment in  
Nazarene history.**



**Rev. Kim Lundell, a Korean pastor, speaking on behalf of women in ministry.**

tolerance, understanding, and hospitality to immigrant Asians. "Invite them into your homes, and they will feel accepted and tell you what they are facing. Helping Asians with practical problems will better demonstrate the love of God."

Dr. Roger Bowman, superintendent of the Los Angeles District and speaking on behalf of African-American Nazarenes, reminded the assembly that his people's history was unlike that of other immigrants in the Americanization process. "My people were brought to America against their will as part of the labor force." With deftness and clarity, Bowman thoughtfully communicated the weariness Nazarene African-Americans have felt over repeated indifference within their own denomination. "It has been difficult to fathom why Nazarenes have felt a mandate from God to send missionaries to black Africa and yet possess such a lack of love and compassion for African-Americans in this country." Bowman suggested that African-Americans not become embittered despite limited ministry opportunities within the church.

# ference Focuses on Reconciliation

He called for churchwide repentance and a new day of cooperation and commitment toward being an inclusive church.

Rev. John Nells, speaking on behalf of Native Americans, pointed out the historic tension between native tribes and American society and the injustices suffered by his people. Nells called for Native Americans to “bury the tomahawk” and renew their commitment to the Church of the Nazarene. “We offer and accept your reconciliation,” Nells said.

Dr. Tom Nees, Multicultural Ministries director, reflecting on the comments of each of the speakers, emphasized that the goal of the conference was our unity in Christ. “The goal is not to promote multicultural ministries. . . . The goal is to build a multicultural church. . . . No one should have to give up their customs and their language to be a part of the Church of the Nazarene.”

Dr. Porter, in a powerful and poignant gesture, represented all Nazarenes by asking African-Americans, Native Americans, and immigrants to forgive the church

for its longtime indifference and poor treatment of minorities. Porter asked three strategy committee chairs, Roger Bowman (African-American), John Nells (Native American), and Roland Edouard (Haitian), to come before the assembly as representatives of minority groups. Porter knelt before each representative, asked each one to forgive the church, and pledged a more positive effort to include all minorities in all areas of the Church of the Nazarene. Each pledge ended with prayers of confession and reconciliation. Never before, in any national Nazarene event, has a major denominational figure represented Nazarenes in this way.

After corporate prayer of confession asking God to “forgive us our sins of prejudice and racism,” Porter requested that everyone present form small groups of people from different cultural backgrounds to pray for reconciliation

and unity within the Body of Christ.

The service concluded with Communion led by Dr. Roger Hahn, professor at Nazarene Theological Seminary. “The Lord’s Supper is the creation of a new covenant



**General Superintendent Porter asks Dr. Roger Bowman to forgive the church for its longtime indifference and poor treatment of minorities.**

between us and Him and us and each other,” Hahn declared. The service ended with the thousand-plus congregation singing, most with arms lifted heavenward, praising God for their unity in Christ.

The service was truly a historic event for those present, and it foreshadowed the message given by General Superintendent Jim L. Bond on the final night of the conference. “Today marks a new beginning. It’s time to charge toward the challenge of multiculturalism and demonstrate to the world how to handle diversity. Let’s dare to believe that the people called Nazarenes can be catalysts for actually putting fabric to the hopes and dreams of our minority brothers and sisters and all people. God is for us and wants to see this happen.”

For the people privileged to attend this memorable conference, the impact was far-reaching and life-changing.

H



**Nazarenes praying for reconciliation and unity within the Body of Christ.**

## Thanksgiving Living

by Paul G. Cunningham

**N**ovember is a truly glorious month! Mainly, I think, because it ushers in the season of celebration, Advent. We begin to prepare for the majestic moment when we celebrate again the birth of the Christ.

But also, in the United States, there is the additional element of a national day of thanksgiving. This is such a wonderfully biblical concept, a special time for celebrating the goodness of God in our lives. Whatever country you live in, the concept of special thanksgiving makes scriptural sense.

However, the Bible instructs us, in fact, it should be more than seasonal. It should be our lifestyle. We might say **Thanksgiving Living** is an everyday factor in the lives of victorious disciples. Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV) instructs us in this manner.

Notice in just these few verses how we hear the phrases “and be thankful” (verse 15), “with gratitude in your hearts to God” (verse 16), and “giving thanks to God” (verse 17). It is obvious from these and other biblical models that **Thanksgiving Living** is the recommended lifestyle for victorious living.

But the question arises, since we live in the midst of so much doom and gloom with everything from political scandal to genocide in our daily news media, how can we get into the rhythm of **Thanksgiving Living**?

C. W. Metcalf says, “Too many of us are dying from a debilitating disease called terminal seriousness.” He says that we need to lighten up! He comments, “When the going gets tough, the tough get loose.” He suggests in his book *Lighten Up: Survival Skills for People Under Pressure* that we form humor support groups—that we create a joy list—things or people

that are a source of joy in our lives. He lists 200. For example, “Only engage in plus conversations. Focus on what’s working in our lives—not on what’s not.” He’s not suggesting denial but is, rather, encouraging us to not focus on our problems.

While all of us struggle with problems, we must remember our available resources and that our hope is not in politicians or policies. Our hope is in the Lord God Almighty. Ephesians 3:20 (NIV) states, “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all

### THE BIBLE HELPS ME SEE MYSELF AS CHRIST'S MANAGER OF MY CIRCUMSTANCES AND NOT A VICTIM OF LIFE'S TOUGH TIMES.

we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.” Assurance such as this provides the energy for **Thanksgiving Living**.

Another strategy helpful in carrying this seasonal emphasis throughout the year is to avoid the role of victim. We are sometimes tempted to see ourselves as the victims of our circumstances, but as authentic disciples we must transcend that notion and see ourselves, with Christ’s promised help, as managers of our circumstances. Whatever is going on in our lives is manageable when we remember Paul’s words in Philippians 4:13

(NIV), “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.” Or as *The Message* paraphrases these words, “Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.”

Such truth is so exciting to me and very helpful in enabling me to see myself as Christ’s manager of my circumstances and not a victim of life’s tough times.

Author Charles Sykes has written a book called *A Nation of Victims—the Decay of the American Character*. He tells how the United States seems to be turning into a nation of whiners and victims looking for someone to blame for our personal problems. He tells of a federal agent who embezzled money from the government and lost it all gambling in Atlantic City. He is fired but wins reinstatement after a court rules that his gambling with other peoples’ money is a handicap and so protected under federal law.

In another case, a school district employee is fired for consistently being late to work. He sues and says he is the victim of what his lawyer calls “Chronic Lateness Syndrome.”

When we choose our future in the role of a victim, then everything that happens to us is someone else’s fault. It is a very destructive way to live.

Instead, let’s accept our role as Christ’s manager of our circumstances and be thankful for His unfailing mercy and strength to guide us through the challenges of life. The result will be a **Thanksgiving Living** lifestyle just as Christ intended for all of us to enjoy, not only during November and December but perpetually and victoriously. It’s the way life ought to be. H





# What Kind of Church Do You Seek?

by Wayne M. Warner

**M**ay I speak to the pastor?" asked a pleasant, distinctively feminine voice.

"Speaking," I replied to the person on the other end of the telephone.

"May I ask you some questions about your church?" the voice continued.

This inquisitive young navy wife had just moved to town. Her background was with another denomination, but she had attended one of our congregations in another state prior to her move. Now she needed to find a church home because of her husband's transfer of duty. She wanted to know more specifically about our local church and its beliefs.

Some people seek a *castle*. They search among the commanding



peaks for a castle church, but-tressed high, its towers tall, its walls wide. No trouble here can disturb them, for no enemy can assail this formidable castle-church.

Jesus, however, did not establish His church as a castle. Rather, He said to His faithful flock, "In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, NKJV).

Some people seek a *camp*. They have no permanent alliances and allegiances. They put down no



spiritual roots and declare, "This is my church and my people. I intend to build my life here." Instead, they come ready to break camp as soon as they hear of a place where the spiritual grass grows greener.

These people remain in that greener pasture until they smell the scent of trouble blowing in the winds of gossip. Then they bolt and run. Their church-camp becomes a place to shirk the responsibilities of a permanent relationship to the church and its people.

Some people seek a *cloister*. They wish to retreat from the world of humanity and live an isolated spiritual life. It never occurs to them to provide a Christian influence for



Art by Ron Wheeler

a friend. The Golden Rule mystifies them, and they fail to comprehend the meaning of "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

God's Church does not exist as a castle, a camp, or a cloister. It thrives as a *community*, a society of dedicated Christians who share purposefully in the life of the group and for the good of the group, because they love one an-



other as they love the Lord. For these grace-filled believers, the church remains as an eternal fellowship, and they would rather die than withdraw from it.

Are you looking for a campsite from which to draw a coal of fire before moving on to the next place? Are you looking for a safe hiding place where you can remain out of sight from the avenue of dusty feet and broken hearts? Are you looking for a castle whose thick walls will hide your indifference?

"O God, guide my feet along the roadway where my neighbor walks! Let my heart feel a bit of his hurt. Help my hands to lift some part of his or her load. Make me part of the solution that brings people together rather than part of the difference that divides. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen."

HH

# The Blue Cross

by Jean Testerman

I had never seen anything like it—this unique, little thing that arrived in the mail. It was a small blue-and-red cross from David, a former student and an inmate at the correctional institution where I taught English. David had been my competent aide, keeping accurate attendance records and making required reports.

The cross, about an inch in height, was attached at the top to a long, tightly woven blue and red string, so that it could be worn as a necklace. When I wrote David to thank him for this surprise gift, he responded quickly. He explained that the necklace was made of discarded men's socks and that crosses in a variety of colors could be purchased through him from the inmate who made them as a source of income.

Years ago, I taught in a school for troubled youth. Since that time, God has given me many opportunities to respond to the needs of incarcerated persons when their road has seemed hard and hopeless. Now, upon learning from David that he and Matt, the creator of the crosses, had devised this means of earning spending money, I decided to order more.

My sister liked the navy blue and white cross I sent her. When I told her that more could be obtained through David, she asked me to order 10 in assorted

colors for members of her Golden Age Sunday School class. For one of her students, Jean Peele, she chose a light blue cross.

Jean was a cheerful, friendly, silver-haired lady who enjoyed planning parties and other social events for her class. But there was a spiritual side to Jean too. Jean wore her little cross constantly. When the cancer that was creeping through her body began to sap her strength, she wore her cross not only throughout the day but at night as well.

It became, as the months passed, a symbol of her personal faith. It also became a far-reaching testimony.

Jean was not a stranger to pain and sickness.

For 10 years, she had battled heart problems, diabetes, and thyroid disorders. In the midst of this, she had enthusiastically participated in two

overseas Work and Witness trips, one to Costa Rica and one to the Philippines. But while some Christians get caught up with the thrill of being short-term

missionaries, those trips confirmed

what Jean had long felt. "I believe," she said, "that my mission field is really right here where I live."

After many visits to the doctor and the hospital, Jean made it known that she wanted to die at home. It was a decision her three daughters honored even though watching their mother waste away was very difficult.



Roland Miller

Spring came. May dissolved into June.

When Jean ordered 30 more crosses and then, a few weeks later, 30 more, I wrote David that the crosses

were going to a gracious Christian lady who was terminally ill. He responded quickly, not only with her order but with two special gifts: a warm personal note expressing his prayer that God would be with her in her illness, and a tiny black

**Those little crosses made from old socks became a living testimony.**

cross framed in an exquisite red heart.

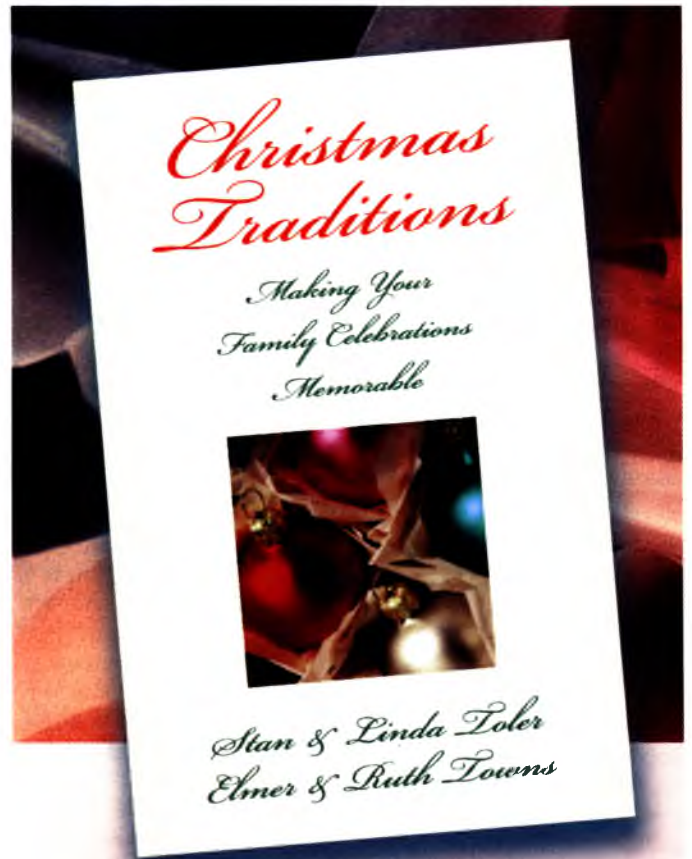
It was Jean's wish that each relative and friend who came to visit her in those days should have a cross. When her health deteriorated to the point that she no longer realized who came, her daughters made sure her wish was carried out. Visitors came to comfort but left comforted by the thought of Jean's love reaching to them through little, colorful crosses.

Jean passed away on July 1. Later, as friends and family came to the viewing at the church, they saw clasped in her hands both her little blue cross and David's final gift, the black one within the red heart. It was as though she was saying to all who came, "To the cross of Christ I cling."

At the funeral, Jean's pastor reminded the congregation of the Gaithersburg, Maryland, Church of the Nazarene of the life Jean had lived since she was saved just before the birth of her first daughter 39 years ago. He also recalled a recent celebration when Jean received the Distinguished Service Award. As he spoke with her over the P.A. system in morning worship, Jean had urged them clearly from her bed at home, "Pray for one another."

Later, as friends and family came together to honor the memory of Jean, sadness and joy pervaded the air. Her suffering was over. Her love was still with them. It was visible in the little crosses each of them wore. And as they journeyed back to their homes in far-away places—Florida, Virginia, Hawaii, Bermuda—perhaps they recalled those personal, powerful messages from Jean: "Cling to the cross of Christ" and "Pray for one another."

Jean did something else in those final weeks. In ordering those crosses, she gave opportunity for David to express his new faith and his Christian love beyond the prison walls.



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# Predestination

**ROB L. STAPLES**



Rob L. Staples has made a career of teaching the Christian faith as a pastor and as a professor at Southern Nazarene University and Nazarene Theological Seminary.

A MAN WHO HAD JUST RECEIVED his private pilot's license invited his friend to go for a plane ride. His friend refused, saying he was afraid of getting that high off the ground. Being unable to convince the man that flying was safer than riding in a car, he said: "I thought you believed in predestination, and that nobody can die until his time comes."

"I do," replied his friend.

"Then if you know you cannot die until your time comes, what is the problem?" asked the pilot.

"Well," his friend replied, "what if we get up in the air and *your* time comes?"

This humorous story illustrates the difficulties that may arise from a wrong understanding of predestination. But predestination is a biblical doctrine. The problem is that some theological traditions have distorted the doctrine into a deterministic idea that leaves no room for human freedom, teaching that God has ordered all things according to His inscrutable will and therefore causes everything that happens. This includes the notion that from all eternity, some people are predestined to be saved and some pre-

destined to be damned, and nothing we do can alter either destiny.

What, then, does the Bible mean by predestination? In short, it means that our salvation is God's eternal purpose for everyone. We are all "predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son" (Romans 8:29, NIV). Thus, we are predestined for holy living, "for he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight" (Ephesians 1:4, NIV).

But the Bible also teaches that we have freedom to accept or reject the destiny God has planned for us. When we reject salvation, we are spurning that which has been God's saving purpose for us since the very beginning. Such saving purpose is "to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves" (Ephesians 1:6, NIV).

In Flannery O'Connor's short story *The River*, an uneducated preacher, self-styled healer, and baptizer named Bevel Summers, standing knee-deep in water at the river's edge, snatches a four-year-old boy from his baby-sitter on the bank and, before the child knows what is happening, immerses him in the water. He then says to the dripping and startled boy: "You count now; you didn't even count before." As the story unfolds, O'Connor shows how this misguided understanding—both of baptism and of God—soon brings about the boy's self-destruction.

No, we do not baptize children, or dedicate them, because they do not count unless we do so. We do it because they *do* count, already, with God. The idea of predestination tells us that we all count; that God loves us from all eternity and has provided a

way of salvation for us, which cost Him the death of His only begotten Son.

But what about human freedom? Does our vote count? How do we harmonize these two biblical truths: (1) We are admonished to seek the Lord and choose the way of salvation (Isaiah 55:6), and (2) we are saved by God's grace and not by anything we do (Ephesians 2:8-9)? Although these truths may appear to be in conflict, in reality they are not. They are two facets of the same shining reality.

When we approach the door of salvation, we find inscribed on the outside of the door, as it were, the words: "Choose you this day whom you will serve." But when we freely exercise saving faith, open the door, and enter into salvation, we can turn around and find inscribed on the inside of the door the words: "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you."

Several years ago the Reformed theologian Hendrikus Berkhof of the Netherlands visited my theology class at Nazarene Theological Seminary, where I invited him to speak. After talking a while, he opened the floor

**The idea of predestination tells us that we all count.**

for questions. One student asked him if he believed in predestination. "Yes, I do," he replied, "but we Calvinists have distorted that doctrine by turning it into a logical deterministic system. Its real purpose is religious and not philosophical. It was really meant as a great devotional truth. It simply means this: When we get to the end of the journey, we will have to say it was God who brought us all the way."

We Wesleyans believe that too! **H**



# THE QUESTION BOX

CONDUCTED BY WESLEY D. TRACY

**Q.** Why are the older people so slow to accept contemporary worship, especially the music?

**A.** It may come as a surprise to you, but many of us in the "older people" category are working hard at embracing contemporary worship. One of the reasons is that we have prayed so hard and so long for the younger generation that we want to be flexible when it comes to accommodating its need for contemporary music even in worship. I admit that I do get blessed by some of it. Some of it I can't yet take. I visited a church in Phoenix (not Nazarene), and the opening song was "The Holy Ghost Hop"—*Please!*

We will work out our musical preference problems. More serious matters, however, loom on the worship horizon. The constituent elements of Christian worship through 20 centuries include: prayer, reading of the Word, proclamation (preaching) of the Word, singing, and sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Contemporary worship, as practiced in some churches, eliminates or diminishes several of these core elements.

1. Preaching is separated from worship. The standard contemporary service moves through preset four- or five-step intensifying stages of song and prayer (*invitation, engagement, exaltation, adoration, intimacy, or outside the courtyard, in the outer courtyard, the inner court, holy of holies*). After the "worship" reaches a climax, a traditional song is sung as the *closeout*. At this point, the "teaching pastor" gives a postworship homily or lesson. Or the congregation "breaks out" into various rooms where "teaching pastors" conduct classes. Or, as in a Vineyard

pattern, the people take a coffee and doughnut fellowship break and then return for the "teaching pastor's" lesson.

2. Many contemporary congregations go weeks without any public reading of the Scriptures. Even if the "teaching pastor" reads a verse or two, it is not part of worship. From the very earliest Christian worship, reading and preaching of the Word have been integral parts of worship—until now.

3. Many contemporary churches diminish the sacraments (Communion, baptism) by regarding them as mere ordinances rather than sacraments and by infrequent use. Evangelicals have already neglected the sacraments; now contemporary Pentecostal worship almost elbows them out.

Thus, contemporary worship all but dismisses the three objective parts of worship (reading, preaching, and sacrament) in favor of the two subjective parts (singing and praying). This is a far greater issue than music style preferences.

**Q.** My Bible study group is having trouble with the different genealogies of Jesus in Matthew and Luke. Can you shed any light on the matter?

**A.** It may help to note that one genealogy traces the "blood line" while the other traces the "crown line." Together, these two credential statements show that Jesus was not only the Son of God but also the rightful king of Judah. Some teach that if the Romans had not been occupying the country at the time, Joseph would have been king and Jesus the crown prince.

## It's Not Too Late!

The end of the year is just around the corner, but there's still time to enjoy making charitable gifts to your local church or to any ministry of the Church of the Nazarene.

Besides being a blessing to the work of Christ, you may also benefit from tax deductions. Did you know that your gifts of qualified assets—such as stocks and mutual funds—avoid capital gains tax that would otherwise be due on a sale (if held more than 12 months)? Gifts of appreciated assets are deductible in amounts up to 30% of adjusted gross income and any excess may be carried over for use in the future.



If you have retirement accounts and are past the age of 59½, you can fund your gift with withdrawals. You report the income on your tax return but take a corresponding deduction for your gifts.

You can also make the church the beneficiary of life insurance policies. It's a great way to help underwrite the ministry of the church after you're gone.

Got any questions? Want to know more about how your gifts can further the work of the Church of the Nazarene?

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## General Superintendents Meet with Dobson

The Board of General Superintendents met with James Dobson and H. B. London, September 2, at Focus on the Family headquarters in Colorado Springs for "time well spent," according to James H. Diehl, chairman of the Board of General Superintendents.

The superintendents, who were in Colorado Springs for their annual leadership and strategic planning meetings, attended a luncheon hosted by Dobson and his wife, Shirley, who is chairperson of the National Day of Prayer, Diehl said. Afterward, the board visited privately with Dobson and London for approximately an hour. Dobson shared the story of his miraculous recovery from a stroke, Diehl reported,



General Superintendent Diehl

before asking about the vision of the Church of the Nazarene.

"His [Dobson's] interest in the Church of the Nazarene is evident," Diehl said. "He wanted to know about our vision for ministry around the world, in South America, and in China."

Diehl believes the time, which ended with a circle of prayer, was some of the most profitable the two groups have ever spent. "I think stronger bonds were built between our church and the Focus on the Family ministry than we've ever had before," he said. "We are on the same wavelength in so many areas. It is evident that there is much unity between us."

## Michigan Camp Meeting Makes History

The Northern Michigan District camp meeting probably made history, according to Curt Lewis, district superintendent, and Stan Ingersol, Nazarene archives manager. Held August 10-16, the camp meeting was the first since the early days of the Church of the Nazarene to host two women as the featured speakers. Evangelist Elaine Pettit and NWMS General Director Nina Gunter

shared the platform for the services, which averaged more than 400. Pettit taught on prayer and holiness, and Gunter exalted Christ in her messages. Lewis said. "The response was one of the best I've seen at a camp meeting," Lewis reported. "We had the largest crowds and best offerings ever. I didn't realize we were making history. I just thought it was a good idea."

## Nazarene HQ Staff Support Students in *See You at the Pole*

Employees of the International Headquarters (HQ) of the Church of the Nazarene joined the more than 3 million teenagers around the world who observed *See You at the Pole*, the National Day of Student Prayer, according to Fred Fullerton, NYI Ministries director. The annual event held this year on September 16 is the eighth time students have met around school flagpoles for a time of unified prayer on behalf of their schools, their nations, and their futures, Fullerton said.

In a demonstration of support for the youth of the church, employees at the Nazarene Headquarters in Kansas City met for prayer in the center of the Headquarters campus before work began.

"As youth ministers, adult role models, church members, and parents, we

believe it is vitally important to support our youth in this student-led movement," Fullerton said. "We want to come together for this time of prayer to remember our youth and to intercede with God on their behalf."

*See You at the Pole*, a student-initiated movement that began in Texas in 1990 with a single church group, has steadily gained in popularity, with youth on 5 continents and in all 50 of the United States participating.

The gathering is entirely legal, according to U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley. In a letter sent to school officials around the nation in 1995, *See You at the Pole* was listed among those activities that are appropriate forms of religious expression by students on a campus.

## Denver First Goes Nationwide on TV

Denver First Church of the Nazarene is now broadcasting a Sunday morning worship service once a month across the nation via the Nazarene Communications Network (NCN) satellite broadcast system, according to Kim Meek, NCN Broadcast Services manager.

Tim Stearman, pastor of Denver First Church, said, "When we learned there were more than 35,000 Dish TV Network systems in the Denver area alone, we realized the evangelism potential for our church, not to mention access to the more than 1.3 million homes across the United States. I believe the Nazarene church needs a presence on television, and we are grateful the denomination has a system to give greater opportunity for us to evangelize and introduce people to the church."

*Sunday in the Rockies* is broadcast the first Sunday of the month in addition to the regular eight hours of NCN programming on Dish TV Network. Any person with this satellite equipment can view the programming without additional cost, according to Meek.

## Randall Denny, Editor of *Preacher's Magazine*, Dies



Randall E. Denny, 61, editor of the *Preacher's Magazine* for the past nine years and pastor of Spokane Valley, Wash., Church of the Nazarene, died

September 9 as the result of a massive heart attack.

Denny had pastored Spokane Valley Church since 1982. He was ordained on the Colorado District in 1962 and had served at churches in San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles, and Modesto in California, and in Denver, Colorado.

He was a graduate of Pasadena Nazarene College (now Point Loma Nazarene University) and Nazarene Theological Seminary.

Denny is survived by his wife, Ruth, and two adult daughters, Shannon and Shelly.

## Smith Named WordAction Director



Blaine Smith has been named WordAction director for the Nazarene Publishing House (NPH), according to Hardy Weathers, NPH president.

Smith, who grew up in the Church of the Nazarene, has served as director of marketing for Back to the Bible in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he was responsible for the creation and design of curriculum and books. In addition, he has worked with nationally known authors, such as Gene Getz and Elisabeth Elliot.

Smith served as executive pastor at First Church of the Nazarene in Lincoln, Nebraska, for six years. "Blaine Smith is a dedicated layman who has been involved in many aspects and programs of the church," Weathers said. "Additionally, he has a strong background in secular business. I believe exciting days are ahead for WordAction Publishing."

Smith and his wife, Linda, have three children, ages 16, 13, and 9.

## Eby Moves to NWMS Office



J. Wesley Eby, managing editor of the *Herald of Holiness* for the past two years, has been selected as mission education coordinator in the General

NWMS Office, according to Nina Gunter, general NWMS director.

Eby has been involved in the NWMS most of his life, Gunter said. He has been the Kansas City District NWMS president for the past four years. In addition, he has been a local NWMS president and served as mission education secretary in three churches.

"I am pleased that Wes will fill this important position in our office," Gunter said. "His background and experience as an educator and editor/writer, along with his lifelong interest in missions, make him well-qualified for the job."

## Radio Show, *Live from the Lamb's*, Premieres in New York

Manhattan Lamb's Church of the Nazarene in New York, Renaissance Communications, and Dupree Co. launched a radio show, *Live from the Lamb's*, with a concert by Crystal Lewis, a Nazarene musician and Dove Award-winning artist. The weekly two-hour nationally syndicated show premiered Sunday, August 16, from The Lamb's, the national landmark off-Broadway theater located in Times Square.

*Live from the Lamb's* drew a near-capacity crowd from the tri-state area, said John Calhoun, pastor of the Manhattan Lamb's Church. Attendees were eager to be a part of gospel music history, Calhoun said. The debut launched the first-ever national Christian radio broadcast from New York City, the number one radio market in America.

Sponsored by Thomas Nelson Publishers, *Live from the Lamb's* will fea-

ture top artists in contemporary Christian music and will broadcast live over the Salem Radio Network and as an exclusive radio feature to its premiere music network, Morningstar, with 120 affiliates.

The program is the brainchild of Joe Battaglia of Renaissance Communications, Cindy Dupree, and Pastor Calhoun, who hope *Live from the Lamb's* will be a popular forum for gospel artists. "New York, now the safest large city in the United States, is experiencing a true renaissance," Dupree said. "The timing is right, and the city is ripe to respond to the fastest-growing music genre in America—gospel music."

Calhoun believes the program is part of his mission. "in keeping with the idea to 'think globally and act locally,' *Live from the Lamb's* is our newest attempt to use our resources and location to answer that call."

Parkview Church of the Nazarene in Brown County, Ind., placed 4,200 white crosses on the church hillside, which represent the number of abortions in the U.S. daily. The display was in cooperation with the county chapter of the National Right to Life organization.



## Nazarene Chaplains Recognized



Lt. Col. Junius W. Johnson received the 1998 Outstanding Chaplain of the Year Award in Raleigh/Durham, N.C. He was nominated by

Brig. Gen. Mark Schmidt, 366th Wing commander. Curt Bowers, Chaplaincy Ministries director, said, "Chaplain Johnson has always been patriotic and sensitive to the needs of the military members serving our country."

Chaplain Robin Stephenson entered active duty for the United States Air Force as the first Nazarene woman chaplain in that service, according to Chaplain Curt



Bowers. Stephenson, who is assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, is only the second woman military chaplain to represent the Church of the Nazarene since World War II, Bowers said.

## Correction

The September issue incorrectly made reference to the "late Elizabeth Cole." The *Herald* staff is pleased to report that Miss Cole, retired missionary to Africa, is alive and well. We sincerely apologize for this error.

# Let Me Help You

## Nazarene Author—Donna Clark

by L. Elizabeth Arthurs

Whatever I am today is only because of people who have unselfishly given of their time to help me," Donna smiles. "I want to pass that help on to others."



Donna Clark Goodrich, a tenderhearted author with an infectious laugh, eagerly shares what she has learned in her years as a professional writer. Author of over 600 articles, devotionals, short stories, book reviews, poems, and 10 books, she has self-published 7 more how-to books on writing. A popular seminar instructor, Donna teaches workshops on devotional writing, marketing, poetry, nonfiction, short stories, and where to get ideas, as well as beginning and advanced writing.

Her life story is as diverse as her writing. "My only training to be a writer was a 10th grade journalism class in Jackson, Michigan," she admits. After high school, Donna

attended Spring Arbor College for a year near her hometown.

Then, at the age of 20, she took a Greyhound bus to Kansas City to apply for a job at the Nazarene Publishing House. To her amazement, she was offered the position of secretary to the book editor, Norman R. Oke. She also worked in the *Herald of Holiness* office one afternoon a week.

"I always knew I wanted to write," Donna says. "Working at the publishing house gave me the on-the-job training I needed." During this time she typed a term paper for a student at Nazarene Theological Seminary named Gary. He asked her out, and three weeks after their first date he asked her to marry him. They recently celebrated their 38th anniversary and attend First Church of the Nazarene in Mesa, Arizona, pastored by Rev. Ira Brown.

For 18 years, Donna operated a secretarial and income tax service. This led to her two how-to books, *How to Set Up and Run a Typing Service* and *How to Set Up and Run a Tax Preparation Service*, both published in the 1980s by John Wiley & Sons. She eventually sold both businesses. Mothering three children added extra challenges to her busy life during this time, but it also provided her with plenty of material for stories.

In the 1980s,

Donna attended her first writers' seminar sponsored by the Nazarene Publishing House. "Up to this point, writing was just a hobby for me," she admits, "but a quote by Harold Ivan Smith changed my life. He said, 'We are called to write, and I feel we will be responsible at the judgment for the people who are hurting that we could have helped but didn't because we didn't write what God laid on our hearts to write.' I then realized I was as called to write as a minister is called to preach."

At the request of the seminar director, Donna started a writer's club in Mesa. "Five people attended, and for two hours they asked me questions about writing. Suddenly everything that had occurred in my life thus far fell into place. I wrote in my diary that night, "I finally found God's will for my life—working with beginning writers!" In the following months, Donna helped organize clubs in Phoenix and other Arizona cities, which led to the founding of the Arizona Christian Writers Seminar in 1982.

Donna ran this seminar for sev-



Donna Clark Goodrich with her roommates at Nazarene Publishing House in 1959. (L. to r.) Donna, Linda Myers, and Clara Flowers.



# Write Goodrich

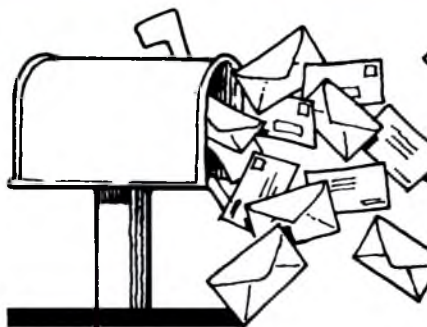
en years, expanding it to three days and a staff of 20. Then in 1989, because of her husband's health (he took a disability retirement at the age of 48), she turned it over to Reg Forder, publisher of *The Christian Communicator* magazine and director of American Christian Writers.

*"I finally found  
God's will for my  
life—working with  
beginning writers!"*

At present, in addition to editing and proofreading for writers and publishers, Donna teaches at Christian writers' seminars across the United States. In 1997 she taught at 16 such conferences. In 1998, however, she curtailed her teaching schedule to spend more time with her family and to get back to her own writing. With 14 books and many articles in various stages of completion, she'll have plenty of work to replace the seminars.

For over 40 years, Donna has answered God's awesome call to teach and write. Unassuming and outgoing, she blesses others with her creative gifts and caring heart. She continues to touch others with her godly insight. With her encouraging attitude, Donna says to those who want to share the gospel message through the printed page, "Let me help you write." **HH**

## THE READERS WRITE



### Commends September Issue

While the entire September issue of the *Herald* is good, I would like to especially commend three articles. First, the article on sanctification by Al Truesdale and Bonnie Perry deserves very careful reading. A flaw in holiness circles for too long has been our failure to discern between what God does in a crisis and what He does gradually and by process. "Sanctification," the authors write, "includes both the Spirit's present accomplishment and His ongoing work." And that which is available now by faith is cleansing from "any lingering obstruction to Christ's Lordship and empowering us for victorious living and service." And thanks, Rob Staples, for getting some of the dust out of our eyes about worship. Thanks for reminding us that our primary mandate is not the Great Commission but the Great Commandment. Without the priority of worship, the Great Commission will soon drag to an inglorious halt. Finally, Wes Tracy straightens us out in relation to Fundamentalism. It has always seemed to me that Nazarenes were far more afraid of being called Fundamentalists than Modernists—when actually we have much more in common with the first than the second. However, Tracy draws some clear distinctions, which I personally found helpful.

*Richard S. Taylor, Edmonds, Wash.*

### Sanctification Article

I am eagerly anticipating *Holiness Today*. You are leading us into the 21st century with great foresight and value. No article that I have ever read on sanctification has had the impact on me as that made by Truesdale and Perry's "Sanctification—A Comprehensive Provision" (Sept. 1998). When theology is clothed with grace in this

appealing manner, it becomes alive, invitational, and life-transforming.

*E. Grace Henderson, Ormstown, Que.*

### Thanks for the *Herald*

I love reading my *Herald of Holiness* each month and have enjoyed it even more since you combined it with *World Mission* magazine. I'm looking forward to seeing the finished product *Holiness Today* in a few months. Thank you for providing holiness articles that are relevant for us today.

*Rhonda Westcott, Uxbridge, Mass.*

### Use of Comstock Photos

I am responding to a comment in the August issue of the *Herald* concerning the use of Comstock photos. Being one of the designers of a sister Christian magazine, I understand how difficult it can be to illustrate a number of articles quickly, effectively, and still stay in a budget. Stock art is a wonderful way to create an interesting and attractive magazine without forcing the price of the magazine out of reach for many readers.

I enjoy the *Herald* every month and am looking forward to the new *Holiness Today* magazine. Keep up the good work. By the way, I wouldn't be surprised if some of the people in those Comstock photos were Nazarene!

*James Pardew, Indianapolis*



# God Came To a Lawyer and a Songbird

by Melissa Salisbury

**T**his morning, God sent me a songbird. He does things like that, our God. He knows us so well and loves us so much! Just when you need it most, He'll give you a songbird . . . and maybe a lawyer!

"I got laid off," Al stammered. The words buzzed in my ears much like an insect does. I didn't want them to be there. I wanted to brush them away. But there they stayed, buzzing, insistently demanding my attention.

"I got laid off." As we stood outside the lawyer's office, I wrapped my arms around my husband, Al, and laid my head on his shoulder. Then we had to go in. There was no time for talk or tears. We were already late for our 11:00 appointment to sign our wills.

From the moment we first knew there was a possibility of Al losing his job, I found it impossible to pray for him to keep that job. I was aware of the bleak economic future in our area of New York and aware of the stress he had been under at work. It just never felt right to pray that God would keep him in a situation like this.

Instead, I felt led to pray for God's direction and will. "Lord, You know our families are here. You know how I love this church in which I have grown so much in the past year. You know the roots I've put down in our little town. Lord, it took so long to find Julie, my every-day friend. And God, you know how hard this could be on Al. He is so quiet and carries his burdens deep inside himself.

"And then there's our new home, Lord. The home that was *supposed* to be a compromise between what Al wanted and what I wanted but instead had turned out to be the home I had never even imagined, my dream home. Lord, you know how my heart soars with emotion every time

I drive up our road.

"You know all that, Lord, but if there is something else out there that You want for us, that's what we want too."

And so, not wanting to pray *Al into* keeping a job and *out of* God's blessings, I simply put it in the Lord's hands.

And now here we were, standing in the lawyer's small waiting room, our four-year-old son, Ben, in tow, blissfully unaware of the turmoil going on inside of his mom and dad. *Why, God? Why did You let it happen like this?* I prayed silently. *I gave it all to You. Now here I stand,*

**"My husband called me at 10:00 this morning. He lost his job ton."**

*surrounded by strange faces, unable to shed even one of the tears that are pressing so hard against my eyelids.*

Our lawyer appeared, and we moved down the hall into the conference room. In a daze, we looked at our wills, trying to grasp the meaning of so many words floating before our eyes.

An Erma Bombeck article I often read to my classes says, "We

wouldn't want a picture of me naked at three months to fall into the wrong hands, would we?" Misquoting Erma, I mused, *We wouldn't want our children and possessions to fall into the wrong hands, would we?* It was an oddly funny idea.

Another funny thought. Al looked up, "Are we 'of sound mind'?" he asked. At last, a little relief. We chuckled, and I said to our lawyer, "My husband just got laid off."

It was a hard thing to say. This woman was nearly a stranger to us. Would she express sympathy, tell us how sorry she was—even though she really did not know us at all, could not possibly understand all that we would be feeling or facing?

I braced myself for her reply. "My husband called me at 10:00 this morning. He lost his job too."

She then proceeded to detail a story that appeared more difficult than ours. It was about a husband who passed up a better-paying job to



—Roland Miller

come north, about a 17-year law practice that had been left behind, about major debts incurred as a result of the move, and about an ex-husband now threatening to take the children since her finances looked so bad.

Ours was no shallow sympathy. We felt deep empathy. We paused for a moment and went on with the signing of the wills. Our business was soon finished, and all she needed was to be paid for her services.

“Sure! Take the last of our money,” I joked as I handed her the check. She waved it in the air and quipped, “How else do you think we’re eating this next week!” We all laughed. It felt good, if only for a moment.

We’ve had time to talk since then. Time to tell our families and friends. Time to shake our heads at the craziness of it all. And time to cry.

I’ve done a lot of crying. The first two mornings after we heard the news, I woke up crying. God has something for us to learn in every situation in life, and now I’m learning that giving it all to God does not insure an easy pathway. Yes, I’ve done a lot of crying.

This morning, though, *this morn-*

ing, I woke at 5:30—just the time Al usually pops in to give me a quick kiss on the neck before leaving for work. It’s Monday morning—his first day of staying in bed a little later. Instead of tears, I woke this morning to the sound of a bird singing outside my window. One of God’s own creations, reminding me of the joys available all around me—*this very morning!*

Yes, God gave me a lawyer and a songbird. And I believe God will give Al a job, in His time.

I do not know where this turn in our lives will take us. I do know, however, that God will provide for us. Therein lies my strength.

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).

*Postlude:*

*More than three years have come and gone since Melissa’s husband, Al, was laid off at IBM. We gave her a call to see if her faith was still ro-*

*bust. We learned that the Salisburys stayed in New York for six months, but no job opened up. They had to sell what Melissa called her “dream home.”*

*On a visit to North Carolina, Al was helping his brother-in-law fix an air conditioner. He went to buy a part for the machine. Due to his technical knowledge, the firm offered him a job, and he accepted.*

*When the family moved to Durham, North Carolina, the Nazarenes there did everything they could to make the transition smooth, including bringing in dozens of meals for the family of four. “Those Durham Nazarenes were terrific,” Melissa said.*

*“God used them to really help our family.”*

*The Salisburys, with their two children, Katy and Benjamin, are now living in a small-town area that has no Church of the Nazarene. “Al took a huge cut in pay. Our house is not as grand as our New York house. But our coherence as a family and our faith are greater than ever,” Melissa reports.*

H

## The first two mornings after we heard the news, I woke up crying.

# The Splinter of '98 a.k.a. "The Timber in My Toe!"



**JERRY AND LYNDA COHAGAN**

*Jerry Cohagan is one half of the comedy-drama duo, Hicks and Cohagan. Lynda is a high school English teacher in Olathe, Kansas.*

ONE OF OUR GREATEST PLEASURES during the summer months is our trek down to Marcie's Manor. Marcie's Manor is a little cabin Lynda's parents have tucked in the woods of the Ozarks on the gentle waters of Table Rock Lake. Our weekends there are filled with swimming off the dock, hiking through the woods, and quiet evenings swaying in the porch swing off the back deck. These are the memories we hold onto. We try not to dwell on the chiggers that eat you alive, the melodic sound of the bug zapper every 10 seconds, the tick checks before bedtime, or the "splinter of '98" that Tori got on the dock.

This was, indeed, the splinter of all splinters. Imagine a telephone pole, and you're getting close. Tori refused to walk back to the cabin, so Mommy went and got the surgical instruments: tweezers, clippers, a pocket knife, and Grizzly Grahams. (If you can't have anesthesia, then you better have comfort food.) We spread out a beach towel on the dock and finally coerced Tori to sit down on it. Her reflexes were outstanding—every time Daddy reached out his arm, Tori's leg retreated. If Daddy held out his hand, Tori's toes curled under. This was obviously going to be tougher than Daddy bargained for, so he did what any loving father would do. He turned to Mommy and said, "You do it."

While Daddy held Tori and Mommy at-

tempted to grab onto the beam with the tweezers, Tori screamed. No, that's not it. Tori emitted a sound of such high-pitched frequency and duration that hummingbirds stopped beating their wings, dogs covered their ears and hid under porches, garage doors went up all over the nearest town 30 miles away. Swimmers on the other side of Table Rock Lake ran for cover fearing it was a tornado warning. This went on for what seemed an eternity. In actuality, we spent 45 minutes trying to remove the harpoon that was firmly embedded in our little girl. People who were sunbathing two docks beyond ours began ogling us through their binoculars wondering what kind of torture we must be inflicting on "that helpless child." We decided to move matters indoors before someone called social services.

After soaking her foot in a tub of warm water, Daddy held Tori on his lap, covered both their heads with a towel, and said, "I know this is going to hurt, but I'm going to hold you just as tight as I can and you can scream as loud as you want while Mommy gets your splinter out." Always the obedient child, Tori screamed, belled, screeched, wailed, howled, and shrieked. After the ringing in Daddy's ears cleared, he said, "No, wait for Mommy to start."

"But it's gonna hurt!"

"Yes, it is. But let's yell then, OK? On three—one, two, three!"

And together, Daddy and Tori let out a lament heard through the ages. Tori screamed because of the pain. Daddy cried because his little girl was hurting. When they both ran out of breath, Mommy held the spear up by the tweezers and said, "Got it!"

So what's the message? We overheard it a few days later in an exchange between Tori and her granddaddy, Rob Staples. Now he waxes theologially on another

page in this magazine, and he must have thought there's no better time for some "deep thoughts" than sitting on a porch swing with your granddaughter tucked safely under your arm:

"Tori, did you know that trees talk?"

They can tell us things."

"I don't hear them."

"You have to listen with your eyes. Look at that tree right there. You see how it really leans to one side? If it had grown straight up, it would have run into that other tree, so it bent itself trying to get to the light. It takes the Light to grow, Tori. You always want to lean into the Light, never the darkness. And look at those two trees over there. The oak tree is twisted around the cedar tree. It looks as if one tree is holding up the other. There will be times when life is just too much to bear alone. But there will be people who will help hold you up. And sometimes, you will have to help hold someone else up, just like those two trees. Tori, you see that branch on this close tree, the branch that almost touches the deck? Look at the big scar on that branch. Sometimes, life will hurt you and leave you with scars, physical scars, emotional scars, really bad hurts . . ."

"Like that timber in my toe!" Tori inter-

**Mommy went and got the surgical instruments: tweezers, clippers, a pocket knife, and Grizzly Grahams.**

rupted, holding her toe with the splinter scar up in his face.

"Yes, Tori, just like your toe. Just like your toe has healed, that branch went on and kept growing and growing. You'll just keep growing too if you lean into the Light." Pretty good lesson whether you're 6 or 60.

Tori has a box that she keeps her treasures in: a couple of sparkly rocks, a pinecone, some shiny beads, and oh yes—a splinter.

# NAZARENE FAMILY



Eva DeLancey Bennett (center) was honored by the congregation of the Belpre, Ohio, Church of the Nazarene for 45 years of Sunday School attendance without an absence. (L. to r.) Alan Lemon, Sunday School superintendent; Eva Bennett; and Dave Brownfield, pastor. The honoree is an active member of her church, serving as a church board member and Sunday School teacher.

Atlas Howard (right) of Decatur, Ala., was recognized for 50 years as a minister of music in Nazarene churches in Michigan and Alabama. The Honorable Bill Dukes, Alabama State representative, presented Howard with a resolution passed by the House and Senate. Howard has taught keyboard gospel music for more than 45 years. His pastor, R. Phillip Session, is on the right.



Thelma Pollard (seated), age 92, was honored by her church family, Jackson, Tenn., First Church of the Nazarene, for decades of faithful service as a "prayer warrior, Sunday School teacher, board member, musician, and for loving, sacrificial giving to missions." (Standing l. to r.) Joyce Coleman, NWMS president; Richard Baisden, pastor; and Henrietta Kliem, former NWMS president.

## Broce Recognized as Top Scholar-Athlete



Jamie Broce, a Ball State University senior, was named the top scholar-athlete in collegiate golf in NCAA Division I. Broce was honored for his

combined excellence of a 72.6 scoring average in golf and a 3.71 grade-point average in academics.

"I've coached over 30 years and Jamie is the best student-athlete I've ever had," said Earl Yestingsmeier, Ball State's golf coach. "He's the most wholesome boy I've worked with."

According to Keith Grove, pastor of the Southwest Church of the Nazarene in Indianapolis, Jamie and his wife, Darci, grew up in the church. "Jamie is an outstanding Christian with a very positive testimony," Grove said.

## NNC Professor Earns National Award

Gaymon Bennett used his skills as a professor of English at Northwest Nazarene College (NNC) to earn a national award as a journal editor.



Bennett, editor of *Inland*, a journal for English teachers in Idaho and Eastern Washington, received the first-place National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Affiliate Journal Award for 1997-98. He will be honored this month at the Affiliate Conference in Nashville.

Bennett has been a member of the NNC faculty since 1971. He earned an undergraduate degree at NNC, a master's at California State University—Los Angeles, and a doctorate at Washington State University.



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# THE UNHERALDED



by J. Wesley Eby

**A**lzheimer's. The word conjures up a range of emotions—anxiety, sadness, fear, dismay, loneliness. And along with the dreaded disease comes misunderstanding, apprehension, dejection, and rejection.

Into the middle of this gloomy scene comes Leland Roebuck, an 85-year-old retired Nazarene minister. Although an Alzheimer's victim himself, Rev. Roebuck quickly dispels all negative thoughts and images related to the illness. In fact, to the patients and staff of the Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Huntsville, Alabama,

brief time in evangelistic work, they accepted a pastorate in Dunbar, West Virginia. For six decades they served other Nazarene congregations in Tennessee, Texas, Indiana, and Kentucky. About 14 years ago, the couple retired in Florida.

Opportunities to preach did not cease with his "official" retirement. "He was always busy filling in for ministers who were out of town or for churches that were between pastors," his daughter Caryl Jones says.

Rev. Roebuck was diagnosed with Alzheimer's about 8 years ago, yet he continued his "retirement" ministry.

## Rev. Roebuck—Gloom "Dispeller"

where he is also a resident, the elderly minister evokes a positive picture—one splashed with happiness and helpfulness, with strength and spirituality, with light and life.

Whether offering prayer, giving a word of encouragement, or flashing one of his captivating smiles, Rev. Roebuck brightens the days and lives of everyone he encounters. In spite of the debilitating effects of his own illness, Rev. Roebuck serves as the chaplain for the healthcare center where he resides. "It means a great deal to have him here," says Etta Malone, the center's director of nursing. "He's a very special person. He needs to be able to function in this way . . . to have that need to minister to people."

Leland Roebuck and his wife, Lucille, met while attending God's Bible School in Cincinnati. After spending a

"One Sunday he got up to preach, and he just stood there in the pulpit," his wife recalls. "He knew it was his last sermon in church. But his ministry never stopped."

That's when the Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Huntsville entered the picture. Just the right place for the *special* ministry of this *special* man of God. Lashaun Brown, social services director, says that she has never seen an Alzheimer's patient like Rev. Roebuck. "He is always so concerned about others. He wants to hug you or joke or pray. He's always so positive. He has the biggest heart. He's been an inspiration to me."

"He prays for me every time he sees me," says Sharon McNeal, certified nursing assistant. "Rev. Roebuck blesses me all the time. He seems to know when I'm down,

**Rev. Roebuck with Lucille, his wife of 62 years**



**Chaplain Roebuck praying with nurse Sherry Martin**



and he knows how to lift my spirit. He even prays for my children.”

Chaplain Roebuck brings peace and serenity to Lottie Thompson's hectic, stressful life. "I know I've been blessed more times than I can count," the registered nurse relates. "He's here for every patient, nurse, and visitor. He's always got something funny or sweet to say or a prayer to make your day better. He'll ask what's going on with you. Maybe it's a family illness; he'll pray a beautiful prayer. It's not one like you'd read out of a book. I know it's from the heart."

In his twilight years, Rev. Roebuck lives the words of a poem he penned for Lucille just before they married 62 years ago. And he can still recite it without any sign of memory loss:

Just a little talk with Jesus,  
How it smoothes the rugged road;  
How it seems to help me onward  
When I faint beneath my load.  
When my heart is crushed with sorrow  
And my eyes with tears are dim,  
There is nothing that yields such comfort  
As a little talk with Him.

Leland Roebuck—husband, father, minister, chaplain, poet, friend, encourager, comforter, light bearer, gloom "dispeller"—truly one of our church's *unheralded* saints.

Information provided courtesy of *The Huntsville Times* (Alabama) and *Times* staff writer Ann Marie Martin.

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## VITAL STATISTICS

### Deaths

REV. RAYMOND C. BARR, 84, Bourbonnais, Ill., June 29. Rev. Barr pastored nearly 30 years in Illinois. Survivors: wife, Sylvia; sons, Raymond Jr., James, John; daughter, Anita Lentini Wies; brothers, John, Dean, Eugene; sisters, Beulah Vogelien, Ina Glick; 12 grandchildren; 6 step-grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Ethel Marie, in 1995.

MILTON A. ESSEX, 80, Chula Vista, Calif., Aug. 13. Survivors: wife, Delphine; son, Douglas; daughter, Roberta Everett; two sisters; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

CELESTINE V. HICKS, 102, Uhrichsville, Ohio, Aug. 23. Survivors: sons, Owen, Arthur, Allen, Franklin; daughter, Bonita Ingham; 17 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

VERLA E. HOLLIS, 75, Claremore, Okla., Aug. 3. Survivors: husband, Rev. Robert; sons, Rev. Robert Jr., Rev. J. Ray; daughter, Gwynnieth McCarty; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter.

MATHEW D. KORODY, 57, Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 1. Survivors: wife, Carol Lee; daughters, Patricia L. Soulia, Carolyn Randolph; son, Mathew III; mother, M. Lorene; brothers, Lewis, Ronald; sisters, Jeannette Cox, Ileana Suk.

REV. C. LESTER JOHNSON, 83, Emmett, Idaho, Mar. 2. Rev. Johnson served as a pastor, missionary to Argentina, and evangelist for many years. Survivors: daughters, Eleanor Aubrey, Helen Meier; seven grandchildren.

JAMES R. LAYMON, 66, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 1. Survivors: wife, Joan; daughters, Ann Paulsen, Elizabeth "Betsy" Nemeth; stepdaughter, Lisa Larkey; seven grandchildren.

PAUL J. MADDEN, 91, Gilbert, Ariz., July 23. Survivors: sons, Robert, Carl, James; daughters, Karen Hulbert, Mary Abrams; 14 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

R. HENRY MANCHESTER, 82, Waterville, Vt., Aug. 13. Survivors: wife, Marjorie; sons, Alan, George, Carroll; daughters, Marilyn Clinger, Carolyn Hover, Jean Hook, Rhoda Mingleddorf; 1 sister; 25 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

DAVID L. MANLEY, 45, Puyallup, Wash., June 5. Survivors: wife, Brenda; sons, Dane, Austin; parents, Rev. Bob and Dorothy; brothers, Ron, Geren; sister, Sheryllyn Hoyt.

DOROTHY MAE MANLEY, 73, Nampa, Idaho, July 17. Survivors: husband, Rev. Bob; sons, Ronald, Geren; daughter, Sheryllyn Hoyt; mother, Elizabeth Foraker; brothers, Frank, Roy, and Howard Foraker; sisters, Betty Faul, Ruth Sutton, Peggy Odneal, Hazel Littrell, Colleen Milsap; 10 grandchildren.

H. GLEN McCASLIN, 78, Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 18. Survivors: wife, Mary; sons, James, Thomas; daughters, Virginia Childress, Janet Hostetler; nine grandchildren.

RUSSELL FARNABY METCALFE SR., 96, song evangelist of many years, Wichita Falls, Tex., Aug. 8. Survivors: son, Russell Jr.; daughter, Ruth Edwards; 9 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Leona.

VERN ALLEN PEARSON, 88, Victorville, Calif., Aug. 2. Pearson was a professor in

the education department at Pasadena/Point Loma Nazarene College for 35 years. Survivors: wife, Edna; son, Lynn; daughter, Janet King; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

LOIS WOODALL REEDY, 85, Sacramento, Calif., Aug. 25. Survivors: husband, Leroy; daughter, JoAnn Westover; son, William Woodall; stepson, Graham Reedy; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Harold Woodall, in 1971.

HAROLD ROBINSON, 71, Duncan, Okla., July 8. Survivors: wife, Maxine; son, Larry; daughters, Sherry Lively, Beverly Martin; seven grandchildren.

MELVIN C. THOMSEN, 82, Mitchell, S.Dak., July 11. Survivors: wife, Evelyn; sons, Leslie, Vandy; daughter, Wanda Baker; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

CHARLES R. "SONNY" WATERS JR., 35, Hermitage, Tenn., June 21. Survivors: parents, Charles and Betty Waters; sisters, Cindi Milliron, Elaine Machiela, Beth Pernerberton.

ELEANOR CULBERTSON WESTMACOTT, 80, Duncan, B.C., Aug. 18. Survivors: husband, Morris; daughters, Nancy Jean O'Connell, Trisha Haase, Judy Robinson; three stepchildren; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

REV. GEORGE L. WOLF, 79, Manchester, Conn., Aug. 13. Rev. Wolf pastored 40 years in Massachusetts, Maine, Pennsylvania, New York, and Kentucky. Survivors: wife, Phyllis; son, Dale; brother, Rev. Earl; three grandchildren.

### Births

to GARY and CHRISTI (ENDERSON) CUMMINGS, Fort Smith, Ark., a boy, Nathan Wayne, July 7

to KYLE and TAMARA (MUMFORD) EATON, Sterling, Va., a boy, Kamrin Alexander, July 2

to JEFF and PATTI (FAUSTE) HARDING, Olathe, Kans., a boy, Carson Hughes, May 18

to SHAWN and KRISTEN (HARDING) LEWIS, Olathe, Kans., a girl, Ashton Day, Aug. 25

to KEITH and HEATHER MacASKILL, Cambridge Preston, Ont., a boy, Cameron Blake, June 21

to TIMOTHY and JAMIE (KELLEY) McCARTNEY, Ravenswood, W.Va., a girl, Taylor Brooke, May 9

to LANE and KAYLA (ARNOLD) PRICE, Hermitage, Tenn., a boy, Seth Tyler, June 29

to ROB and CLAUDIA SKIDMORE, Medina, Ohio, a boy, Zachary Thomas, July 28

### Anniversaries

REV. RICARDO and AIDA FERNANDEZ, Miami Lakes, Fla., celebrated their 50th anniversary Aug. 15 with a celebration and reception at Central Church of the Nazarene.

JAMES and CAROL HADDER, Scottsdale, Ariz., celebrated their 50th anniversary Sept. 3. The Hadders have two children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Greetings may be sent to the Hadders c/o First Church of the Nazarene, 2340 N. Hayden Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85257.

KEN and RUTH HATHAWAY, Wallingford, Conn., celebrated their 50th anniversary

sary Aug. 1 with a reception hosted by their three children and six grandchildren.

DAVID ANDY and MARY SUE SANDS, Colorado Springs, will celebrate their 50th anniversary Nov. 12. They have two children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Greetings may be sent to 2022 King St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

HAROLD and OMAJEAN SMITH, Nitro, W. Va., celebrated their 50th anniversary Aug. 6. Their two daughters hosted a celebration in their honor on Aug. 1. Greetings may be sent to 10 Windsong Way, Nitro, WV 25143.

## Announcements

ALLIANCE, OHIO, CHURCH will celebrate its 75th anniversary and revival Nov. 15-18 with Paul Merki speaking and special music by former members. For more information, call 330-821-5966.

BAY CITY (MICH.) FIRST CHURCH will celebrate its 75th anniversary Nov. 13-15 with Jack Barnell speaking. For more information, call Pastor Marc Meulman, 517-892-2114.

McALLEN (TEX.) FIRST CHURCH will celebrate its 75th anniversary, revival, and building dedication Nov. 20-22 with General Superintendent John A. Knight speaking. For more information, call 956-686-6748.

NAMPA (IDAHO) FIRST CHURCH celebrated its 85th anniversary Oct. 16-18 with a concert, banquet, and special services led by former pastors.

ORLANDO (FLA.) COLONIAL CHURCH

will celebrate its 45th anniversary Feb. 14. For more information, write to 2209 Walnut St., Orlando, FL 32806 or call 407-281-8552.

## FOR THE RECORD Moving Ministers

JASON L. ADKINS, from student to associate, Jasper (Ala.) Grace Chapel

WAYNE R. BAUER, from student to associate, Pensacola (Fla.) First

HAROLD F. BERRIAN JR., from Dalton (Mass.) Berkshire First to Ashland (Ky.) First

WALTER O. BOOMER, from pastor, Cleveland, Okla., to associate, Bartlesville (Okla.) First

OSMAN CANIZALES, from student to pastor, Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) Spanish

JEFFREY T. CROFT, from associate, Chattanooga (Tenn.) First, to associate, Anderson (Ind.) First

GLORIA J. DeVIVO, from pastor, Locust Grove, Ky., to associate, Glasgow (Ky.) First

LEON T. DIXON JR., from associate, Little Rock (Ark.) New Hope, to associate, Little Rock (Ark.) Cornerstone

ROBERT J. FARRIS, from student to associate, Churubusco, Ind.

BARRY S. GOODWIN, from associate, Calgary (Alta.) First, to pastor, Victoria (B.C.) Esquimalt

J. WESLEY GORMAN, from pastor, Wainwright, Alta., to associate, Calgary (Alta.) First

STEVE E. GROOMS, from associate, Orange (Tex.) First, to associate, Columbus (Ohio) Whitehall

DAVID C. HARRIS, from pastor, Cornelius (N.C.) Lake Norman Community, to evangelism

P. MITCHELL HEDGE, from evangelism to associate, Lexington (Ky.) Lafayette

CHAD E. HOGUE, from pastor, Dayton (Ohio) Huber Heights, to evangelism

RODNEY C. LINDSAY, from Fort Myers (Fla.) Palm Beach Boulevard, to Charleston (S.C.) Calvary

GEORGE S. MACNAUGHTON, from student to associate, Jacksonville (Fla.) North

EARL McMILLAN, from student to associate, Lynwood (Calif.) Faith Community

JAMES I. MOORE, from Panama, Okla., to Lamar, Mo.

LOUISE C. MURGUIA, from associate, Dewey, Okla., to associate, Tulsa (Okla.) Faith

K. BRIAN PATTON, from Charleston (W.Va.) Loudendale, to Port St. Joe, Fla.

ADOLPH M. PEREZ, from Ontario (Calif.) Hispanic, to associate, Chino (Calif.) Cornerstone Community

RONALD L. PIERCE, from pastor, Gordoonsville, Tenn., to evangelism

MICHAEL L. REXROAD, from associate, Winfield, W.Va., to associate, Pensacola (Fla.) Enslay

BLAIR F. RORABAUGH JR., from Uhrichsville (Ohio) Rush Community to Seward, Alaska

TRAVIS N. SEARS, from student to associate, Lake Worth (Fla.) First

GERALD J. SILVA, from Fairfax, Okla., to Mercer, Wis.

JONATHAN E. TREES, from associate, Sarasota (Fla.) First, to associate, Jacksonville (Fla.) University Boulevard.

THEODORE E. UNDERWOOD, from associate, Bakersfield (Calif.) First, to pastor, Fort Pierce (Fla.) First

## Recommendations

The following have been recommended by their respective district superintendents:

JEFF COMBS, evangelist, P.O. Box 445, Hollister, MO 65673 (417-335-7863), by Pal L. Wright, Joplin District.

RANDY DORITY, evangelist, P.O. Box 57, Phillipsburg, KS 67661, by Edmond P. Nash, Kansas District.

SCOTT FERGUSON, evangelist, 6129 Hunt Rd., Pleasant Garden, NC 27313 (910-674-1998), by J. Mark Barnes, North Carolina District.

DAVID HARRIS, evangelist, P.O. Box 2294, Cornelius, NC 28031 (704-896-7896), by J. Mark Barnes, North Carolina District.

CHAD E. HOGUE, evangelist, 302 Ryburn Ave., A3, Dayton, OH 45405, E-mail: <cehogue@juno.com>, by Carlton D. Hansen, Southwestern Ohio District.

RONALD L. PIERCE, evangelist, 100 Maddux Ct., F-4, Algood, TN 38506 (931-537-2390), by Thomas M. Cox, East Tennessee District.



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# SATELLITE PROGRAM GUIDE

All times listed are eastern.

## DECEMBER 1998

SUNDAY	M	TUESDAY	W	T	F	S
		<b>1</b> 8:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. <b>NCN Presents</b> <i>The Living Christmas Tree</i> * <small>A rebroadcast of November 29th.</small>	2	3	4	5
<b>6</b> 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. <b>Sunday in the Rockies</b> <small>A monthly worship service brought to you by Denver First Church of the Nazarene.</small>  4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. <b>NCN Sunday</b> <small>Dr. John Maxwell at Nazarene Laymen's Conference '98: "The Person that God Uses."</small>	7	<b>8</b> 8:00 P.M. - 8:05 P.M. <b>NCN News in Review</b>  8:05 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. <b>Leadership Today with Stan Toler</b> <small>Dr. Dale Galloway, author of 20/20 Vision, discusses the effective use of small group ministry in the church.</small>	9	10	11	12
<b>13</b> 4:00 P.M. - 4:05 P.M. <b>NCN News in Review</b> <small>A rebroadcast of December 8th.</small>  4:05 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. <b>Leadership Today with Stan Toler</b> <small>A rebroadcast of December 8th.</small>	14	<b>15</b> 8:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. <b>World Mission Video Magazine</b> <small>Experience the excitement of the Mozambique Miracle, learn about mission opportunities in the Caribbean Region, and see the work of the church in Thailand.</small>  8:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. <b>Compassion NOW!</b> <small>See and hear how Nazarene Disaster Relief has cared for the needs of those around the world who were faced with catastrophe.</small>	16	17	18	19
<b>20</b> 4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. <b>NCN Presents</b> <small>A rebroadcast of December 13, 1997.</small>	21	<b>22</b> 8:00 P.M. - 8:05 P.M. <b>NCN News in Review</b>  8:05 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. <b>NPH Presents</b> <small>Holiness Today. Learn about the exciting changes coming as two great magazines merge.</small>  8:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. <b>Profile</b> <small>Dr. George Hunter, author of Church for the Unchurched, discusses how to reach secular people for Christ.</small>	23	24	25	26
<b>27</b> 4:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. <b>World Mission Video Magazine</b> <small>A rebroadcast of December 15th.</small>  4:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. <b>Compassion NOW!</b> <small>A rebroadcast of December 15th.</small>	28	<b>29</b> 8:00 P.M. - 8:05 P.M. <b>NCN News in Review</b> *  8:05 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. <b>The Question Box with Wesley Tracy</b> *  8:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. <b>Multi-Cultural Ministries and Quadrennial Conference Highlights</b> *	30	31		

Schedule subject to change

NCN programming on Dish TV Network is in addition to the regular program packages, and is located on channel 901.

To order the satellite equipment, or for more information, call NPH toll free at 1-888-663-8975.

\* If you are not presently registered to view these programs, call 1-800-454-0843.

## Mission-Air Plane Dedicated

The newest airplane for Nazarene Mission-Air, which will be used in the Mexico and Central America (MAC) Region, was dedicated September 20 at College Church of the Nazarene in Olathe, Kans. Participants in the special ceremony included missionary John Sprunger, who was en route to the MAC Region with the plane; General Superintendent Paul G. Cunningham, who has been involved with the dedication of the two Mission-Air planes already in service; and Louie E. Bustle, World Mission Division director, who prayed the dedicatory prayer.

The funds for purchasing the airplane were raised by Nazarene children worldwide, according to Nina G. Gunter, general NWMS director. "Wings for the Gospel" was a joint effort of the NWMS and Children's Ministries. Gunter said that each district accepted "Wings for the Gospel" as its children's project for 1997-98, and Children's Min-

istries designated its Vacation Bible School (VBS) offerings for the project too.

According to the General Treasurer's office, \$253,857 has been raised so far through the NWMS. A total for the VBS offering was not available at press time.

"I'm thrilled at what our children have accomplished through 'Wings for the Gospel,'" Gunter said. "This project not only will impact the people of the MAC Region with the good news of Christ, but also will impact the lives of all the children who have given so generously for the cause of missions."

Lynda Boardman, Children's Ministries director, said, "This mission offering challenged hundreds of children in VBS to bring their nickels, dimes, and quarters to buy a vehicle to carry the gospel to other parts of the world. Thanks to all the boys and girls who made the purchase of this plane possible."

## Hurricane Georges Ravages Caribbean and Southeast U.S.

Several Caribbean islands and four Gulf Coast states suffered extensive damage in late September as a result of Hurricane Georges.

The death toll in the Caribbean totaled several hundred, but at press time there were no confirmed Nazarene deaths, according to John Smee, Caribbean regional director.

Nazarene missionaries are all safe, Smee reported. Although mission property has sustained minimal damage, at least 15 small Nazarene churches were completely destroyed in the Dominican Republic.

Smee indicated that while it will take time to assess the

remote areas of the region, many Nazarene families lost their homes and everything they owned.

In the United States, Nazarene churches in Key Largo, Fla., and in Biloxi, Gulfport, and Pascagoula, Miss., sustained some damage, according to Steve Creech, Nazarene Disaster Response regional director.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) is providing assistance in the affected areas. All donations, which are approved 10 percent mission specials, should be sent to the General Treasurer, Church of the Nazarene, and earmarked for "Caribbean hurricane" or "Gulf Coast hurricane."

# HOLINESS!



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