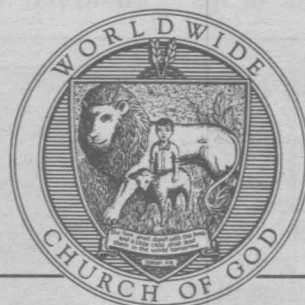


4 The Holy Days as celebrations of redemption

5 A loved one's death brings to life full meaning of the Last Great Day

7 Guest speakers for 1994 Feast of Tabernacles

The Worldwide News



VOL. XXII, NO. 16
August 9, 1994

Pastor visits Sabbatarians in Uruguay and Ukraine

By Victor Kubik

My wife, Bev, and I returned July 13 from a 25,000-mile trip to South America and Ukraine. Our main purpose was to visit Sabbatarian groups in Uruguay. One group consisted of Ukrainians who had immigrated to South America between World Wars I and II.

The other group we visited were Sabbath-keepers who had built their work on our literature. We met many interesting people and learned about migrations of people and how Sabbatarianism has flourished. In Ukraine we visited our Ambassador Foundation project, where nine students, eight from Ambassador University, are teaching English.

We left for Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 26. We met with the pastor, Al Sousa, and his wife, Faith, and brethren in Ezeiza, an outlying church from Buenos Aires, pastored by Carlos Espinosa. Spanish regional director Leon Walker and his wife,

Victor Kubik is assistant director of U.S. Church Administration.

Reba, were with us on the first part of this trip.

The next day we flew about an hour south to Bahia Blanca, a port on the South Atlantic. The Bahia Blanca church pastor is Luis Chavez. Both the Ezeiza and Bahia Blanca churches own meeting halls. We were pleased to see what the brethren have built and maintained.

Some brethren in both Ezeiza and Bahia Blanca, including Mr. Chavez, came to us from what is today called The Israelite Church of the New Covenant, which had similar beliefs to ours, including observing the Feast of Tabernacles.

A number of the brethren met in Mr. Chavez' home for dinner and socializing. Here I learned the history of the Ukrainian, Russian and Romanian people and their connection with us through Dora Sepulveda (Lubenco), who spoke Ukrainian. She moved to Bahia Blanca from Uruguay, where most of the Ukrainian Sabbatarians live. Her brothers are members of the Salto, Uruguay, church as are several brothers of the Russian Svedov family.

Dora Sepulveda and her brothers Juan Carlos and Abel in Salto were



STEP BY STEP—Schoolchildren learn from Christine Horchak, one of nine volunteers teaching English in Rokosovo, Ukraine. "I was thoroughly impressed with our students' poise and skill and the Ukrainian students' respect for us," said visiting minister Victor Kubik. [Photo by Bev Kubik]

baptized in 1971 by the late Robert Flores after hearing the *World Tomorrow* radio broadcast with Benjamin Rea's voice from Montevideo, Uruguay. The Church actually contacted some Ukrainians in this area

in 1957, when Charles Dorothy visited in Uruguay.

Jacobo Svedov from Salto came into the Church (there was no congregation there until 1981) as one of
See Sabbatarians, page 8



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

Honing our evangelistic tools

Last time, we reviewed some New Testament evidence showing that the Church has an ongoing commission to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. In this letter, I want to follow up on that with some comments about how personal evangelism fits into this picture. Then I want to explain how our local church-building plans fit into our commission.

As we mature in the faith, each member should become more competent with the Christian message. "By this time you ought to be teachers" (Hebrews 5:12). Many members are trustworthy stewards of the "message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

As the Church obeys the commands of Christ and we conduct ourselves "in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27), God will motivate people to come to us and ask to be taught. This is evangelism by example, and it adds to rather than replaces the Church's responsibility to preach in a more public way.

We are a holy people, called to "declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9). How do we do this? In part, by living "such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us" (verse 12).

It is in the context of setting a good example that Peter writes, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15).

The Corinthian Christians set an example that put the gospel message in a good light. They contributed generously to the collection Paul was gathering for the poor Christians in Jerusalem, and Paul

See Personal, page 9

Auditorium setting for values lecture by former secretary of education

By Paul Monteith

When William Bennett was U.S. secretary of education he would travel around the country teaching classes about historical people or incidents that emphasized points of virtue.

At that time (1985-1988) he started to notice a lack of a moral center in society.

Recurring questions from the media who followed him were: Whose values? Whose virtues? It was these questions, he said, that prompted him to put together a book about virtues that could be taught by parents and teachers in any school.

(*The Book of Virtues: A Treasury of Great Moral Stories* has been on the *New York Times* best seller list since it was published in 1993.) "It's a book about the excellence of character," he said.

Mr. Bennett was speaking to about 900 people at Ambassador Auditorium July 26.

The event was sponsored by the Pasadena *Star-News*, which is raising money for Pasadena Unified School District programs. Mr. Bennett addressed the need for better public schools and the teaching of virtues.

Americans, he said, used to believe that a school's key purpose was to build not intellect but character, or the "architecture of the soul." But the schools are failing to civilize young people.

Good education system crucial

Mr. Bennett spoke briefly about trends undermining American society—the rising illegitimate birth rate, the increasing number of juveniles committing crimes, dysfunctional families and educational decline.

While he commended dedicated teachers, acknowledging that the
See Bennett, page 12



William Bennett

Two who light the path in the South Pacific

By Aub Warren

In the South Pacific, God is using a deacon and a minister in powerful ways to reflect the light of his

truth and way of life.

Moses Pitakaka, a deacon, was inducted into office as governor-general of the Solomon Islands July 7 in a ceremony witnessed by several thousand, including the assembled

Moses and Lois Pitakaka

Moses Pitakaka was born in Zaru village in Choiseul Province in 1945. He and his wife, Lois, have seven children.

He graduated from the Solomon Islands Teachers College in 1963, and studied education and education administration at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom in 1967 and 1968. In 1973 he studied administration at the University of the South Pacific, in Suva, Fiji.

In 1976 he studied public administration and trade relations at the University of Manchester, in the United Kingdom. In 1977 he pursued studies in diplomacy and foreign relations at St. John's College at Oxford University in the United Kingdom.

Between 1964 and 1979 he worked as a public servant, holding various posts including those of schoolteacher, education officer, district commissioner, lands officer, magistrate, Honiara town clerk and head of the Foreign Affairs Department in the Prime Minister's Office.

From 1980-82 he managed his family's business, then from 1983-85 served as human resources development manager for the Unilever Group of companies in the Solomon Islands. He became a Church member in 1983.

In 1987 he was appointed a commissioner of the Leadership Code Commission and in 1989 he was appointed chairman of the Leadership Code.

Mr. Pitakaka has also served as chairman of the National Education Board, commissioner to the Judicial and Legal Services Commission, and chairman of the Solomon Islands Citizenship Commission.



members of Parliament and the prime minister.

The governor-general is the formal head of state, elected in the Solomon Islands by the Parliament, and represents the British monarchy.

Mr. Pitakaka will travel to official functions throughout the nine provinces of the island country, serve as host to representatives of other governments and represent his country overseas. Later this year he is scheduled to meet Queen Elizabeth II in London.

Mr. Pitakaka's appointment has received overwhelming support from almost all quarters of the community. However, newspapers have reported criticism from some circles because Mr. Pitakaka is not a member of a well-known or influential church group, according to Solomon Islands pastor Chris Hunting. Religious affiliation is considered an important element in a person's public role in the Solomon Islands.

Mr. Pitakaka has responded that as a fully committed Christian he intends to be a light to the world and

an example as Christ has instructed. Mr. Pitakaka's membership in the Church is well known in government circles.

Epeli Kanaimawi

Meanwhile, Ratu (a Fijian hereditary chiefly title) Epeli Kanaimawi, pastor of the Fiji and Tonga churches, has for the past year served as chairman of the University Grants Allocation Committee (UGC) for the University of the South Pacific (USP). Mr. Kanaimawi accepted an

See South Pacific, page 3



INAUGURAL SCENE—Moses Pitakaka and his wife, Lois, at Mr. Pitakaka's inauguration as governor-general of the Solomon Islands. [Photo by Chris Hunting]

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Letters to the Editor

Letters for this section should be addressed to "Letters to the Editor." The editor reserves the right to use letters so addressed in whole or in part, and to include your name and edit the letter for clarity or space. We welcome your comments.

Flourishing in Christ

This letter is long overdue, and we both feel compelled to let you know what a breath of fresh air the new understanding in the Church has been—not only in our own personal lives but in how it is affecting the lives of all those we come in contact with.

Our marriage is flourishing like it never has and, beginning with expressing Christ's love in us for each other, we're discovering how much more fulfilling and satisfying it is to go out into the world, serving others while seeing how God can work in the lives of those in the Church.

The freedom we feel brings Christ's words to life when he said, "The truth shall make you free."

We cannot tell you how grateful and thankful we are for the direction in which Christ is leading the Church and for your willingness and trust to follow. You have our continual prayers and support.

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Kern Jr.
Delafield, Wisconsin

Feeling positive

I just wanted to write a quick note to thank you for your article "Can You Overcome Enough For God?" [May 17]. The column of questions you asked had been questions in my mind since I was a kid doing youth Bible lessons every Friday night.

These questions used to perplex, agitate and discourage me on a regular basis. Sort of like, "Why try?" since we've been told we can never be perfect enough as humans. Through the years these questions have been gradually answered and put to rest, but I don't believe I've ever read an article that captured my feelings quite so succinctly and exactly as yours did.

So ... if you are ever wondering if your work is effective, please know that you definitely made a positive impact on my life and my understanding of Christian living and Christ's sacrifice.

Wendy Jacobs
Pasadena

I appreciate Mr. Orr's article on overcoming and his response to a reader's letter

that appeared in the July 12 *Worldwide News*. I understand Mr. Orr's intent in encouraging brethren "depressed and plagued by the mistaken notion that their salvation is uncertain—unassured because they simply have not done enough to earn it." I have seen and experienced this attitude, and I believe that such an article was needed.

Our understanding of the relation between grace and works should be well enough grounded that an article emphasizing one side of the truth—such as grace—need not mean that we are doing away with the other side of the truth—the need for works.

However, it must be stressed that no amount of "works" can earn salvation, or as

we used to say, "qualify us for the kingdom."

Perhaps the concept of overcoming is like that of being saved. In a sense, we have overcome through faith in Christ (1 John 5:3-5). We are overcoming continually day by day through Christ (same verses) and we will overcome at the end if we continue to hold on to our faith in Christ and walk with him (Revelation 2:7; 12:11). We do not overcome through our own efforts or our growth in character, but through faith in Christ; but unless we exert effort to grow in character and do God's will, we will lose out and be overcome.

With Christ as the center, all of us should be more encouraged and believe that we can, with his help, put away sin and walk with him, fortified with the assurance that "there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1), and "we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" (verse 37).

Joseph Rivers
Tulsa, Oklahoma

"Into All the World..."

Your involvement in the Work produces fruit. In this column subscribers to the Work's publications and viewers of the *World Tomorrow* telecast express their views and opinions.

Reigning welcomes

Thank you for the fantastic news that the Worldwide Church of God exists in Pietersburg, South Africa. What is more, the pastor and his wife, George and Poppy Efthyvoulos, were kind enough to come and meet me personally.

They also made a point of seeing me at the church meeting, to make me feel welcome. All the members were amicable and pleasant. Welcoming reigned!

Pietersburg, South Africa

Taking Youth 94 to heart

Thank you for *Youth 94* magazine. I believe the magazine is great. I'm an activity therapist at a drug and alcohol treatment center in Poulan, Georgia. The center is for adolescent boys, ages 13-17.

I use the articles to assist me in teaching lifeskills classes and also to teach alcohol and drug education classes.

I'm glad that the magazine is in publication. If only one of our clients gets something out of it or takes it to heart, it has done well.

Sylvester, Georgia

Educational mission

I would like to express my gratitude for the booklets I requested. It is with great pleasure and interest that I have read them, and I must say I highly enjoy the way you present and debate some of the controversial issues in Christianity.

I hope that God will bless the noble educational mission you have carried on until now with such a sincere devotion and success. I am happy that I could be one of its fruits.

Warsaw, Poland

God's Festival and Holy Days

We feel the Lord is prompting us to enquire about the origins and roots of days celebrated by the world and whether or not Christians (we are born again) should partake in such celebrations. Although our knowledge is limited, we feel these days are not biblical. On the whole we cannot see how these celebrations glorify God, but can see self being the center of these days.

Having read with great interest your booklet on God's Holy Days, further information would be welcomed regarding how and where Christians can celebrate these days.

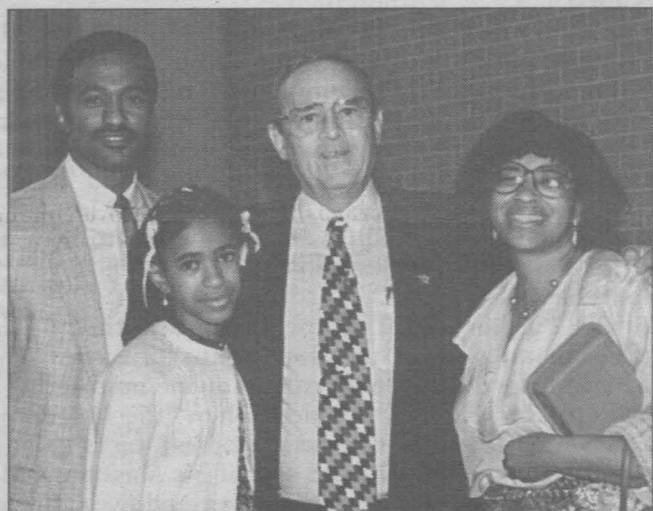
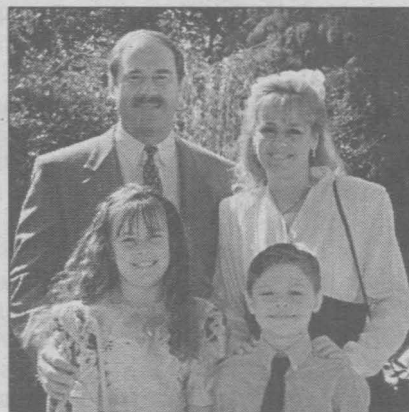
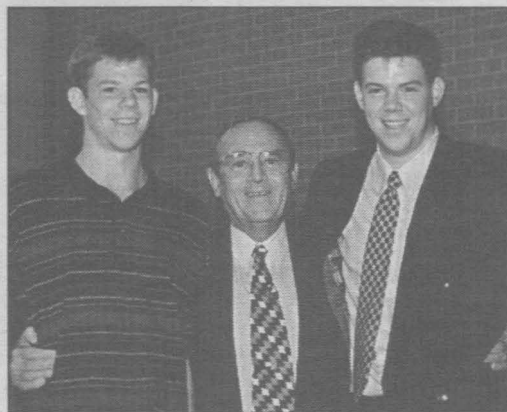
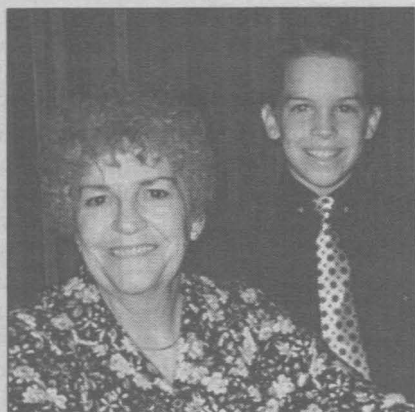
We do thank you in anticipation of your help and guidance and trust the Holy Spirit will convict us of the correct decision to make.

Swinton, England



Pastor General visits...

Dallas, Texas



Trip Overview

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach spoke to 2,657 members and families July 16 from Dallas North, South and East, Fort Worth East and West, Sherman, Paris and Waco, Texas.

Hosts for the visit were Frank and Sonja McCrady, Dallas North; Arnold and Trish Clauson, Sherman and Paris; Mark and Jill Gully, Waco; Felix and Connie Heimberg, Dallas East; Don and Elsie Hooser, Dallas South; Vince and Carol Szymkowiak, Fort Worth West; Britton and Donna Taylor, Fort Worth East; and Leon and Gloria Sexton, Dallas East. [Photos by Janet Bynum]



South Pacific: opening the 'door of blessing'

Continued from page 2

invitation from Fiji's minister of finance, Paul Manueli, to fill the position.

This role, while not demanding much of Mr. Kanaimawi's time, draws on his administrative expertise and contacts, and means he can visit scattered members while on official trips.

In April the committee had discussions with the University of Suva, and visited the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

In each nation the committee members met government ministers, including one acting and two substantive prime ministers, and other senior government officials. Mr. Kanaimawi was introduced as a minister of the Worldwide Church of God. He has met the finance ministers of the 12 member countries in the region, one who is also a prime minister and another who is a vice president.

Other benefits

Other benefits have accrued as well as the higher profile the Church receives. When the 1993-94 Summer Educational Program (SEP) was

being planned, the association with USP enabled the Church to obtain use of the university's Laucala Bay campus and many of its facilities, and at reasonable rates. The relationship with the university was further strengthened by the positive example set by the Church youths at the SEP, according to Mr. Kanaimawi.

The April committee tour program coincided with two Sabbaths in areas where the Church has congregations—Honiara, Solomon Islands, and Port Vila, Vanuatu. The tour also included enough time in Apia, Western Samoa, for Mr. Kanaimawi to visit the members there Sunday, April 24.

Governor-general Pitakaka acted as a guide to the UGC members as they toured Guadalcanal during their visit to the Solomon Islands.

"The UGC members were impressed with Mr. Pitakaka's knowledge of the country and took to his pleasant personality almost immediately," said Mr. Kanaimawi.

"The door of blessings, opened to us in Fiji through the UGC, means God's Work can be done in an area where income is low and traveling expenses are high," said Mr. Kanaimawi. "I am

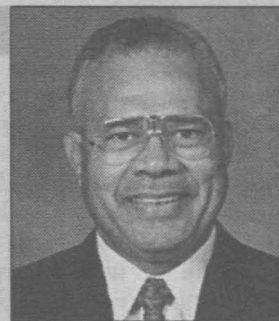
particularly grateful that the Eternal has provided these open doors."

Mr. Kanaimawi noted that the committee members and three external advisers to the group (the treasurer of the University of Exeter, United Kingdom; vice chancellor of the University of Wollongong, Australia; and assistant vice chancellor of the University of Auckland, New

Zealand) were able to see on the trip the problems of extending university education to isolated islands through extension or correspondence. They suggested using satellites, electronic mail and other technologies.

"If the UGC recommendations are adopted they will transform university education in the USP region in a short time," said Mr. Kanaimawi.

Epeli Kanaimawi



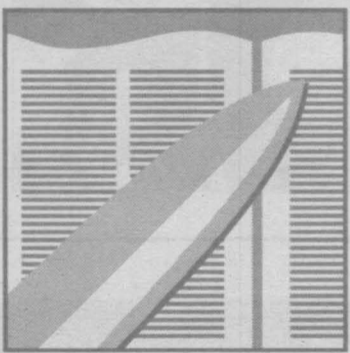
Epeli Kanaimawi is a cousin of the late Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the president of Fiji who died last December. Mr. Kanaimawi began his civil service career in 1964 as an agricultural field officer. He later became director of agriculture and eventually a permanent secretary. As permanent secretary he served in many government ministries, including the Ministry of Fijian Affairs and Rural Development, the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, and the Ministry of Transport, Civil Aviation and Tourism. For six months Mr. Kanaimawi was acting secretary to the cabinet and to the Prime Minister's Office.

After 20 years' service he retired from government to become chief executive of the National Marketing Authority. At the end of his three-year contract with the Authority, Mr. Kanaimawi resigned to attend a one-year sabbatical at Ambassador College in 1986-87 with his wife, Sofi. After completing the year in the United States, Mr. Kanaimawi was hired full-time by the Church as minister in Fiji.

IRON SHARPENS IRON

so one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17—As iron sharpens iron,



Observing the Holy Days with a focus on redemption

By Joseph Tkach Jr.

One of the distinctive features of our formal worship is that we observe the Sabbath and the Holy Days. And we have always understood that we do not observe the Holy Days in the same manner as Old Testament Israel.

Of course, salvation is not by works, nor is it achieved by ritualistic observance of the Holy Days. While we acknowledge this point, we do not diminish the importance of understanding and celebrating the Holy Days.

Old Testament symbols point toward their fulfillment in the New Covenant. In observing the Holy Days we reinforce our understanding of the redemption we have in Christ.

We continue to grow in grace and knowledge as we seek more fitting contemporary expressions for the hope that lies within us.

This article relates the festivals to God's purpose of bringing the Body of Christ to the fullness of Jesus Christ, "who fills everything in every way" (Ephesians 1:23). It serves to reinforce our preaching of the gospel of Christ in its past, present and future dimensions. The Holy Days have abiding significance—both today and into the fullness of the kingdom of God, as formal Christian celebrations of God's plan of redemption.

With that in mind, we can see the Holy Days in the context of 1) personal, 2) church, 3) worldwide and 4) ages-encompassing redemption.

1) Personal redemption: By keeping the New Testament Passover of Jesus Christ, the Lord's Supper, in Christ's remembrance (Luke 22:19), we reaffirm our baptismal commitment to participate wholeheartedly in the new, eternal covenant (cf. "blood of the eternal covenant," Hebrews 13:20; Luke

Evangelist Joseph Tkach Jr. is the director of Church Administration.

22:20, New Revised Standard unless noted).

Believers not only commemorate our Savior's suffering and death but also look beyond his death to his resurrection and future return, when "the kingdom of God comes" and when he will share the bread and wine again (Luke 22:16, 18).

The first Holy Day of Unleavened Bread reflects the joyous reality of present redemption from sin of those who believe in the atoning sacrifice of Christ (our Passover). Believers celebrate their state of

Keeping the Holy Days is a distinctive feature of our formal worship practice. Worshiping God on these Holy Days expands, renews and inspires the hope within us.

being unleavened, having been given the victory over sin by Christ.

Putting on Christ as a consecrated way of living for God with sincerity and truth (instead of for self) is not only a theme of the festival, but a spiritual mindset throughout one's life (1 Corinthians 5:8; Romans 8:4-6; Galatians 5:25).

"What sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming day of God" (2 Peter 3:11-12). The spiritual pilgrimage through the week of the spring festival (spring in the Northern Hemisphere) can represent converted life in the Spirit, however short or extended that life may be for each Christian.

Paul encourages the Philippians with the promise that Christ "will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the

body of his glory" (Philippians 3:21). Thus, we can gain strength and confidence during this life *in* the flesh (but not *of* it) that God's Word "shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11).

Unleavened Bread celebrates the certainty of God's gift of ultimate sanctification and full redemption for the faithful, who keep Christ's "word of patient endurance" and remain steadfast to the end of this life (Revelation 3:10; Matthew 24:13).

2) Church redemption (God's present working through the Church): The Feast of Pentecost highlights God's empowerment of his Church through the Holy Spirit to proclaim the gospel, to make disciples of those God calls and to edify believers. The Holy Spirit not only stimulates personal growth in saints but also unites Christians as the Body of Christ to do God's Work.

Pentecost teaches that redemption is also a collective responsibility for "always excelling in the work of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). Until Christ returns, the primary area in which the Holy Spirit works is the Church.

3) Worldwide redemption (Christ's rule and extension of global redemption): The Feast of Trumpets heralds Christ's return to rule the entire earth in righteousness with the resurrected and glorified saints. They have let God build them "into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood" (1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 1:6).

Trumpets honors the world's miraculous transformation from human rule to divine ministering for all peoples, when "the kingdom of the world [becomes] the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

Then follows the Day of Atonement, solemnly celebrating the reconciliation of Christians to Christ
See Holy Days, page 5

What are the greatest blessings in life?

Gratitude for God and what he has done is one of the main reasons for giving offerings

By Clayton Steep

Did the thought ever cross your mind, after you had given a Holy Day offering, that perhaps this time you might just possibly have given a little more than you should have?

I remember when a thought like that occurred to me. It didn't last long, though, because at that moment I just happened to be setting my Bible down in front of me. It fell open and the first words my eyes focused on were these in Psalm 116:12: "How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?"

Needless to say, I was startled and

more than a little ashamed! That verse now comes to mind whenever I think about another offering. Not that any of us can ever repay God for his blessings. We can't even begin to do that. But we can show God we are grateful.

The greatest blessings

Showing gratitude is one of the main reasons for giving offerings. Even in these economically trying times, we all have so much to be grateful for.

The greatest blessings in life are not based on economics. What price can be put on freedom, friendship, family or health, for example? They cannot be purchased. Unfortunately, in this troubled world many people do not have some or any such blessings. They may be going through painful trials. What can they be grateful for?

Much, if they are Christians. There is always something to be thankful for. "Give thanks in all circumstances," Paul exhorted (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

For one thing, we can be grateful that the problems afflicting us are not worse. And we will realize, if we take time to really think about it, that however intense the adversity we face is, it could indeed be worse.

But that's only a starter as far as counting blessings is concerned. Of far greater value is the priceless gift of an active relationship with God.

Keeping the perspective

What is it worth to you to know your sins are forgiven by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ? What is it worth to have the Holy Spirit regenerate, guide and strengthen you?

Can you place a value on being able to talk to and be heard by "the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles" (2 Corinthians 1:3)? And what about the promise of glorious immortality free of pain and tears?

The value of these blessings cannot be measured. We should not allow concerns and problems of this life to so preoccupy us that we lose

sight of these blessings, and therefore lessen our gratitude for them.

"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.... When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory," Paul reminded the brethren at Colosse (Colossians 3:2, 4).

However severe the trials we now face might be, "our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

Giving a Holy Day offering is not a duty. It is an opportunity to show God our gratitude—gratitude for what he has done and is doing in our lives, and gratitude for the glory to come.

Of course God doesn't expect us to give what we do not have. But the idea of an offering is to give something of what belongs to us.

This we can do in faith and without any regret. We receive more from God than we can ever give. It is absolutely impossible to outgive God!

Clayton Steep is a Plain Truth contributing writer.

When death's sting is removed

A loved one's death brings to life the full meaning of the Last Great Day

By Michelle Falardeau

I wouldn't have admitted it at the time, but there were years when the Last Great Day reminded me of a hurriedly written postscript, added at the bottom of a wonderful, seven-page letter.

Not that I hadn't learned that the Last Great Day we celebrate each year has great spiritual significance. I knew each of God's Holy Days is one piece in the beautiful picture of his plan of redemption.

Yes, I looked forward to seeing my father again. He had died unexpectedly one hot summer morning. He told me he couldn't get his breath, and a few minutes later he was gone. He and billions of other people wait for the last great resurrection mentioned in Revelation 20.

But after seven days of celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles, my mind would begin wandering back to the cares and thoughts of the everyday world. After seven days of hauling children, diaper bags and briefcases back and forth to services, I was tired.

Money would always be low. With the extra activities and food, usually at least one of us would have a cold.

Michelle Falardeau is a member who attends the Albany, New York, congregation.

On the eighth day, the Last Great Day, my car would be packed and waiting in the parking lot, to be driven home to Illinois immediately after the final prayer.

We would hit the door running, because jobs and schools were waiting after a trip of hundreds of miles.

The Last Great Day sounded good on paper, as postscripts often do, but it wasn't yet a part of me, heart and soul. That is, until about six years ago, when I found myself sit-

The Last Great Day sounded good on paper, as postscripts often do, but it wasn't yet a part of me, heart and soul. But now, Ezekiel 37 has become more of a reality and my daily hope.

ting in an auditorium surrounded by thousands of my spiritual brothers and sisters at the Dayton, Ohio, site.

When God breathes life

It was the Last Great Day. Tears streamed like twin rivers down my face. I don't remember the minister's message. Perhaps he spoke of the gargantuan project that Jesus Christ and the Father have been planning since the physical creation, a time when all the people who have ever lived will be resurrected to

another physical life and an opportunity for eternal life.

Ezekiel 37 is a surreal picture of it all. Imagine a valley filled with bleached, dry human bones. God gives the word, and the valley surges with sound and movement as each bone finds its bone. Flesh and blood will appear. Then God breathes life into each body, and they will live again.

I had buried my mother two days before. By the time we learned what her health problems were, she couldn't swallow water. She couldn't swallow her own saliva. By the time we learned why she was having trouble at mealtimes, a huge ball of cancer had completely blocked her esophagus.

There was no talk of a cure. Radiation and chemotherapy had given her time to let go of this life, to let go of her children and grandchildren. She walked the valley of death for one year.

When she went into the hospital the last time, fluid was surrounding her heart and filling her lungs. She had been almost pain-free throughout the year. But I could see the panic in her blue eyes as she gasped for air, wanting life, wanting peace.

I wanted to heal her myself. But I couldn't make her well.

She settled down to die. She didn't want to be bothered with trying to drink the broth the nurse brought. She glistened with a cold sweat. But she didn't want a sponge bath. She felt clean where it counted. Her last words to me were, "Always remember God."

My sister and I kept the vigil,

holding Mom's hands throughout the cold, dark night. Morning came, and we let go. Her gasping breath stopped soon after. Death had won. I couldn't heal her. I comforted her, loved her, sang to her and let go of her.

Holy Day comes to life

Today, death's sting still pricks my heart. But I am coming to understand God's plan better and why he didn't answer my prayer with a "yes" when I asked that my mother not die during the Feast.

God in his wisdom knew what was best for me. It took my mother's death during the Feast to fully bring the Last Great Day to life for me.

As often as I think of her, I think of the Last Great Day. I envision it. I hunger for it. Each fall I look forward to keeping that Holy Day. And I look forward to the time after the Millennium when all people, those loved and not so loved, will be raised up and given the chance to drink of Christ's spiritual waters described in John 7.

Occasionally I visit the cemetery where my parents are buried. Swans skirt across a nearby pond. A waterfall and fountain remind me of those living waters. Near the bench is a plaque that reads: "Mom and Dad, you loved me and talked to me all our lives. Then you left.... I wasn't through talking."

Those talks we used to share are just on hold for a while. Because of God's infinite power of resurrection and transformation, there is no reason to look back in sorrow. For me, Ezekiel 37 has become more of a reality and my daily hope.

Arranging time off from school and work: Start early

Help us to help you more effectively, by starting early to make your needs for time off known

By Ralph K. Helge

Every year during Feast time, there is a massive influx of requests for aid for schoolchildren and employees who are under threat of being disciplined in one fashion or another because they are observing God's Holy Days.

Therefore, we remind you that the schoolchildren and employees' requests for time off should be made a reasonable time in advance to give the school or employer an opportunity to prepare for the absences.

This is important from both a practical and legal standpoint. Pastors have a form on which a request for absence can be made.

If anything less than a favorable response is received, it is extremely important that the parent or employee contact the Church's Legal Services office immediately. We then send the parent or employee an information sheet eliciting more detailed information.

Further, the employee is given important information on how to ensure his or her claim is filed on time with the appropriate governmental agency.

Ralph K. Helge is director of Legal Services for the Church.

Based on the information we receive, we will call or write a tactful and appropriate letter to the school or employer.

Often, however, it is neither practical nor tactically wise for us to contact the school or employer until after the Feast and the threatened penalty for being absent has been imposed. Members should be aware of this and prepared to leave for the Feast without necessarily having the problem resolved.

In handling these matters for more than 30 years, we have established an excellent track record in soliciting a favorable response from schools and employers, even in cases that seemed hopeless when the members involved left for the Feast.

It is important for members to remember, however, that our success in these cases, while clearly the result of God's intervention, is also based on certain laws guaranteeing religious freedom in the United States. There are limits to these freedoms that the members must be aware of and observe if we are to be able to help them.

Specifically, over the years it has not been uncommon for members to call us after the Feast and say that they attended some faraway location, stayed away numerous additional days before or after the Feast, sight-seeing or visiting family, and ask us to make the school give excused absences to their children for all these additional days.

Members need to be aware that their children are normally legally entitled to excused absences for only

the eight days of the Feast plus one travel day before and after.

Some schools will voluntarily grant permission for some additional days, but they are not legally required to do this. We do not feel it is appropriate for the Church's Legal Services to attempt to coerce schools to excuse extended absences.

If members wish to be away with their children extra days, it is advis-

able to seek school permission ahead of time for those additional days.

If it is not obtained, our recommendation is that parents consider whether to change their plans or to accept a reasonable academic penalty.

The same foregoing principles, although perhaps not in all the legal detail, would apply also to employees and to children who attend school overseas.

Holy Days expand, renew our hope

Continued from page 4

through his atoning work on the cross, when he died for our sins. A second, less significant but historical event symbolized by the Day of Atonement is the role of Satan in evil and in our proclivity to sin.

The Feast of Tabernacles anticipates a worldwide harvest of redemption when the earth is filled with the knowledge of the Lord. Nature, government, economy and culture will work in harmony in bringing many children to glory (Hebrews 2:10-12; Romans 8:19).

4) Ages-encompassing redemption: On the Last Great Day we celebrate the period when God resurrects all human beings who have ever lived. Those who have died in Christ will already have been res-

urrected at the outset of worldwide redemption—Revelation 20:5; Hebrews 11:35.

All these will decide, during this resurrection of judgment (John 5:29, Revised English Bible), whether to accept God's gift of redemption (Isaiah 65:20) and receive eternal life—righteous fellowship with God the Father in the new heavens and earth (2 Peter 3:13).

This restates our traditional understanding of the Holy Days in a way that expands, renews and inspires the hope within us.

Let's prepare positively for the coming autumn Holy Days. Let's focus on what God has called us to, how Christ has redeemed us and how the Holy Spirit lives in us, as we celebrate the meaning of the days that picture God's plan of redemption.

Sabbath Services Before the Feast

"Members planning to be away from home on the Sabbath just before the Feast of Tabernacles (Sept. 17) should determine where they will attend Sabbath services by Wednesday, Sept. 14," according to Mark McCulley, Festival Administration manager. "After Sept. 14, church-service information will no longer be available until after the Feast." Mail Processing employees can provide information to members for most congregations in the United States and Canada, including locations at or near Festival sites.

A few points to remember:

- Check with your local Festival adviser before calling, as he may have the information you need.

- Call Mail Processing at 1-800-423-4444. Please have your personal identification number (PIN) available when you call.

- Call by Sept. 14.

- For the location of Day of Atonement services, call Mail Processing even sooner, as you will need to contact the local pastor for this information.

- Please do not call the Festival coordinator for church-service location or for personal travel information.

Below is a list of U.S. and Canadian sites and the church location closest to each, which will conduct services on the Sabbath, Sept. 17.

Anchorage, Alaska

Kings Lake Camp
Lakeview Rd.
Wasilla, Alaska
2 p.m.

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Chattanooga Trade and Convention Center
1 Carter Plaza
Chattanooga
2:30 p.m.

Corpus Christi, Texas

Temple Beth El

4402 Saratoga
Corpus Christi
3 p.m.

Dayton, Ohio

WCG Building
330 South Fifth St.
Tipp City, Ohio
10:30 a.m.
and
Carillon Center
2275 S. Patterson
Dayton
2:30 p.m.

Daytona Beach, Florida

Silver Sands Middle School
1300 Herbert St.
Port Orange, Florida
2:30 p.m.
and
Boone High School
2000 S. Mills
Orlando, Florida
1:30 p.m.

Exit No. 35 (Kaley) off Interstate 4, go east one to two miles to Boone on the right.

Eugene, Oregon

Emerald Square Dance Center
2095 Yolanda Ave.
Springfield, Oregon
12:30 p.m.

Fort Worth, Texas

Swingtime Center
5100 SE Loop 820
Fort Worth
1:30 p.m.
and
Felix Business Park
100 E. Felix S. No. 200-201
Fort Worth
2:30 p.m.

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Teamsters Union Hall No. 878
6000 Patterson
Little Rock, Arkansas
2 p.m.

Jekyll Island, Georgia

Ramallah American Club

3130 Parental Home Rd.
Jacksonville, Florida
10 a.m.

Keystone, Colorado

Highlands Masonic Lodge
3550 N. Federal Blvd.
Denver, Colorado
10 a.m.

Kona, Hawaii

Kona Surf Resort
Convention Center
78-128 Ehukai St.
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii
2 p.m.
and
Chinese Cultural Plaza
100 N. Beretania
Honolulu, Hawaii
2 p.m.

Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri

Good Time Country Building
Columbia, Missouri
1 p.m.

Seven miles south of Columbia, on Rt. 163, about a quarter of a mile west of the Hwy. 63 and Hwy. 163 intersection.

Lexington, Kentucky

Kentucky Horse Center
3380 Paris Pike
Lexington
2:30 p.m.

Lowell, Massachusetts

IBEW Local 1505
545 Main St.
Waltham, Massachusetts
10:30 a.m.

Niagara Falls, New York

Trinity Methodist Church
711 Niagara Falls Blvd.
Amherst, N.Y.
1 p.m.

Norfolk, Virginia

Willet Hall
3701 Willett Dr.
Portsmouth, Virginia
10 a.m.

Palm Springs, California

Palm Springs Convention Center
277 N. Avenida Caballeros
Palm Springs
1:30 p.m.

Pasadena

Ambassador Auditorium
300 W. Green St.
Pasadena
2:30 p.m.

Pensacola, Florida

Santa Rosa County Auditorium
1099 Old Bagdad Highway
Milton, Florida
3 p.m.

Interstate 10 east from Pensacola to exit No. 7, Avalon Blvd., Milton. Go north on Avalon to Old Bagdad Rd. (first traffic light), and turn right. Go one block and turn right at the auditorium sign.

No services in Mobile, Alabama

Rapid City, South Dakota

Rapid City Civic Auditorium
Alpine Room
Mt. Rushmore Ave.
Rapid City
2:30 p.m.

Redding, California

Redding Auditorium
700 Auditorium Dr.
Redding
2:30 p.m.

St. Petersburg, Florida

Mahaffey Theater
(Connected to Bayfront Arena)
400 First St. South
St. Petersburg
10 a.m.

Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Academy of the Holy Names
1061 New Scotland Rd.
Albany, N.Y.
2 p.m.

Spokane, Washington

Trent Elementary Auditorium

N. 3303 Pines Rd.
Spokane
2 p.m.

Tucson, Arizona

Berger Performing Arts Center
1225 W. Speedway
Tucson
2 p.m.

Vail, Colorado

Highlands Masonic Lodge
3550 N. Federal Blvd.
Denver, Colorado
10 a.m.

Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

Administration Building
Worldwide Church of God
Convention Center
Jct. County B & State Hwy. 23
Wisconsin Dells
2:30 p.m.

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Carrefour du Grand Havre
Rue de Portage
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
2 p.m.

Penticton, British Columbia

Pilgrim House Hotel
1050 Eckhardt Ave. West
Penticton
10 a.m.

Victoria, British Columbia

University of Victoria
David Lam Auditorium
MacLaurin Building
2 p.m.

Granby, Quebec

Ecole Polyvalente Georges Vanier
1205 Jarry East
Montreal, Quebec
2 p.m.
(English)

Regina, Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Center of the Arts
200 Lakeshore Dr.
Regina
2:30 p.m.

Festival Updates

No more green bumper stickers

Most Feast sites will no longer use the parking bumper stickers the Church has supplied in the past. Instead, only those with special parking needs will be identified, such as the disabled, and staff members, including ministers.

"This change was made primarily for security reasons," explained Mark McCulley, Festival Administration manager. "The extra visibility of members' cars, identified by exterior colored labels, has made them targets for vandalism at several sites in the last few years. Also, the growing trend among the criminal element to attack tourists means we should be more careful about identifying our members' automobiles."

Those few needing identification will receive, with their fall Holy Day Offering envelopes, a colorful tag to be attached to their rear-view mirror.

Emergency telephone messages

Members should plan for any messages they might need to receive during the Feast by giving a telephone number where they can be reached to selected friends and relatives. It might be good to leave your Festival address and phone number with a neighbor, employer, parents or children.

Previously, the Church has asked members for their lodging address and telephone number at each Festival site, then kept the information on hand in case of emergency calls. That service will not be provided this year.

Golf tournament in St. Petersburg

The St. Petersburg, Florida, site will have a golf tournament at the Isla Del Sol golf course. The format will be a best ball, four-player scramble. Pre-Feast registration is encouraged. Please mail your check and registration form as soon as possible to

Dana Dunham, 969 Cobblestone Lane, Tarpon Springs, Florida, 34689.

The cost is \$50 per person. Make checks out to Local Church Activity Fund—New Port Richey. The cost includes green fee and cart rental. Part of the proceeds will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Food and beverages may be purchased at the club snack bar.

A limited number of rental clubs are available. The field is limited to the first 144 players, prepaid.

Entertainment in Wisconsin Dells

The Church has negotiated with Molly's Show Place, Country Legends Theatre and Crystal Grand Music Theatre to remain open for members during the Feast at Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

Molly's will present Jukebox Reflections eight times, an all-new show for 1994 featuring America's favorite jukebox songs from 1918 to the present with selections from Ragtime, Big Band, Rock and Country. This 75-minute song and dance revue is presented in a fast-paced family style.

Dinner at Molly's is \$17.50 for adults and \$9.75 for children ages 4 to 10. For information on how to order tickets call Molly's at 1-608-254-6222.

Country Legends Theatre will present its country music variety show four times during the Feast.

This two-hour program features professional entertainer Ronnie Prophet, who moves from songs to stories to comic impersonations

and guitar instrumentals.

This is entertainment only and does not include dinner. The cost is \$12.50 for adults, \$5.95 for children 6 to 12 and children younger than 6 are free.

For information on how to order tickets call Country Legends at 1-800-737-5437.

Crystal Grand Music Theatre is new this year. This two-hour program features professional illusionist Steve Wyrick. This is entertainment only, and does not include dinner. The cost for the show is \$15 for adults and children younger than 12 are free. A concession stand will be open.

For information on how to order tickets call Crystal Grand Music Theatre at 1-800-696-7999.

Tickets for all three events are sold first come, first served, and should be ordered as soon as possible. The seating capacity for Molly's is about 200, Country Legends, about 450, and Crystal Grand, about 1,400.

While the Church is helping to publicize these programs because we feel that many brethren will enjoy them, they are not Church-sponsored and no one should feel obligated to attend.

Wisconsin Dells golf tournament

The Wisconsin Dells site will offer a two-man scramble golf tournament at the Dell View Golf Course. The price will be \$28 for green fees and power cart and a \$5 entry fee per person for awards. Preregistration is required by Sept. 7. Please make checks payable to the
See Festival Updates, page 11

Color of nonaddressed Holy Day offering envelopes

In the United States, addressed, barcoded Holy Day offering envelopes are mailed to regular contributors who attend services. Other envelopes are made available at services for individuals who do not normally receive an addressed envelope, such as visitors or youths contributing for the first time.

In the past, both types of envelopes have been the same color. However, since processing methods are different, a clear distinction between the two is useful.

For the 1994 fall Holy Days, the nonaddressed envelope (handed out in services), will be light blue. This makes it easier to separate the envelopes when processing them.

Oleta Ward: educator, counselor, mentor

By Lois A. Ripple

WEATHERFORD, Texas—Rarely is it possible to experience a half century of people and events of historic significance quite like 76-year-old Oleta Ward has. Presidents, business leaders and educators have touched her life.

As a young mother with her son, she approached a soldier in uniform to ask about her train schedule. To her surprise, the man was Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was courteous and helpful, and aboard the train he made several stops to inquire about "the little fellow."

In Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Oleta

watched President Franklin Roosevelt greet crowds of soldiers from his halted train. During her tenure at Southwest Texas Teacher's College, she heard Texas senator and future president, Lyndon B. Johnson, address his alma mater.

After earning a bachelor of science degree in home economics and a master's degree in elementary education and administration, Oleta began a teaching and counseling career that would span the next 30 years.

After World War II, she met and married Henry Ward, general manager of the area Coca-Cola Bottling Co., and they established their home in Weatherford. Her first teaching position was in nearby Millsap.

She gave time to school and church activities and various clubs, often serving as leader and organizer. Sponsoring the yearbook and the



Oleta Ward

Texas Beta Club (honor society) and cheerleading complemented her load of attending conventions, seminars and workshops.

Oleta is a past member of the Business and Professional Women's Club and was president of the Alpha Delta Kappa Educators Sorority. She is a past president of the Parker County Unit of the Texas State

Teachers Association and president of the local Parent Teachers Association.

Outstanding service

In 1969 Oleta was certified to move from a strictly teaching career to one of guidance counselor, which encompassed several county school districts.

After 25 years of service, she was awarded a medal for outstanding service and selected as regional president of the Texas Business Education Association, covering 14 counties including the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

At a banquet she sat next to Judge Sarah T. Hughes, who later administered the oath of office to President Johnson aboard Air Force One after the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963.

While Oleta taught at Arlington Heights in Fort Worth, Lee Harvey Oswald (Kennedy's assassin) attended her study hall.

At times she and her husband met socially with Representative Jim Wright of Weatherford, who became

See Oleta Ward, page 9

Lois A. Ripple, a freelance writer, is a member who attends the Fort Worth, Texas, West church.

WCG Travel Festival Updates

We enjoyed assisting many of you with your travel plans for the 1994 Feast. The deadline to place new orders with WCG Travel for Festival travel is Sept. 1. This gives us ample time for ticket delivery before the Feast. After the Festival break, WCG Travel will be available for membership ticketing Oct. 4.

Domestic travel

Domestic tickets are mailed promptly once the order is received. If you do not receive your tickets within two weeks from the date you order them, please call WCG Travel at 1-800-858-6999.

Call the airline about a week before departure to see if there has been a schedule change. It is also a good idea to reconfirm your return flights before heading home after the Feast.

Once travel is completed, mail both the passenger receipt portion of your airline ticket and the pink slip included with your ticket to WCG Travel to receive the 4 percent rebate. Rebates are paid on the 15th of the month for receipts received the preceding calendar month. Please note: Because of the heavy volume after the Feast, rebate processing may take six to eight weeks.

International travel

Reconfirm each international flight no less than 72 hours before each departure, including departure from your home country. Failure to reconfirm can result in the cancellation of all onward travel.

Check with the airline on the day of travel to confirm that your flight is departing as scheduled.

Take extra precaution while traveling to protect your travel documents. Keep your passport with you at all times. Make a copy of all travel documents, including tickets, and carry the copies in a separate location from the originals. This will help in case they are lost or stolen.

To be family

The U.N. General Assembly has designated 1994 as the International Year of the Family. Throughout the world, member nations are observing the year through a variety of creative activities designed to focus attention on the family.

An original design by a Swiss artist is being used to promote public awareness of the goals and purposes of the year. The symbol is a heart sheltered by a roof, linked by another heart, to symbolize life and love in a home where one finds warmth, caring, security, togetherness, tolerance and acceptance.

As Church members we know that only when God's laws are written on our hearts do we behave in Christlike ways to ensure family unity and happiness. The Feast is the most family-oriented festival God's people observe. We are a worldwide family, and though we have different family backgrounds and cultures, we have one unifying spirit.

We should use that spirit to make this a family-oriented Feast. Plan to do things with your family, and include others, such as the fatherless, singles and widows, who would love to be "adopted" by your family (James 1:27). Let your light shine and celebrate the joy of being a part of God's family.

In this way we can be that "preserving salt" that can preserve homes and families forever, not just during an International Year.

Annabel M. Johnson, Ph.D., CHE
Adjunct Professor of Family & Consumer Sciences
Ambassador University

'94 Festival Guest Speakers Worldwide

Australia: Bernie Schnippert, Richard Ames and Peter Nathan
Fiji and Tonga: Ray Wooten
Malaysia: Frank Brown
New Zealand: Fred Kellers
Philippines: Richard Rice and Bob Dick
Sri Lanka: Leroy Neff
Thailand: Ron Lohr
Vanuatu and Solomon Islands: to be announced

Canada

Granby: Don Lawson
Halifax: Bryan Hoyt
Penticton: Dean Wilson
Regina: Richard Pinelli
Sherbrooke: Sam Kneller
Victoria: Ed Mauzey and Steve Andrews

Caribbean

Bahamas: Arnold Hampton
Barbados: Stan Bass
Bermuda: Ed Faulk
Dominica: Steve Sheppherd
Guadeloupe and Martinique: Glen Weber

Grenada: Jim Servidio
Guyana: Gil Goethals
Jamaica: Dick Weber
St. Lucia: Bruce Gore
Trinidad: Roger Lippross

Central America & Puerto Rico

El Salvador: Larry Hinkle
Guatemala: Raul Ramos
Puerto Rico: Reg Killingley and Abner Washington

Europe

United Kingdom: Gerald Waterhouse, Victor Kubik and Daniel Bierer
France: David Wainwright
Germany: Dennis Luker
Greece: K.J. Stavrindes and Russell Duke
Italy and Malta: Burk McNair and John Adams
Netherlands: Piet Michielsen
Sweden: Daniel Bierer and Victor Kubik

Africa

Ghana: John Orchard
Kenya: Andre van Belkum

Nigeria: Peter Shenton
Mauritius: Bill Bentley
South Africa: Leon Walker and Steve Botha
Zambia and Zimbabwe: Randal Dick

Middle East

Jordan: Gary Antion, Gene Hogberg and Doug Horchak

United States

Alaskan cruise: Joseph Tkach Jr. and Bill Jacobs
Anchorage, Alaska: Jim Jenkins and Guy Engelbart
Chattanooga, Tennessee: Robin Webber
Corpus Christi, Texas: Dean Blackwell
Dayton, Ohio: Dennis Robertson
Daytona Beach, Florida: David Hulme
Eugene, Oregon: Dave Albert
Fort Worth, Texas: Lyle Welty
Hot Springs, Arkansas: Dibar Apartian
Jekyll Island, Georgia: Doug Smith
Keystone, Colorado: Jim Kisse

Kona, Hawaii: Donald Ward and Dave Havir
Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri: Tom Lapacka
Lexington, Kentucky: Mike Swagerty
Lowell, Massachusetts: Greg Albrecht and Greg Sargent
Niagara Falls, New York: Mark Kaplan
Norfolk, Virginia: Bob Morton
Palm Springs, California: Carn Catherwood
Pasadena: Mike Feazell
Pensacola, Florida: Ken Giese
Rapid City, South Dakota: Jess Ernest
Redding, California: Vernon Hargrove
St. Petersburg, Florida: John Halford
Saratoga Springs, New York: Greg Sargent and Greg Albrecht
Spokane, Washington: John Comino
Tucson, Arizona: Clint Zimmerman and Herman Hoeh
Vail, Colorado: Roy Holladay
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin: Jim Franks

Sabbatarians: sowing seeds of friendship

Continued from page 1

the early members along with the Lubencos in 1975. Jacobo died a few years ago; his widow, a member, and her five children still attend the Salto congregation.

Here we also met several Sabbatarians of Romanian descent.

Thousands of these people live in the Entre Rios and Misiones provinces of northeastern Argentina and the Rio Grande do Sul region of Brazil. Most of the Romanians,



FAMILY AND FRIENDS—Victor and Bev Kubik with Dora Sepulveda and her husband, Manuel, in Bahia Blanca, an Argentinean port on the South Atlantic, June 27.

Ukrainians and Russian-descent peoples in these areas (as well as in Uruguay) are Sabbath-keepers.

Uruguay

From Bahia Blanca, we flew back to Buenos Aires and then across the Rio de la Plata to Colonia, Uruguay. That evening Mike Medina, who pastors our two congregations in Uruguay and one in Bolivia, Bev and I went to a special service of a Sabbatarian Church of God.

Their church has been built on *The Plain Truth* in English and later in Spanish for more than 25 years. Renzo Odin, who calls himself the pastor general of this church, has volumes of bound *Plain Truths* and *Tomorrow's Worlds* and all the literature he has received over the years.

Both Mr. Medina and I spoke. He gave the history of the Worldwide Church of God in Latin America. Then I spoke about the relations we as a Church are building with others, in particular other Sabbath-keeping groups.

After the service we gave them a figurine of a pair of doves and a card to express our desire to maintain peaceful relationships and build friendships. They gave us framed pictures of their church hall. Mr. Medina and I felt this was a historic moment in our working with Sabbatarians in Latin America.

After the service we had dinner with the pastor general and his family. Mr. Odin invited Mr. Medina to speak at one of their Sabbath services. We in turn invited Mr. Odin to speak in one of our services. His son Daniel wants to attend Ambassador University.

We then drove to Salto through a beautiful countryside reminiscent of the U.S. Midwest. We made a few stops at members' homes. First we visited the Ramon Jorajuria family on their farm.

Then, closer to Salto, we saw the family of Juan Carlos Lubenco, who are of Ukrainian descent. It was fascinating to speak with people of mixed Ukrainian and Uruguayan heritage.

Sabbath afternoon I gave the sermon, which Mr. Medina translated for the brethren. After a social, many in the Salto church walked several blocks to the Iglesia Sabatista de Dios (Sabbatarian Church of God),

where we met for a combined service. Many of the brethren are of Ukrainian descent; many of the older ones came from Ukraine in the 1930s. In Uruguay the third largest ethnic group is the Russian-Ukrainian community.

Carlos Chub, their pastor of Ukrainian descent, attended our services that afternoon. Mr. Chub opened their evening service and translated my message, which I delivered in Ukrainian.

Mr. Medina spoke about the history of the Church in Latin America and Uruguay, and said that we want to reach out in friendship to other Sabbath-keeping groups, with whom we have so much in common. I spoke about the Sabbatarian believers in Ukraine and showed a video of them. The people seemed to appreciate this. After services I spoke to many of them about the Sabbatarians in Ukraine.

As with the presentation in Colonia, we made a presentation of doves on a pedestal with this inscription: "To the members and

associates of the Sabbath-keeping Church of God in Salto, Paysandu and Young: We offer you this card and onyx pedestal of doves as a keepsake of the visit from the ministers of the Worldwide Church of God, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kubik of the U.S.A. and Mr. Mike Medina of R.O.U. (Uruguay). These are an expression of peace and brotherhood representing the beginning of a friendship between two churches, both dedicated to a common goal in the gospel."

Sunday we drove 500 kilometers (about 300 miles) back to Montevideo. I spoke to our enthusiastic Montevideo brethren Sunday evening.

On to Ukraine

The next day we flew to New York, prepared for our visit to Ukraine and rested at pastor Steve Elliott's home. We left that evening. Duane Abler from the Television Department met us in Budapest, Hungary. He came along to film Ambassador University students teaching English.

In Uzhgorod we were met by project coordinator Joe Piotrowski and pastor Vasyl Mondich, who then drove us the two hours to Khust. As laws about religious groups are tightening in Ukraine, on this visit I had to register with the KGB so I could preach on the Sabbath.



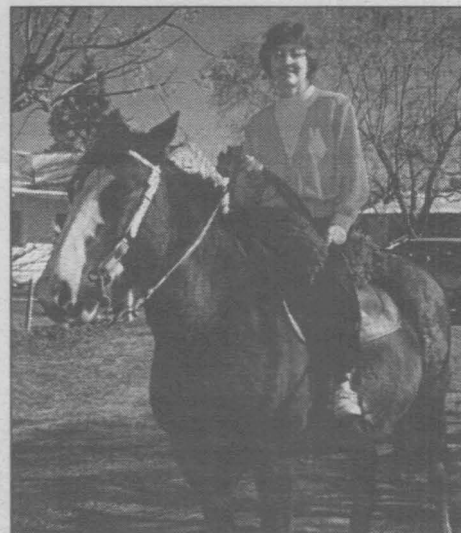
SEVEN UP—Ambassador University students sing for a youth service in Rokosovo. From left: Tamara Yurkiv, Mikhail Yurkiv, Amy Zutz, Christine Horchak (a high school graduate), Juliana Egedus, Craig Shrum and Scott Nohrenberg. [Photo by Victor Kubik]



LIKE-MINDED—With the Luis and Mela Navarrete family in Ezeiza, Argentina, are Ezeiza pastor Carlos Espinosa (fourth from left); Al and Faith Sousa (second and third from left), who pastor the Buenos Aires congregation; Bev and Victor Kubik (rear, right of center); and Reba and Leon Walker (fifth and second from right), Spanish regional director. Ezeiza brethren remodeled and now maintain their meeting hall.

That evening we went to the Internat High School to see how our students taught English. I was thoroughly impressed with their poise and skill and the Ukrainian students' respect for us.

I was told that by accepting students not only from the ranks of the Sabbatarians but from the commu-



Bev Kubik in South America

nity at large, we have created good relations and a unifying spirit in the Khust-Rokosovo vicinity.

Bev and I spent as much time as we could with our students. Mr. Piotrowski and I talked about the future of the project.

Friday night we had dinner at our Ambassador students' house and then a Bible study. We discussed the project and their impressions.

On the Sabbath we drove to services in Rokosovo, where three other speakers and I spoke. I talked about our project and the Ukrainian Sabbatarians in Uruguay who sent their greetings.

Sunday morning we went to the garden plot for which we brought seed last fall. Most of the seed is doing well, the string beans in particular. The mayor of Khust, Voldymer Kaschuk, examined the plots.

Sunday afternoon, the Sabbatarians conducted a three-hour, area-wide youth service. Our Ambassador students sang, and Mr. Piotrowski gave a sermonette about sowing and reaping.

Monday was our last full day in the area. In the morning we went to Rokosovo to see students Christine Horchak and Misha Yurkiv teaching classes.

In the afternoon we went to the Shayan resort area, where our students put on a program for children who lived near the Chernobyl nuclear plant.

Fledgling group in Siberia

Twenty Sabbatarians were just leaving on an evangelistic mission to Siberia 5,000 miles away. They had established a fledgling church of 25 last summer, and were returning to shore up the gains. They had several boxes of our new Russian translation of *Why Were You Born?*

They expressed much appreciation for this evangelistic literature and considered this trip to be a joint venture between them and the Worldwide Church of God. They asked me to remind brethren in the West to pray for the success of this mission.

With Nazareth Mission director Victor Pavliy and Mr. Mondich, pastor, we discussed continuing the Ambassador project. They all want us to return. Right now it's a matter of deciding how to design a more comprehensive yearlong program and assessing the financing.

They also want us to help educate their ministers in skills such as speaking. They are translating our Spokesman Club manual from German into Ukrainian and will use it for speaking classes for their ministry.

Tuesday, July 12, Mr. Piotrowski drove us back to Uzhgorod for our Air Service Hungary commuter flight to Budapest and the next day's flight back to Los Angeles. A most interesting two weeks!

Personal: our commission to local areas

Continued from page 1

noted: "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else" (2 Corinthians 9:12-13).

The Corinthians were doing good to all, especially to those in the household of faith, and they were proving themselves. They were giving people reason to praise God and reason to be thankful for the gospel of Christ. The Corinthians were, in their actions, personally evangelizing.

Manifesting the Christian hope

We are the light of the world, and we should let our light shine so others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). In a dark and immoral world, the Christian way of life stands out. When society is pessimistic and apathetic, as it certainly tends to be today, the Christian hope and purpose are all the more manifest.

People want what we've got, and they ask, and we can explain in our own words why we have hope in Jesus Christ. A good example and a wise witness to our faith is personal evangelism.

Paul encouraged Christians to live "without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe" (Philippians 2:15).

But the Christian's role in the community does not stop with example. Paul's very next words are "as you hold out the word of life" (verse 16). Their works were combined with their words. Good deeds go with the gospel, and the combination is an effective form of personal evangelism.

Each Christian should be able to explain the basics of the faith. Perhaps not in an eloquent way, and certainly not in an argumentative way, but in simple confidence. We know that we will be resurrected.

We know that life is worthwhile. We know that our sins are forgiven. We know that God sent his Son to die and be raised for us. We know he wants us to stop living for ourselves and start living for him.

Individual members can't explain every verse of the Bible, but they can give their own testimony as to why they believe. They can't prove every

point with an iron-clad argument. What makes their testimony believable is their "good behavior in Christ" (1 Peter 3:16).

When we give an answer for the hope in Christ that lies within us, the evidence is in our works as well as in our words. The two reinforce each other, just as our public preaching meshes with our private lives to make each more effective than they would have been on their own.

Not every member is equally gifted at testifying in the grace of God, and not every member is able to do this in the same way. Evangelism is a spiritual gift, and we simply cannot expect every Christian to have this particular gift. Some are gifted in this way; others are not. But all are commanded to be ready to give an answer.

All Christians should be ready to be used by God when appropriate situations arise. God will motivate some to have zeal for evangelism, just as he motivates some to have zeal for service within the Church or other Christian activities. God distributes spiritual gifts as he desires so that we work together for the common good.

Personal evangelism should not be artificially forced. Neither should it be squelched. Each Christian should be led by the Holy Spirit in behavior and in word. Each should be a good example in the community and be a faithful witness of the faith that lies within.

If you are a more reserved person, if religion is not the first subject you want to bring up, that's OK. Be zealous for Christ in other ways. Serve in the local congregation. Pray for the members and for your leaders. Serve in the community. We should each have a zeal for Christ, but God leads us to express that zeal in different ways.

I hope this helps put personal evangelism in a balanced context. We want to encourage it and help you realize that evangelism is not the exclusive assignment of headquarters, just as it was not exclusive to the first-century apostles.

Christians throughout the world should feel free to share their faith, as Paul mentioned in Philemon 6. This is pleasing to our Father and Savior. This is part of the work God is doing in and through his people.

Before we build...

Now I want to comment a bit about our plans to build or buy meeting facilities for local churches, and I want to remind everyone of the purposes of these buildings and the factors we need to consider before investing the large amounts of money involved.

I announced the building program in the Feb. 15 *WN* as part of a five-point plan designed to assist local evangelistic efforts. Although I called it "step one," I did not mean to imply that it was the first thing we would do. In fact, I cautioned everyone to be realistic about the time necessary for implementing such a program.

In the long run, Church-owned buildings can save us money. But it takes a lot of money to make the initial purchase. Money will come, in part, from the savings involved in "step four," the transition from 30-

If you are a more reserved person, if religion is not the first subject you want to bring up, that's OK. Be zealous for Christ in other ways. Serve in the local congregation.

minute television programs to spot ads. These savings have not yet been realized because at this point we are still airing the 30-minute programs.

Our budgets are still tight. We do not yet have the money to start many buildings. But we have started some of the preliminary work needed: architectural plans, legal research, etc.

Please remember that the primary purpose of Church-owned buildings is to support local evangelism. It is not primarily for our own comfort or our own prestige. Our buildings should help us serve the cities we are in—for example, by providing an established presence and a regular meeting place for people to come to receive Christian instruction, as well as to strengthen our own sense of brotherhood within the Church.

Church-owned buildings can save us money in some areas, but in others they can cost far more than renting. Each area needs to be analyzed for its own circumstances. We probably wouldn't want to build in an area of declining population, for example.

We look to Christ to show us where he is giving a greater harvest—areas in which buildings would serve his needs. We do not want to build for our own benefit, but to stimulate growth that Christ is already giving us. That is one reason we want to administer this program from headquarters.

The areas of greatest need and opportunity are not always the areas

that have the most resources. So we will ask that donations come here to a central fund so we can balance out some inequities, in keeping with the principle Paul expressed in 2 Corinthians 8:14: "Your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality."

Let's suppose we compare the cost of buying and maintaining a building throughout the week with the cost of renting a meeting room for four hours each Sabbath. Renting will usually be cheaper. Therefore, we will buy and maintain buildings only if those facilities are going to be used wisely throughout the week—with activities that benefit the congregation and the community. Only then would Church-owned buildings be cost-effective.

We should also be careful not to have unrealistic expectations about the grandeur of the buildings we will be able to afford. We would like to have impressive structures, but realistically speaking, we will prefer more moderate designs so our limited budgets will be able to serve the most people.

Establishing priorities

As we continue with our plan to build local meeting facilities, we want to remind you of the need for a great deal of patience. In establishing priorities for the building program, we have to consider finances, local community resources and needs, our internal demographics and skills and our commitment to carrying out Christ's commission in our local areas.

These factors are interrelated in complex ways, so we must proceed cautiously and prayerfully. Of course, international areas have to evaluate their own particular situations and circumstances. Not everything applies exactly the same way in all areas of the world.

Above all, I want to repeat the fact that these buildings should be used to serve the communities they are in. They are evangelistic tools in that they can help local churches combine their words with good works to make each more effective—both inside and outside our fellowship.

Thank you for your prayers, brethren, and for your faithful support. It has never been easy to be a Christian. We face many challenges, and we conquer them by working together as we are led by the Holy Spirit. "God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us" (Romans 5:5). Let's pray for one another and help one another through our various trials.

Oleta Ward inspired to set goals and to strive to reach them

Continued from page 7

Speaker of the House in Washington, D.C.

"Meeting all these noted people, conversing personally with some, certainly did enrich my life," she said. "Meeting them inspired me to set goals and strive to reach them."

"My success as a public school-teacher is in part due to the way I saw these people. The care, compassion and love for others, such as Gen. Eisenhower had shown me during several exchanges, reinforced my views and also made me

realize that all men are created equal."

After retiring in 1981, she began rigorous research on a doctoral degree. In 1986, after months of travel and writing, she completed her work, *A Study of the Effects Obesity Has on Academic Achievement and Learning Development of School-age Students*. She received her Ph.D. in educational counseling at the age of 66.

Active force at church

Oleta Ward had grown up listening to Herbert W. Armstrong and had attended the spring Holy Days

in Big Sandy in 1953. After a serious illness, Oleta sought counsel and was baptized Nov. 5, 1972.

Oleta remains an active, positive force in the lives of those who know her. For years she opened her home for church-related activities, Bible studies, swim parties and dinner meetings.

Though unable to serve in such a rigorous manner now, she remains an active member of the American Association of University Women and the Fort Worth Woman's Club.

Since retirement, Oleta has maintained part-time businesses in her home, including testing and tutor-

ing children, and instructing women on nutritional and health issues.

Her son, Lloyd, his wife, Becky, four grandchildren and six-great-grandchildren live nearby. Blessed with a can-do attitude, Oleta has witnessed profound changes in the world and in the classroom since she started teaching.

Her philosophy of teaching is not so different from the basics of her faith: "Take every person as you find them, and work with them from that premise. Look for the good in everyone, because it's there."

Announcements

BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS, ANNIVERSARIES AND OBITUARIES

MATUSZKIEWICZ, Valentine and Vikki (Grandusky) of Buffalo, New York, girl, Sarah Diane, Jan. 7, 7:26 p.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 3 girls.

MEZ, Henry and Rhonda (Bedwell) of Rome, Georgia, twin girls, Rachel Katherina and Rebekah Elizabeth, March 21, 3:37 and 3:46 p.m., now 2 boys, 2 girls.

MEZ, Skeets and Brenda (Childers) of Nettleton, Mississippi, boy, Travis Benjamin, June 23, 11:41 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

MORGAN, Wade and Anne (Thomas) of Mobile, Alabama, boy, Asa Wade, June 4, 1:40 a.m., 7 pounds 8 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

PARKER, Scott G. and Linda (Cox) of Greenville, South Carolina, boy, Keivan Graham, June 19, 3:41 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

REAMS, Joseph and Susan (Corey) of Detroit, Michigan, boy, Truman Joseph, May 11, 11:48 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

SCHORR, Francis II and Connie (Render) of Delavan, Wisconsin, boy, Francis Joseph III, Jan. 26, 5 p.m., 8 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

SHARP, Richard and Linda of Horn Lake, Mississippi, boy, Richard Hoyt Sharp III, July 11, 7:56 p.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

STADNIK, Eddie and Ingrid (Stansfield) of Cambridge, England, girl, Nadia Louise, June 15, 8:15 p.m., 9 pounds 12 ounces, now 2 girls.

STEPHENS, Tony and Cindy (Frank) of Fairbanks, Alaska, boy, Connor Daniel Stephens, July 11, 11:54 a.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 boys.

UNDERWOOD, Kris and Tonya (Anthony) of Jackson, Mississippi, girl, Ashton Torey, May 8, 8:58 p.m., 4 pounds 15 ounces, first child.

WELLMAKER, Jeff and Janea (Fertig) of Douglas, Wyoming, girl, Madelyn Rose, June 8, 7:31 p.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

YOUNG, David and Naomi (Ventura) of Champaign, Illinois, boy, Maxwell Rousseau, June 24, 8:18 a.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

bridesmaid. Justin Marini, son of the groom, was best man, and Bob Nielson was the groomsman. The couple live in Anaheim, California.



COLIN & JANET RICHARDS
Janet Manuel, daughter of Martin and Genneen Manuel of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Colin Richards, son of Arthur and Ermine Richards of Birmingham, England, were united in marriage March 20. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, a minister in the Charlotte church. Doreen Manuel, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Noel Gibbs was best man. The couple live in Concord, North Carolina.



JOHN & CHERYL McLELLAN
John McLellan of Kingston, Ontario, and Cheryl Bazeley of Hamilton, Ontario, were united in marriage May 21. The ceremony was performed by Dan Fuller, associate pastor of the Hamilton and St. Catharines churches. The couple live in Picton, Ontario.



BRAD & AMY COX
Amy Kaye Becknell, daughter of Clyde Becknell and Sylvia Teel, and Brad Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Cox, were united in marriage May 29. The ceremony was performed by John Dobritch, Florence, Kentucky, pastor. John Henderson was best man, and Ailsa Braun was matron of honor. The couple live in Lafayette, Indiana.



DEREK & JACALYN POYNER
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Kreyer of Conway, Arkansas, are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter Jacalyn Merline to Derek Alan Poyner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Poyner of Little Rock, Arkansas. The ceremony was performed Nov. 27 by Warren Zehrung, associate pastor of the Little Rock church. Julie Kreyer and Jeani Brown, sisters of the bride, were maid and matron of honor. Larry Brown was best man. The couple live in Alexander, Arkansas.



PETER & MAREE VALUSIAK
Maree Gronow and Peter Valusiak were united in marriage March 19. The ceremony was performed by Karl Karlov, pastor of the Penrith and Bathurst, Australia, churches. Margaret Manwaring was matron of honor and Brian Manwaring was best man. The couple live in Neilrex, Australia.



SALVATORE & ANITA ANASTASI
Anita Micucci, daughter of Giuseppe and Licia Micucci of Civitanova Marche, Italy, and Salvatore Anastasi, son of Carmelo and Antonella Anastasi of Bergamo, Italy, were united in marriage April 4. The ceremony was performed by Cliff Veal, Rome pastor. The couple live in Civitanova Marche.



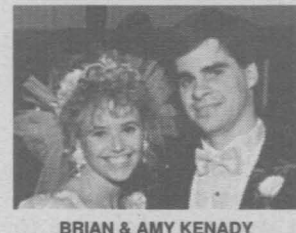
MICHAEL & KEELY SALISBURY
Darrell and Donna West of Webberville, Michigan, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Keely Ann to Michael A. Salisbury. The ceremony was performed April 3 by Melvin Rhodes, pastor of the Ann Arbor and Lansing, Michigan, churches. Sharon Fitch was matron of honor, and Roger Campbell was best man. The couple live in De Witt, Michigan.



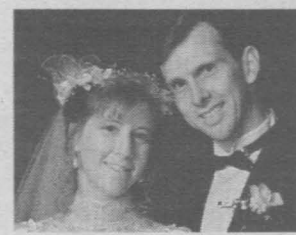
WILLIAM & JACQUELINE STETTER
Jacqueline Lynn Pachinger, daughter of Alan and Pauline Pachinger of Oberlin, Ohio, and William Martin Stetter, son of Ray and Shelby Stetter of Powder Springs, Georgia, were united in marriage Jan. 22. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, a minister in the Cleveland, Ohio, West church. Amy Cagle was maid of honor and Thomas Stevanin was best man. The couple live in Lakewood, Ohio.



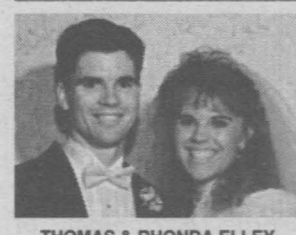
NOMER & GEMMA VENUS
Gemma Cuizon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernardo Cuizon of Mindoro Oriental, Philippines, and Nomer Venus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Venus of Binan, were united in marriage April 10. The ceremony was performed by Reynaldo Taniajura, Manila South, San Pablo City and Calapan, Philippines, pastor. Arlene Cuizon was maid of honor, and Nello Venus was best man. The couple live in Angeles City, Philippines.



BRIAN & AMY KENADY
Amy Lanette Hodges, daughter of Willard and Brenda Hodges of Leitchfield, Kentucky, and Brian Keith Kenady, son of Donald and Martine Kenady of Owensboro, Kentucky, were united in marriage June 27. The ceremony was performed by Stephen Elliott, pastor of the Queens, New York, church. Kelly Cox was matron of honor and Mark Kenady was best man. The couple live in Bowling Green, Kentucky.



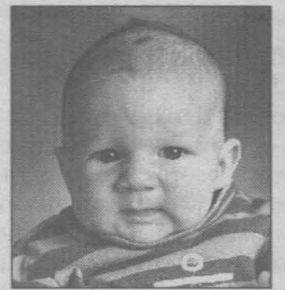
ANTHONIE & HEATHER VAN DOORN
Heather Claire Stahl, daughter of Meyer and Judith Stahl of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Antonie Van Doorn Jr., son of Tony and Tina Van Doorn of Maple Ridge, British Columbia, were united in marriage May 29. The ceremony was performed by Pieter Michielsen, Abbotsford, British Columbia, pastor. Nettie Estok was matron of honor and Stephen Lazar was best man. The couple live in Leland, North Carolina.



THOMAS & RHONDA ELLEY
Rhonda Dickey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dickey of Birmingham, Alabama, and Thomas Scott Elley, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Elley of Stockville, Nebraska, were united in marriage Sept. 26. Regina Horvath, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and Tim Elley, brother of the groom, was best man. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, Charles Dickey, a minister in

Birth Announcement

We'd like to let readers know about your new baby as soon as it arrives. Just fill out this coupon and send it to the address given as soon as possible after the baby is born. Baby announcements should be no more than six months old.



Our coupon baby this month is Kieffer James Stahl, son of Barry and Maria Stahl of Lancaster, California.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT THE WORLDWIDE NEWS BOX 111 PASADENA, CALIF., 91129, U.S.A.

Form for birth announcement with fields for names, dates, and contact info.

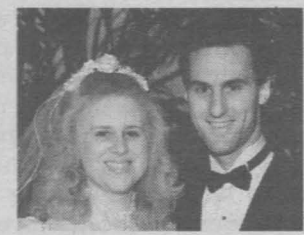
the Birmingham church. The couple live in Birmingham.



JOSEPH & GAIL ADEJARE
Lucinda Gail Burrell, daughter of Garfield and Myrtle Hobbs of Compton, California, and Joseph Alabi Adejare, son of the late Samuel and Comfort Adejare of Lagos, Nigeria, were united in marriage July 31. The ceremony was performed by Bill Edwards, a minister in the Glendora church. Linda Wood was chief bridesmaid and Adam Olayiwola was best man. The couple live in Colton, California.



ANGELO & NEREIDA PAPANRELLA
Nereida Colon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Juan Colon of Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, and Angelo Paparella, son of Victor Paparella of Houston, Texas, and Frances Paparella of Elizabeth, New Jersey, were united in marriage Sept. 26. Mayra Bremer was maid of honor and Vincent Paparella was best man. The couple live in Linden, New Jersey.



JONATHAN & SHARYL FAHEY
Sharyl Ann Clauson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Clauson of Denison, Texas, and Jonathan Thomas Fahey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fahey of Bolingbrook, Illinois, were united in marriage Dec. 26. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, Sherman and Paris, Texas, pastor, and the groom's father, Chicago West and Joliet, Illinois, pastor. Rachelle Clauson, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and Robert Fahey, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



TIM & SHANNON ALLWINE
Shannon Liv, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Hendrickson of Vancou-

ver, British Columbia, and Timothy Gail Allwine of Federal Way, Washington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gail Allwine of Spokane, Washington, were united in marriage July 2 in Vancouver. Danielle Palsar was maid of honor and Michael Pickett was best man.

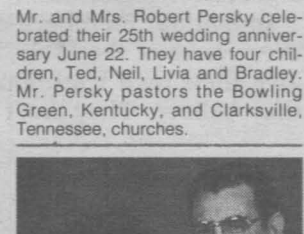
Anniversaries



JAMES & BETTY DOHERTY
James and Betty Doherty of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 22. They have two children, Rebecca and James.



MR. & MRS. BERT STEENSMAN
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Steensma of Grand Rapids, Michigan, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary April 23. Their children are Cindy and John Karlik, Bert and Julia Steensma, Dan Steensma and Mike and Tammi Grovak.



MR. & MRS. ROBERT PERSKY
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Persky celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 22. They have four children, Ted, Neil, Livia and Bradley. Mr. Persky pastors the Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Clarksville, Tennessee, churches.



VICTOR & BARBARA MULLINS
Victor and Barbara Mullins of Big Sandy celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary May 21. They have four children, Roger, Ronald, Glenda and David; two daughters-in-law, Ronda and Leota; one son-in-law, Jim Borchelt; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



BILL & DOROTHY ADLINGTON
Bill and Dorothy Adlington of Liverpool, England, celebrated their 40th

Births

BEDWELL, David and Joan (Peard) of Redding, California, boy, David "Ross," May 25, 10:49 p.m., 10 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

BERTHOUD, Jean-Marie and Beatrice (Geffroy) of Paris, France, girl, Maryline, May 30, 11:30 p.m., 3.75 kilograms, now 2 girls.

CALVERT, Kim and Vicki (Harmon) of Birmingham, Alabama, girl, Shannon Michelle, June 6, 10:25 a.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CAVANAUGH, Jon and Leanna (Turner) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, boy, Kenneth Blaine, May 13, 8 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 boys.

CIPRIANI, Drew and Lynda (Zoellick) of Cedar Lake, Indiana, boy, Tyler Drew, July 2, 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

CLARK, Stephen and Cathie (Evans) of Deloraine, Australia, girl, Shannon Lea, June 18, 2:04 p.m., 7 pounds 7 ounces, first child.

COOPER, Ben and Vicky (Quick) of Herndon, Virginia, boy, Ryan Alan, March 31, 9:22 p.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

FUESSEL, David and Janet (Troutt) of San Angelo, Texas, girl, Bridget Marie, Nov. 8, 4:50 a.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GILBERT, Michael and Kim (Justice) of Big Sandy, boy, Micah Trevor, Feb. 24, 3:30 p.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

HELWIG, Charles and Elizabeth (Merten) of Belleville, Illinois, girl, Madelyn Victoria, Nov. 13, 9:47 p.m., 2 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

HEWITT, William and Barbara (Elsbach) of Joliet, Illinois, boy, Eric Michael, June 29, 5:04 p.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

JACKSON, Steven and Sarah (Jorgensen) of Boise, Idaho, boy, James Forrest, June 2, 12:30 a.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

LAPIERRE, Joseph and Jacqueline (Mason) of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, girl, Elizabeth Fay Darlene, June 28, 11 a.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 7 boys, 4 girls.

LOO, Jerry and Debbie (Liu) of Sydney, Australia, boy, Alexander Justin, July 9, 4:10 p.m., 6 pounds 7.5 ounces, first child.

Engagements

Jim Link and Linda Kendall of Kingston, Ontario, wish to announce their engagement. An early November wedding is planned.

Kelly Hodo and Michael Oakleaf are happy to announce their engagement. A Dec. 31 wedding in Tucson, Arizona, is planned.

Iris Cunningham of Lakewood, Ohio, is delighted to announce the engagement of her mother, Rita Cunningham, to Gary Schrimpf, father of Michelle Hemperly and Kelly Schrimpf. An Aug. 13 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. William Eddington of Melbourne, Australia, are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Janet Louise to Philip Van Dijk, son of Philip and Mary Van Dijk of Queensland, Australia. A Dec. 18 wedding in Melbourne is planned.

Weddings



STEVE & HEIDI MUNIEN
Heidi Lysette Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Powell, and Steve Munien, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Munien, were united in marriage June 5. The ceremony was performed by John Halford, a minister in the Pasadena West P.M. church. Maya Wehb was maid of honor, and Fernando Pla was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



LINCOLN & JEAN MARINI
Jean Marie Williams and Lincoln Marini were united in marriage March 13. The ceremony was performed by Dennis Luker, pastor of the Garden Grove, California, church. Joan Van Dusen, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Sandra Knighten Faris III was the

wedding anniversary Feb. 20. They have one son, David; and one daughter, Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Adlington serve as deacon and deaconess in the Liverpool church.



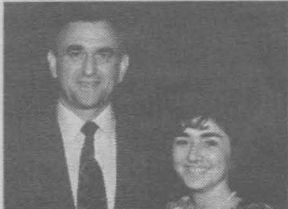
SHAREL & CAROL FERTIG

Sharel and Carol Fertig of Elko, Nevada, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary June 14. They have two daughters, Shawna Laffitte and Sharon Rehm; three sons, Sharel Jr., Shannon and Shane; and eight grandchildren.



JOHN & JUNE SPARKS

John and June Sparks of Winnsboro, Texas, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary July 12. They have nine children, Vicky, Kari, Deborah, John, William (deceased), Paul, Andrew, Mary and Sarah; and 13 grandchildren.



RAY & CAROL MEYER

Ray and Carol Meyer celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 2. They have a daughter, Janna, and a son, Randy. Mr. Meyer is pastor of the Kansas City North and St. Joseph, Missouri, churches.



JOHN & RUTH FENCHEL

John and Ruth Fenchel of Tacoma, Washington, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary April 4. They have one daughter, Jennifer Lengwin; two sons, Matthew and Eric; one son-in-law, Mark Lengwin; one daughter-in-law, Lisa; and two

grandchildren, Lynette and Garrett Fenchel.



WALTER & JOSIE MAZURENKO

Walter and Josie Mazurenko of Westlock, Alberta, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary July 16. They have six children, Randy, Calvin, Roberta, Rhonda, Colin and Jon.



NEIL & PATSY WROTEN

Neil and Patsy Wroten of Albuquerque, New Mexico, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary June 27. They have two children, Harold and Cheryl, and two grandsons.

Richard and Suzanne Wolfe of Columbia City, Indiana, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary June 27. They have two sons, Michael and David; one daughter, Barbara Harvey; one daughter-in-law, Debbie; one son-in-law, Mark; and four grandchildren, Crystal, Benjamin, Michele and Abigail.



GEORGE & SHIRLEY VAN-DE-KERC-KHOVE

George and Shirley Van-De-Kerc-Khove of Ottawa, Ontario, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary July 9. They have three daughters and two grandsons.

Anniversaries Made of Gold



ADRIAN & MARIE WOODS

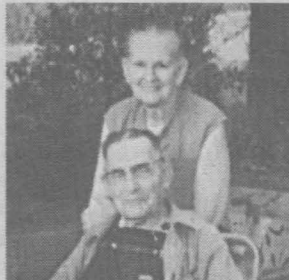
Adrian and Marie Woods of

Longview, Texas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 10. They have one daughter and son-in-law, Ruby and Lynn Newsom; two grandchildren, James and Thelma Newsom; and one granddaughter-in-law, Tonya. Mr. and Mrs. Woods serve as deacon and deaconess in the Longview church.



RALPH & MAISIE RISEBOROUGH

Ralph and Maisie Riseborough of Auckland, New Zealand, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 4. They have four children, Judith, Denis, Colin and Marie; two sons-in-law, Milton "Joe" Green, and Paul Penney; one daughter-in-law, Dene; and nine grandchildren.



A.J. & LOTTIE STOKES

A.J. and Lottie Stokes of Akron, Alabama, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary June 8. They have two sons, Harold and Kenneth; two daughters-in-law, Doris and Betty; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.



HERBERT & JULIA DIXON

Herbert and Julia Dixon of Savannah, Georgia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 5. They have two sons and four grandchildren.

Percy and Gwen Scott of Atlanta, Georgia, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary May 27.



DANIEL & LEONIDES FLORES

Daniel and Leonides Flores of Harlingen, Texas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 15. They have five sons, one daughter and 17 grandchildren.



CLAUDE & HELEN SAWYERS

Claude and Helen Sawyers of Roanoke, Virginia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 3. They have one son, one daughter, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Obituaries



BENJAMIN WORMAN

WORMAN, Benjamin Joseph Stewart, 2, of Auckland, New Zealand, died June 2 of post-operative complications after corrective heart surgery. He is survived by his father and mother, John and Anne-Marie; one brother, Shane; two sisters, Natasha and Michaela; and many other family members.

TURNER, Evelyn, 66, of Pasadena died Jan. 27. She is survived by her husband, Rufus II; one son, Rufus III; one daughter, Sheila; four grandchildren; seven sisters; and two brothers. Mrs. Turner served as a deaconess in the Pasadena West P.M. church.

HARRISON, John, 62, of New Port Richey, Florida, died June 13 of cancer. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and two children, Leanne Mathery and Aaron Sears.

VALIGURA, Mary, 86, of Granado, Texas, a deaconess in the Victoria, Texas, church, died July 21 after a short illness. She is survived by her daughters, Gladys and Pearl

Mitchon; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband and two brothers.



JESSIE NICKENS

NICKENS, Jessie Mae Johnson, 69, of Strasburg, Virginia, died May 24. She is survived by her husband, Virgil; a stepdaughter, Betty Hardaway; a step-grandson, Lamont Washington; aunts; uncles; and a number of cousins.

STANWICK, Stanley, 82, of Union, New Jersey, died June 20 after a short illness. He is survived by one son, Ronald, one daughter, Lynette Innocenti, and several grandchildren.



HILDA JOHNSON

JOHNSON, Hilda, 75, of Union, New Jersey, died of a heart attack June 6.

ALLEN, Eltana Maybelle, 90, of Albany, Oregon, died Jan. 4. She is survived by two daughters, Clarice and Olivet; a son, Jacque; a brother, George; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

CUTHBERTSON, Thomas, 86, of Clay Township, Michigan, died of cancer June 23. He is survived by his wife, Adeline, and four sons.

DAVIS, Dorothy, 74, of Tamarac, Florida, died May 30. She is survived by two sons, George and Fred; one daughter, Sally; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her husband and one son preceded her in death.

GALLOWAY, Helen, 89, died July 12. She is survived by two daughters, Janet Craft and Peggy Smith; two sisters, Lucille Brooks and Marcella Ruggs; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Duke.

GALLAGHER, Mildred G., 86, of St.

Clairsville, Ohio, died July 8 of cancer. She is survived by one brother.



RICHARD BURKE

BURKE, Richard M., 72, of Lavaca, Texas, died June 14. He is survived by three daughters, Carmen Taylor, Jody Weiche and Carolyn Jones; a son, Guy L. Burke; a sister, Evelyn Tubbs; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.



PLUMA LUCILLE JAMES

JAMES, Pluma Lucille, 80, of Pasadena, died May 22. She is survived by her brother, Don; and his wife, Jean; a niece, Donna Payton; and three nephews, Jim Hurd, Bob James and Franklin W. James.

BARTHOLOMEW, Ralph, 59, of Carlisle, Iowa, died May 25 of acute leukemia. He is survived by his wife, Pat; three daughters, Cherie Crabtree, Pam Blakesley and Sandy Bales; his mother, Ella; a sister, Wilma Littrell; and a grandchild.



PHYLLIS GANTT

GANTT, Phyllis, 90, of East Orange, New Jersey, died Jan. 4. She is survived by a son, Marvin; and his wife Evelyn; two grandsons, Marvin Jr. and Leonard; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Felix.

Richard Paige said by colleague as having 'left a lasting impression'

By Jim Herst

GLADEWATER, Texas—Richard H. Paige, 51, former professor of history and archaeology at Ambassador College, died June 30 after a two-year battle with cancer.

Greg Albrecht, Ambassador's dean of students from 1978 to 1990, and now editor of *The Plain Truth*, echoed the sentiments of faculty and students when he said: "Dick was an enormously gifted person. He was one of the most popular professors from the mid-'70s through the '80s. And his popularity was well deserved. He was a demanding and intellectually stimulating instructor who pushed his students. He was always well prepared, taking his class seriously, obviously respecting his students."

Mr. Paige's academic talents were evident at an early age. When he was 12, he was accepted to The Juilliard School of music in New York City with a full scholarship. But his parents did not want him to go because they thought he was too young.

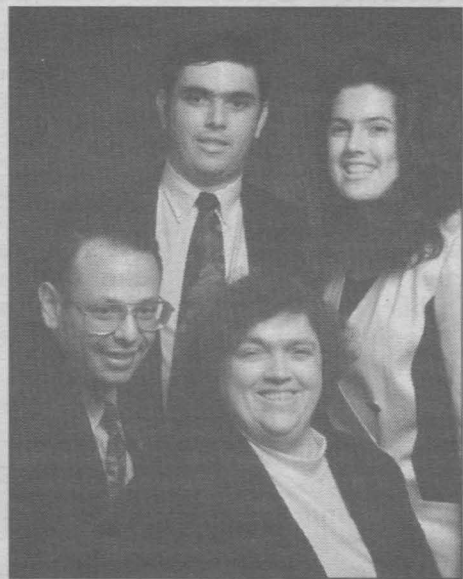
He enrolled at Drake University in

Des Moines, Iowa, when he was 14, graduating with a bachelor's degree when he was 17.

After graduating from Drake, he was awarded graduate scholarships at the Columbia University School of Law and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He chose, instead, to pursue his passion for teaching. He completed a master's program in history at New York University in 1962.

Mr. Paige began attending the Worldwide Church of God in 1967 and was baptized the following year. He started working at Ambassador in 1973, teaching classes in the history of Western civilization and biblical history. His course on ancient Israel became popular with full-time students and ministers on sabbatical.

John Halford, a senior editor for *The Plain Truth*, commented on the value of this course: "I am very grateful that God allowed me to know Dick as a friend and colleague. He never really understood the influence he had on me. For years I taught a successful Old Testament survey class. But its success was based on an understanding and rapport I had for the Old Testament that I gained from the ancient Israel class he taught. I took it as an adult during



Richard Paige (lower left) is survived by his wife, Deanna, and their children, Michael and Shoshana.

the old refresher program. That class was taped, and many field ministers began learning again from it. Dick had a positive influence on many more people than he ever realized."

During the last four years, Mr. Paige completed a bachelor's program in medical technology and began working as a medical technologist at Mother Francis Hospital in

Tyler, Texas. His supervisor was Jim Koukl, director of the Medical Technology Program at the University of Texas at Tyler.

Dr. Koukl wrote to Mr. Paige's widow, Deanna, and their two children, Michael and Shoshana, after Mr. Paige's death: "I wanted to let you know that Richard was very special to me. When I visited him during his last days, I was proud of him for the kind of person he was.... We were all touched by his presence. It's as if I have seen God's face through Richard, and to me that has left a lasting impression on my soul."

Mr. Paige is also survived by a brother, Alan.

Festival Updates

Continued from page 6

Rockford/Janesville Church Activity Fund and mail to Tom Schultz, 214 S. Randall Ave., Janesville, Wisconsin, 53545, or call him at 1-608-756-0643.

Jim Herst is managing editor of Exploring the Word of God.

Update

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

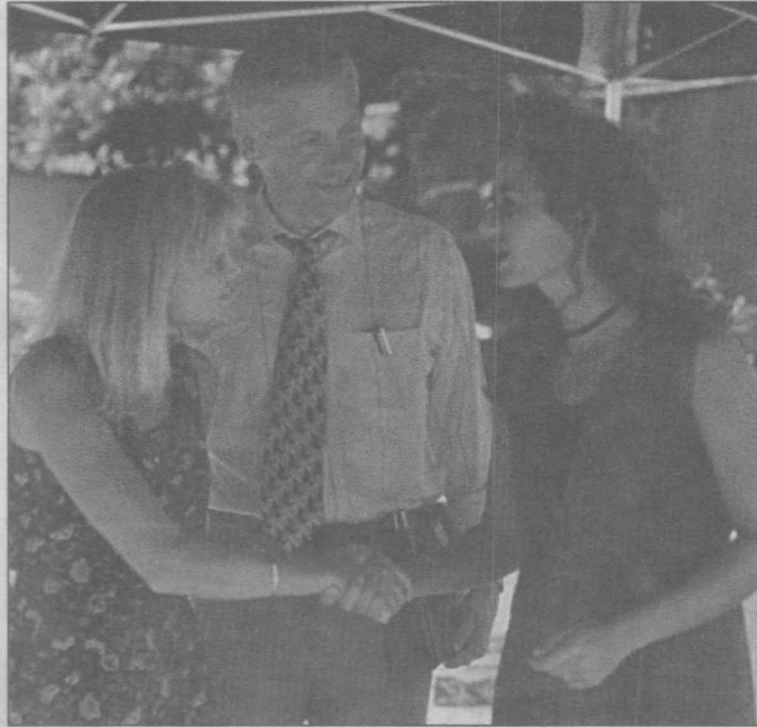
Singer featured in PT comes close to home

Recording artists **Amy Grant** and **Vince Gill** were in Altadena, California, July 17 and 18 to film a duet called "House of Love" for a music video to be released later this year. The filming took place in a restored Victorian house adjacent to the property of **Jeff Zhorne**, WN managing editor.

Jeff, along with **Jennifer McGraw** of *The Plain Truth* and **Mike Hale** from the *Youth* magazine, visited with Amy and Vince.

Amy was shown an early version of an article that will appear in the October *Plain Truth*. The article quotes her in her role as host of the Dove awards and as perhaps the most well-known contemporary Christian music artist.

Mike gave her a copy of *Youth 94* and explained that the staff had been sent an advance copy of her new album, which they plan to include in the Christian Mu-



ON HAND—Jennifer McGraw and Mike Hale make recording artist Amy Grant (right) feel at home July 18 during a break in her music video filming with Vince Gill. [Photo by Jeff Zhorne]

sic Reviews section of the magazine.

Two members' belongings damaged in Georgia floods

ALBANY, Georgia—Two members suffered major damage in floods that ravaged southern Georgia in early July. Both lived in rental properties.

Ezell Davis lost all her furniture and personal belongings. She is living with a niece in a trailer with about 10 other relatives including her aged mother.

Available housing is nonexistent in Albany. The government is bringing in mobile homes to set up for people, but people in public shelters have priority.

Alice Stewart and her husband, **Rodney**, and daughter, **Shanna**, lost all their furni-

ture and most small appliances, but were able to save most of their clothes. They are living with a married daughter in her trailer.

At present the biggest need of both members is better housing and continued emotional support. **Ken Mattson**.

Monroe marks quarter century

MONROE, Louisiana—About 265 brethren and guests attended the 25th anniversary of the church here at combined services with the El Dorado, Arkansas, congregation June 11.

Pastor **David Johnson** read several messages to brethren from previous ministers, and **James Jenkins**, the first pastor, recalled the beginnings of the Monroe church.

Evangelist **Leroy Neff**

gave a sermon about staying on course. The celebration continued the next day with a picnic. **Kenneth D. Collinsworth**.

Singles events

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky—Louisville singles invite other singles to a singles dance Saturday night, Oct. 29, and a pancake breakfast and singles seminar Sunday.

The dance will be at a professional dance studio with a 2,500-square-foot cushioned oak dance floor. The pancake breakfast will take place in Sellersburg, Indiana.

Cost for the weekend is \$15. If you pay by Sept. 30, your name will be included in a drawing for a prize.

Make checks payable to the Local Church Activity Fund and send them to **Vernon Spurling**, 143 Short St., Shepherdsville, Kentucky, 40165. For more information call Mr. Spurling at 1-502-543-3892 or **Bonnie Jones** at 1-812-288-5109.

AKRON, Ohio—Akron singles invite other singles to their annual formal dinner dance Oct. 29. Guest speaker for the weekend will be evangelist **Dean Blackwell**. The cost for the dinner and dance will be \$25; for the dance only, \$13.

Please make all checks payable to LCAF Akron. For more information call or write **Steven Edwards**, 729 Jason Ave., Akron, Ohio, 44314-3131, phone 1-216-745-5079.

SEP staff serves, as firefighters battle fire in Orr

ORR, Minnesota—Fire destroyed four major businesses in the village of Orr June 27, one day after the first session of the Summer Educational Program (SEP) ended.

Among the buildings burned was the only grocery store within 18 miles.

Ten fire crews, including one SEP staff member, responded. The fire started at around 10:53 p.m. and wasn't put out until 5 the next morning.

During this time, the SEP kitchen staff prepared sandwiches, omelets, pancakes and soup for the firefighters. **Anthony Chiporo**.



CHILD CARE IN KENYA—On behalf of the Church, James Henderson, who pastors East African brethren, presented a check for 15,600 Kenyan shillings to Nursing Sister Lilly, director of Barnados Home, which cares for 120 orphans, in Nairobi, Kenya. Also pictured is the latest arrival, two-month-old Catherine, who, weighing only five pounds and extremely malnourished, was found abandoned in Kenyatta Hospital. [Photo by Jonathan Jewell]

William Bennett: Vision brings virtues back to classroom

Continued from page 1

educational system is inheriting the collapse of the family structure, he said too many schools are graduating students with poor skills.

Yet there are some successful schools, he noted. What these schools have in common is a safe, lawful and orderly environment; emphasis on academics rather than sports; principals and teachers who have vision and can lead; and high expectations of their students.

But these exceptions should be the rule because a good educational system is most vital for those who need it most—those who start life with the fewest advantages, with the least amount of money, with the worst kind of family structure.

"Without it, kids who start out in rough circumstances are pretty much

destined to stay there," he added.

Virtue reality

As for children's ideas about morality, Mr. Bennett said the "architecture of the soul" is not being constructed in schools or in the home, but on the street, and from television and movies.

"When you look at our entertainment today there seems to be a conspiracy to rob the young of their youth, idealism and virtue. It attacks the innocence of children," he said to loud applause.

Mr. Bennett, who believes that human beings are made in the image of God, said we need to pay more attention to the teaching of virtues in the classroom.

While Americans have lost touch with the deep moral well-springs that established the country, they want the community's fabric restored, he said. They want to live in a world where people are

responsible, self-disciplined, decent and compassionate. To live in a community that is civilized, that has standards.

"That is a fundamental education task. This isn't just a problem with the schools, however, but the schools should be better. They need to be temples of

learning. Schools, not television, should be the place to learn," he concluded.

Afterward, Mr. Bennett answered questions from the audience and autographed books at a reception. One question he refused to answer was whether he would be a 1996 presidential contender.

Staff position available at Ambassador University

BIG SANDY—Ambassador University invites applications from qualified candidates for an immediate opening in the Food Services Department for an experienced cook.

The candidate must have a minimum of three years experience as a cook or salad maker. Cafeteria service experience is helpful, as is the ability to supervise the work of students. Work may be required on weekends or other than 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Applicants for this position should include a letter of application, a current resume, salary history and the names of three references with telephone numbers. Applications should be sent to Personnel Services, Ambassador University, Box 111, Big Sandy, Texas, 75755. Applications must be submitted before Sept. 30.

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