

3 Member celebrates her 75th Feast of Tabernacles

5 Rwandan families keep Festival as refugees in Zaire

5 Amidst troubled country, Feastgoers in Haiti meet in peace

The Worldwide News



VOL. XXII, NO. 19
OCTOBER 25, 1994

Openness lifts hearts of Festival communities

By Paul Monteith

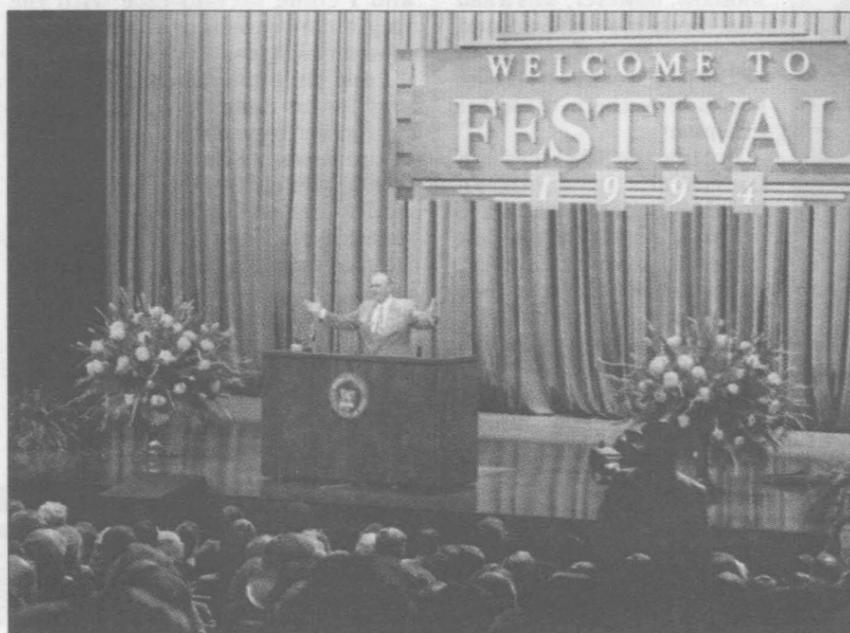
"Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, the festival that symbolizes the dawning of a new age," said Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach at the start of his message transmitted worldwide by satellite Sept. 20.

The hope of that new age was dramatized when members around the world let their lights shine. In the spirit of compassion and concern for hurting people and those in difficult circumstances, members reached out with love and aid.

In Lowell, Massachusetts, when 3-year-old Jaffet Perez, the child of an area resident, was struck and killed by a truck, members wanted to help.

"His family lived in low-income housing and could not afford funeral expenses," said David Register, coordinator. "Lowell police organized a fund-raiser for the Perez family, and members donated \$4,000. The police and community members were overwhelmed by the generosity of our people and expressed their gratitude personally and in the local newspaper."

Aboard the *SS Rotterdam* cruising the Alaskan coastline, members wrote notes of encouragement to a Filipino crew member whose 14-year-old son died. "Contributions totaling \$2,500 were presented to him before he flew home," said Mark



ON THE AIR—Mr. Tkach's message is beamed by satellite. [Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.]

McCulley, coordinator.

"Our friendliness and concern for all the crew made such an impression that several of them asked about the Church's teachings and inquired about literature," he said. "Some listened to services when they were off duty and, when we disembarked, they presented us with a card signed by every crew member thanking us

toward God, as happened in Africa and the Philippines.

In Jos, Nigeria, the fellowship and family spirit of Feastgoers caught the attention of residents and university students. By the middle of the Feast many asked to join in the worship services and activities. Some of them, longtime *Plain Truth* readers, now plan to attend services. They said they were surprised to find in their area the Church behind the magazine.

What was special about the Festival in Davao, Philippines, said coordinator Bermie Dizon, was the openness of services. "The fine example of our members led a number of the owners of the housing establishments to attend services. A vice mayor of a neighboring town also popped in to listen. They were impressed by the inspiring messages and the warmth of the brethren."

Public invited

Members of the public in Spokane, Washington, and Penticton, British Columbia, also attended services.

See Feast, page 2

1994 Feast of Tabernacles

Festival attendance	130,044
Festival sites	126

for a wonderful cruise."

Drawing people to God

Stimulating in others an interest in the things of God was also part of Mr. Tkach's Festival message. As Christ's ambassadors, our lives, now transformed by the righteousness of Jesus Christ, should draw people

Mr. Tkach sees Ohio church building linked to community needs

By Dale Schurter

DAYTON, Ohio—Comforting, encouraging and motivating summarize the comments describing Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's visit here Oct. 1.

The BAC 1-11 jet touched down at Dayton international airport Sept. 30. En route from the airport to the hotel, we went through historical Tipp City (Old Tippecanoe) to visit the WCG Building.

We are thankful to have a full-time church building, which enables us to display our name, a welcome message and time of services on a large marquis.

We were delighted to show Mr. Tkach and those accompanying him (Michael Rasmussen, Ellen Escat and Julie Stocker) this facility as it was set up for the May open house and weekly services.

The facility makes possi-

ble a local church and Dayton Festival site office, a 2,000-book library, storage and a variety of local church and outreach activities. Area

See Ohio, page 3



FULL-TIME CHURCH—Joseph W. Tkach and Dale Schurter in new church building. The Dayton church shares the building with another church in the area.



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

Love all-encompassing

I have received enthusiastic reports from around the world that this year's Feast of Tabernacles was indeed a Feast of unity! So many have reported that they have seldom felt such a sense of unity and brotherhood in Christ. Needless to say, I am deeply encouraged and excited about the continuing spiritual growth God grants us. For that is precisely why we are growing in unity. The Holy Spirit not only leads us into all truth, but also binds us together in peace and unity in Christ.

Holy Day offerings were up in the per-person average on every Holy Day. Such generosity is another reflection of the joy in Christ of God's people. Although total attendance was less than last year, it is clear that those who have chosen to follow Christ as he strengthens and renews his Church are indeed devoted and faithful. God often chooses to do more with a few faithful, who listen to him and obey him, than with many who are set in their ways and seek their own righteousness. So let me give a hearty *thank you* to all our members for their love of Christ and devotion to his work.

Love, of course, is essential in our relationships with God and with one another. Jesus made this clear when someone asked him which biblical command was the most important. This is the greatest commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with

See Personal, page 9

Sad footnote to ongoing Persian Gulf story

The threat of a renewed invasion of Kuwait by Iraq's Saddam Hussein brings to mind an experience I had on a flight from Amman, Jordan, to Istanbul, Turkey.

My wife, Barbara, and I had just observed the Feast of Tabernacles in Jordan. Along with about 40 other brethren on the plane, we were looking forward to a weeklong tour of biblical archaeological sites in western Turkey.

Seated in the same row on our plane was an Arab gentleman, his wife and two children. Halfway into the flight I asked the man where he was from. To my surprise, he replied, "Baghdad." He and his family, he



Worldwatch

GENE H. HOGBERG

explained, were on their way to Russia by way of Amman, Istanbul and thence by ship across the Black Sea. Their destination was Moscow.

The gentleman was a civilian official in Baghdad. Because of Iraq's close ties to the former Soviet Union, he had traveled there often. This trip to Moscow, however, was a sad one. Both his children and his wife were suffering from radiation sickness and he was taking them there for treatment.

During the 1991 Persian Gulf War, an American bomb by chance struck a building in Baghdad that housed a nuclear reactor. Radiation leakage poisoned the immediate surroundings, including the house in which his family lived.

At the urging of his father, his 10-year-old son showed

us his fingernails. They were flat, dark gray in color and appeared as if encrusted by salt. Also, his hair was beginning to fall out.

The boy's 5-year-old sister was showing signs of stunted growth. And the mother, though outwardly cheerful, suffered from chronic fatigue. Never before had my wife and I come face-to-face with the tragic consequences that war can have on civilians.

I told the gentleman that we would pray for his family's recovery. Grateful for my concern, he gave me his business card. I had no more of my own to give him, but my wife found a card in her wallet. If he ever got to America, she said to him, do call us. He rose from his seat and kissed her hand.

The experience was a good one for us: We need to be careful not to stereotype individuals from any nation, nor judge them in light of the government that may be in

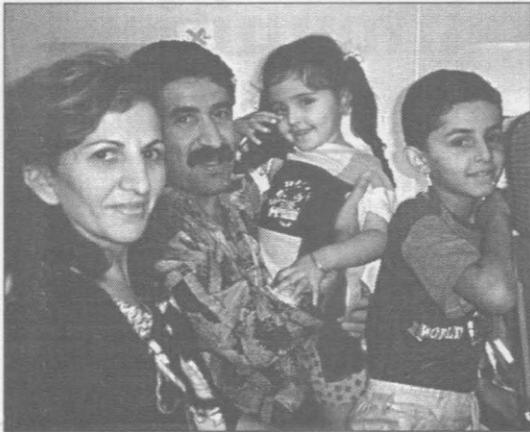
power at any given moment.

Interestingly, our new Iraqi friend said that he would have preferred to take his family to America for treatment, but this was impossible under present circumstances. The next best choice was Russia, which has gained much expertise in radiation therapy in light of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster.

Our encounter also reinforced the lesson we learn every year at the Feast, that it is possible for brethren representing different races and national backgrounds to assemble in harmony and love. This is possible by Jesus Christ living his life in each individual, making us spiritually like-minded.

For the nearly 200 of us gathered in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the experience was even more profound, as we assembled in an overwhelmingly Muslim nation. At the Feast we once again dwelt in peace and harmony for a brief period, despite prevailing conditions in the world around us, giving us a foretaste of the coming time when all peoples and nations will be able to do the same.

"On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces" (Isaiah 25:7-8).



CIVILIAN CASUALTIES—Iraqi official and family: unwitting victims of modern warfare. [Photo by Barbara Hogberg]

Feast: Members give to one another and on civic level

Continued from page 1

"We invited the public every day," said David Treybig, Spokane coordinator. "Ads, including the sermon topics for each day, were run in *The Spokesman-Review*. Guest speaker John Comino gave messages on 'What Is the Worldwide Church of God?' and 'Why We Observe the Feast' to answer visitors' questions. A lot of literature was handed out."

In Penticton, British Columbia, a newspaper article and ads invited people to services. Many members said they met visitors at services. One Church family invited an interested waitress to services.

Reaching out

All around the world, coordinators reported on the generosity of God's people. In Accra, Ghana, members donated soap, sugar, handmade dresses and toys to a children's hospital. During the year some members had visited children there. Staff members were grateful because the children will now have a play hour each day.

This was not possible before because there were no toys in the ward. Members also collected food and other items for prison inmates, much to the delight of the prison governor.

In Goslar, Germany, Feastgoers sponsored a benefit classical concert by the Ishizaka Trio. The proceeds, 3,500 DM (\$2,275), went to the Goslar Residents Fund, which assists needy individuals.

A highlight for members attending the Norfolk, Virginia, site was their project for the homeless and hungry, said Paul Suckling, coordinator. "Members donated \$8,500 and 2,982 pounds of food, which will provide about 33,900 meals for the hungry. The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia was thrilled."

When directors of The Bridge, a

youth crisis center in Fort Worth, Texas, were told that Feastgoers wanted to make a donation, they expected about \$500. "They were overwhelmed when the brethren donated \$6,879, plus two pickup loads of canned items, paper and bathroom products," said Vince Szymkowiak, coordinator.

In Corpus Christi, Texas, members donated food to a food bank and on family day, working with United Way of Coastal Bend, Coastal Bend Youth City and Ronald McDonald House,

paid admission costs for needy children and adults to area attractions.

Said Dana Stephens, communications manager for the Corpus Christi Area Convention and Visitors Bureau: "Not only do [your Church members] bring a very significant monetary impact to our community, but they also give back on a civic level. That's really to be commended."

Feastgoers at 42 sites listened to Mr. Tkach's message by satellite live. An additional 74 sites received a video recording.

Ambassador University applications available

Application packets for admission to Ambassador University for fall 1995 are available. A new application form has been printed. All applicants should request a new application packet for fall 1995 as the old forms are now out-of-date and should not be used.

The deadline for submitting applications for the fall 1995 semester is Feb. 1. Applications must be received by the Admissions Office in Big Sandy by then.

U.S. applicants may obtain application packets by writing to the Admissions Office, Ambassador University, Box 111, Big Sandy, Texas, 75755, or by calling 1-903-636-2190. Applicants should not use the Church's toll-free number.

International applicants (except from Canada and the Netherlands) may contact their regional offices with application requests. The requests will be forwarded by electronic mail to the Admissions Office.

SAT I test dates: The College Board ATP has released test dates for U.S. and international administration of the SAT I. (SAT I scores are required of prospective students with less than 30 semester hours of college-level course work.)

The following dates are Saturday tests. All Sunday SATs are administered the day after these dates: Nov. 5, Dec. 3 and Jan. 28. Other test dates (but too late for fall 1995 admission) are April 1, May 6 and June 3.

High school juniors and international applicants planning to apply to Ambassador for the fall 1996 semester may take the SAT I in the spring of 1995.

Registration information and forms for the above test dates are available from high school counselor offices or from the College Board ATP, Box 6200, Princeton, New Jersey, 08541-6200, or by calling 1-609-771-7588. Instructions for obtaining a Sunday administration are given in the SAT I registration brochure.

International applicants (except from Canada) may obtain SAT I registration information and forms from their regional offices. The Ambassador University Admissions Committee recommends that Ambassador applicants take the SAT I at the earliest possible date. The College Board requires six weeks to process SAT I registration for U.S. applicants and longer for international students.

Nina Y. Rogers
Registrar and director of admissions

Jnay Marlett
Associate director of admissions

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Feast of Tabernacles 1994

U.S. Feast of Tabernacles observed at 28 sites

By Thomas C. Hanson

"Even though the Feast is past, I still have a case of Feast fever," said evangelist Joseph Tkach Jr., director of Church Administration.

"For me to describe the Feast that my family and I enjoyed on the Alaskan cruise, I would have to combine my three most memorable Feasts to approximate this year's experience," Mr. Tkach said.

Mark McCulley, Festival Administration manager, added: "From the reports I've read, this year's Feast was encouraging, stirring and educational for the members. Since that is the goal the Festival coordinators and staff members have had all year, it's inspiring to see that it happened as we all planned and worked for. A big 'thank-you' should go to all those who made it come to pass."

Headquarters Feast

Members from at least 18 countries met for the Feast at Church headquarters in Pasadena, according to coordinator Leslie Schmedes.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach impressed on Feastgoers the need for personal evangelism, which translated into the collection of 1,000 pounds of food for the Salvation Army and Union Station, a homeless shelter.

Mr. Tkach's satellite message

Brethren keeping the Feast on the Alaskan cruise received Mr. Tkach's sermon on the Holy Day from a satellite dish on board the SS Rotterdam.

In San Jose, California, 23 shut-in members and others who couldn't travel to the Feast met in the home of Gary Helstrom, and watched Mr. Tkach's sermon downlinked to member Mark Zebrowski's portable satellite dish.

Lee Pettijohn, an engineer with the Church's Television Department in Pasadena, said five to 10 people called requesting satellite location information so it could be downlinked to a home receiver. "I gave them the name of the satellites and the transponder numbers, and they tuned it in as they would any other program," Mr. Pettijohn said. "On the day of the transmission we also received calls from others who happened to see our test slide, which has a phone number on it. They are not in the Church but just called in to say it was coming in OK."

Members serve Feast communities

Kona, Hawaii, Feastgoers gave more than \$2,000 to the Friends of the Center for Children's Advocacy,



Alaska Cruise Photo by Sheila Graham



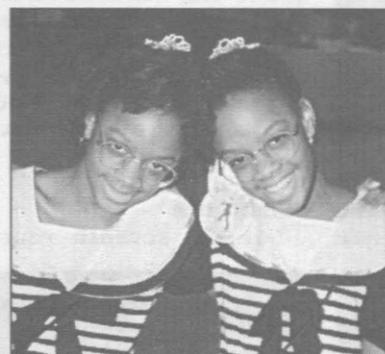
Tucson, Arizona Photo by J. Jacobs



Hot Springs, Arkansas Photo by Merle Pain



Niagara Falls, New York Photo by Hans Leitner



Norfolk, Virginia Photo by K. Pierce



Fort Worth, Texas Photo by Amy England

which serves abused and homeless children. "It's a small, but important way of our saying thanks to the community for their gracious hospitality," said coordinator Earl L. Roemer.

In Lexington, Kentucky, fundraising projects for charities consisted of a golf scramble, and a performance by Carl Hurley, an area storyteller and comedian, for an audience of Church and community members.

Jekyll Island, Georgia, Feastgoers donated items to Amity House (for battered women), Safe Harbor (for homeless children) and Humana House (run by the Salvation Army). Some visited nursing home residents.

"This gave us a chance to say thanks to the community for three decades of hospitality and friendship and to fulfill a little bit of Matthew 25," said coordinator Robert C. Jones.

County commissioner, thanked Dale Schurter, Dayton, Ohio, coordinator, for the opportunity to address members. "I enjoyed taking part in this special occasion marking the 15th year Dayton has been selected as a Festival site for this great celebration and a sneak preview of the kingdom of God," Mr. Curran said.

In Niagara Falls, New York, 14 city representatives gave coordinator George Hart a crystal plaque in honor of the 20th anniversary of the Feast in Niagara Falls.

Communities respond

Charles J. Curran, Montgomery

Alaska cruise	1,069
Anchorage, Alaska	1,046
Chattanooga, Tennessee	3,550
Corpus Christi, Texas	3,212
Dayton, Ohio	2,602
Daytona Beach, Florida	5,247
Eugene, Oregon	2,061
Fort Worth, Texas	2,493
Hot Springs, Arkansas	3,235
Jekyll Island, Georgia	2,656
Keystone, Colorado	1,534
Kona, Hawaii	773
Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri	4,446
Lexington, Kentucky	3,110
Lowell, Massachusetts	1,920
Niagara Falls, New York	4,235
Norfolk, Virginia	3,388
Palm Springs, California	2,382
Pasadena	2,326
Pensacola, Florida	7,055
Rapid City, South Dakota	4,139
Redding, California	1,692
St. Petersburg, Florida	4,073
Saratoga Springs, New York	1,622
Spokane, Washington	1,648
Tucson, Arizona	3,814
Vail, Colorado	2,189
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin	5,475

Member celebrates 75th Feast

By Reginald V. Killingley

Kassie Fackre, 84, celebrated the Feast for the 75th time this fall. Mrs. Fackre, a member of the Worldwide Church of God since 1984, has kept the Feast since 1920.

Mrs. Fackre's father, Edward Koszalka, came to the United States from Poland in 1908. Mr. Koszalka regularly read the Bible and, in 1919, came to the understanding that he and his family should keep the Sabbath.

Mr. Koszalka read the Bible to his family in Polish and English. "That's how we kept the Sabbath for years, by reading the Bible," said Mrs. Fackre.



Kassie Fackre

By 1920 the Koszalka family had begun to observe the New Testament Passover and the annual Holy Days. During that first Feast of Tabernacles, Kassie and her four younger siblings attended school during the week while their father stayed home from work. "But we didn't keep the Last Great Day because we didn't understand about it then," said Mrs. Fackre.

In September 1935 she married Saleem Fackre, a garment cutter from Lebanon whose father was Muslim and whose mother was Greek Orthodox. Mr. Fackre was impressed with the simplicity of his

wife's religious practice, and because of her example, he too started keeping the Sabbath and Holy Days.

The Fackres had two sons, Daniel in 1939 and John, now also a member, in 1945. In 1965 Mrs. Fackre began listening to Herbert W. Armstrong on the radio and was amazed to find someone else who understood the Sabbath and Holy Days. She became a co-worker at that time.

When Mr. Fackre died in 1982, his widow asked a Worldwide Church of God minister to conduct the funeral. This was her first direct contact with a Church representative.

This contact led, a year later, to her keeping the Feast in Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania.

"For the first time in my experience, thousands of us were keeping the Feast together. I was very happy," said Mrs. Fackre. Six months later she was baptized.

This year Mrs. Fackre kept the Feast in Lowell, Massachusetts, for the third year in a row. "I'm more excited than ever about the deeper understanding God has given me through his Church, and I look forward to keeping the Feast with greater understanding for many more years to come," she said.

Mrs. Fackre attends the Nassau, New York, church.

Members let lights shine in Jordan

By Joseph Locke

A search through ancient Roman ruins, a tour of Petra and a visit with the Queen were some of the events that Amman, Jordan, Feastgoers experienced.

People traveling to Amman to celebrate the Feast were joined by Cory Erickson, Ambassador Foundation project director, his wife, Colene, and 23 project volunteers.

Coordinator Joseph Locke said this was a golden opportunity to practice being an Ambassador, not only for Ambassador Foundation, but for Christianity in general, since

Jordan is a predominantly Islamic country.

The group had a private audience in the royal palace with Queen Noor. Members toured the schools where Ambassador students teach marketable skills to the disabled.

Feastgoers chose between exploring the ruins of ancient Pella, or floating in the Dead Sea. Next they visited the ancient Roman city of Jerash. They drove up to Mt. Nebo and, like Moses, saw the Promised Land.

Amman, Jordan	198
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Feast of Tabernacles 1994

25th anniversary celebrations warm up Canadians

By Bill Hall

VANCOUVER, British Columbia—"Contrary to popular belief, it gets warmer as you move north into Canada," said one transferring member describing his Feast experience. From all reports the weather was favorable,



Halifax, Nova Scotia

Photo by Matt Baker

especially in the western parts of the country. This was a special year for Canadians since it marked the 25th year for the Festival in Canada, beginning in 1969 with the opening of the Penticton, British Columbia, site.

Halifax

The Halifax site included members from the Caribbean, Ireland and a woman from Louisiana attending Halifax for her seventh year. Activities included a family dance, a variety show and several maritime *ceilis*, Gaelic events with traditional music and songs. Feastgoers served the community by giving more than 1,500 food items and cash to the Halifax-Dartmouth Food Bank.

Sherbrooke

For the seventh year,

French-speaking brethren met at this university city in Quebec's eastern townships. Sherbrooke, a two-hour drive from Montreal, is a favorite place for skiers and hill walkers.

This year all services were conducted in French with no translations, since English-speaking brethren attended the new site in Granby. Guests were Sam Kneller, a minister in the Paris church, his wife, Marilyn, and their children.

La Tribune, the area newspaper, featured two articles, one of which included a photo of brethren cleaning debris that had accumulated over 20 years at an abandoned copper mine. A television crew interviewed coordinator Colin Wilkins and featured comments about the Church.

The second article featured a photo montage of five members who answered the question: "Do you feel victimized where you live as a result of your religious convictions?" One young Feastgoer said: "No, not at all. People seem to be much more open-minded these days than in the past."

Granby

This was the first year for an English site in Quebec. Family day at Granby Zoo was combined with French-speaking brethren keeping the Feast in Sherbrooke.

Members enjoyed inspiring messages and special music. Guest speaker Don Lawson said, "I have been moved to tears more often at this Feast than in all the past 35 put together!" After

several sermons, members broke into applause.

Regina

Family day at an amusement park included miniature golf, go-karts and children's rides. Some of the ministers fell prey to the icy water of a dunk tank that raised funds for an inner-city youth center.

As well as the traditional activities of early morning ice hockey, the unseasonably warm weather allowed brethren to play softball and golf.

On the Last Great Day members donated 1,300 pounds of food and almost \$3,000 in cash to a food-bank.

Penticton

Summerlike temperatures graced Penticton's 25th anniversary as a Festival site. A family picnic was organized by the business community as a thank-you to the Church. Community volunteers served a delicious barbecue, while a band played and clowns entertained children.

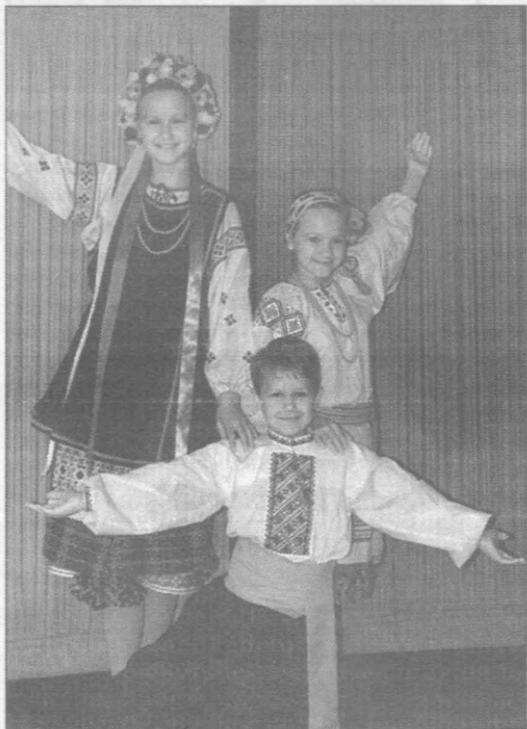
Victoria

Services were in the same venue as this summer's Commonwealth Games, the Memorial Arena.

Members responded to a much publicized shortage of foodstuffs in area food banks by donating large amounts of food to The Mustard Seed food bank.

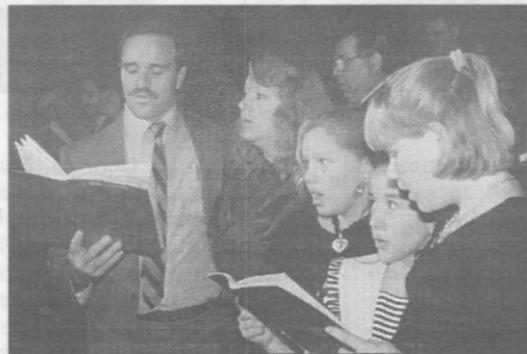
The theme of living the kingdom of God now in our lives permeated the Feast. "It's been a hopeful Feast," said minister Glen White, Clarkston, Washington, and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, pastor.

Halifax, Nova Scotia	1,067
Sherbrooke, Quebec	1,126
Granby, Quebec	939
Regina, Saskatchewan	1,638
Penticton, British Columbia	2,666
Victoria, British Columbia	2,087



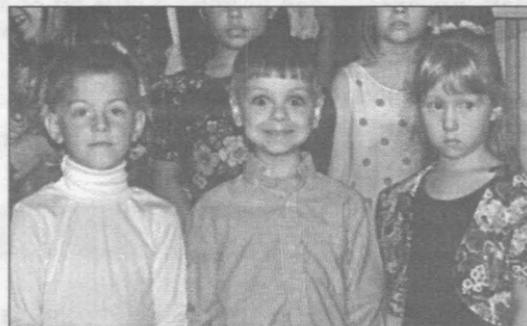
Regina, Saskatchewan

Photo by Leonard Johnson



Sherbrooke, Quebec

Photo by Georges Pilon



Penticton, British Columbia

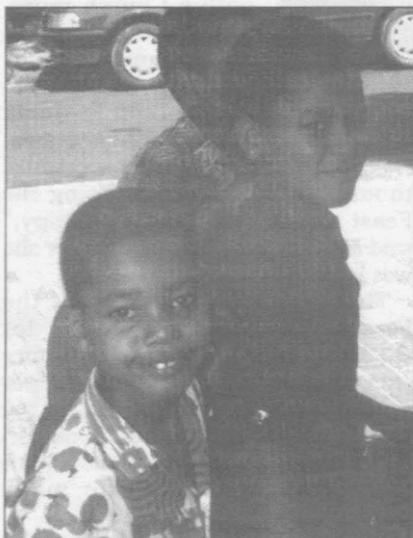
Photo by C. Ranchie

Unity keynote at Festival sites in Southern Africa

By Peter Hawkins

The most often mentioned feature of the Feast here was the sermons. Along with awe-inspiring settings, the spiritual food refreshed members and for some it reestablished their roots in the Church.

An additional high point was the response to assistance needed by Zambian brethren suffering from



Badplaas, South Africa

Photo by Steve Sertfontein

unemployment and inflation. Twice as much was donated as was needed, and the extra will be used next year.

Six of the eight sites were new, which made it possible for the Church to reach additional communities with the helpful examples.

Site summaries

Clear skies and beautiful beaches greeted Feastgoers in Amanzimtoti, Natal. Members were saddened by an accident that claimed the lives of member Joseph Thabeti, his wife and grandchild near Empangeni, Natal. They were returning from the Feast. An associate member, Veronica Mkwamuba, was seriously injured,



Strand, South Africa

Photo by William Thomas

and two of her children were killed. Another of Mrs. Mkwamuba's children escaped uninjured.

In Badplaas, 96 youths and adults strode into a game park stocked with rhinoceros and other non-flesh-eating animals.

In Buffelspoort, a hot-water resort in the Magaliesburg Hills, members visited the Lost City and Valley of the Waves at Sun City.

A spirit of harmony was evident at Strand, Western Cape, nestled between the Hottentots Holland Mountains and the Indian Ocean. The civic hall was graced by displays of South Africa's most famous flower, the protea. A ceremony by YOU members introduced the flags of 20 nations, symbolizing the worldwide Feast.

At Uvongo, Natal, a relaxed atmosphere allowed members to rejoice at the encouraging sermons. Some went deep-sea scuba diving or waterskiing. Feastgoers helped sponsor 45 senior citizens to a luncheon.

Mauritius, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Ten countries were represented at Flic-en-Flac, Mau-

ritius, an island known as the jewel of the Indian Ocean. Services took place in the Manisa Hotel. Across the road from the beach, it provided an ideal setting for family games and youth activities.

In Kafue, Zambia, the River Motel was host to most members who stayed on site, a rare opportunity for families from all parts of Zambia. Old and young shared meals and participated in the same activities. Feastgoers appreciated a cruise along the Kafue River. One service in the amphitheater of the Munda Wanga Botanical gardens was followed by a picnic and sports events.

Brethren met for the Feast at the Harare congress hall, part of the complex owned by ZANU (PF), Zimbabwe's ruling political party. Harare brethren who stayed at home entertained overseas visitors.

Amanzimtoti, South Africa	646
Badplaas, South Africa	427
Buffelspoort, South Africa	408
Strand, South Africa	775
Uvongo, South Africa	341
Flic-en-Flac, Mauritius	144
Kafue, Zambia	164
Harare, Zimbabwe	455

Feast of Tabernacles 1994

Family theme noted in picture-postcard Caribbean

By Charles B. Fleming

Hamilton, Bermuda

Feastgoers enjoyed bright blue skies and cool breezes for which Bermuda is famous. The picture-postcard setting provided an ideal backdrop for the Festival. Members expressed appreciation for the messages and the activities, which had family unity as their theme. On family day members cruised Hamilton Harbor and enjoyed a lunch and a stop at a dockyard for touring and shopping.

Paradise Island, Bahamas

Celebrating in Paradise were 563 brethren, who convened at the Radisson Grand Resort for the 18th consecutive Feast here.

Activities included a singles breakfast, a YES and YOU beach party and seniors luncheon. The family fun

day was a high point of the Feast, with most members attending. Members cruised to Blue Lagoon Island and enjoyed a wide range of water sports and beach activities.

Rose Hall, Jamaica

Jamaica coordinator Michael Mitchell said: "It is obvious that God's Spirit was present. Members were positive, upbeat and very supportive of Mr. Tkach. There was a spirit of love and unity. One outstanding feature was the overwhelming generosity of the visiting brethren."

Eight people were baptized during the Festival.

Grand Anse, Grenada

"One Spirit, one Body" sums up the close family togetherness experienced by some 180 Feastgoers at the Grenada Renaissance Resort.

At Grenada Night, local dishes were served, followed by local enter-

tainment. The family dance gave everyone a chance to celebrate in typical Caribbean style. Other activities included a hike around Grand Etang volcano (which is enjoying a rest between eruptions) and a tour of the island.

Richmond Vale, St. Vincent

Vincentian brethren, together with brethren from Barbados and Grenada, celebrated their first full Feast of Tabernacles in St. Vincent at the scenic Richmond Vale Academy. With everyone staying at the site, family togetherness was the order of the day. Highlights included a family day picnic at the beach, a hike to Trinity Falls and a children's party.

Morgan Bay, St. Lucia

In spite of extensive flooding just days before the Feast started, brethren had a spiritually uplifting time in St. Lucia. However, the flood-

See Caribbean, page 6

Paradise Island, Bahamas	563
Christ Church, Barbados	568
Hamilton, Bermuda	354
Fort Young, Dominica	118
Grand Anse, Grenada	180
Georgetown, Guyana	158
Rose Hall, Jamaica	1,036
Frenchman's Reef, St. Thomas	544
Morgan Bay, St. Lucia	228
Samaroo Village, Trinidad	776
Richmond Vale, St. Vincent	50

Far-flung French-speaking sites moved to respond, show concern

Evian, France

The mayor's welcoming speech was a premiere in France. His thoughts about the future of humanity showed that he shared our concern about the destiny of humankind. Brethren gave him a standing ovation. This event was covered by the regional newspaper, *Le Dauphinois Libéré*.

Mol, Belgium

Brethren principally from northern France and Belgium assembled here in the Flemish region of Belgium.

Activities included indoor aquatic sports and cycling tours. The Feast ended with a special homage to senior citizens. Each senior received a rose and Belgian chocolates.

Tartane, Martinique

The first service here was followed by a champagne welcome to visitors. Services took place in an open-walled

hall 50 yards from the beach. Activities included family day, a boat ride to islands, sailing and waterskiing for youths, and an exhibition of dances of the century. The last free afternoon was spent cleaning up a beach in cooperation with the area town hall.

Saint Francois, Guadeloupe

Brethren participated in a beach family day, games and a spicy *mechoui* and danced to the sound of a steel band. U.S. brethren had to leave their hotel early to avoid blockades on the road by striking bus drivers.

Evian, France	651
Kinshasa, Zaire	138
Knolbisson, Cameroon	254
Kpalime, Togo	157
Mol, Belgium	491
Martinique	348
Saint Francois, Guadeloupe	239

Reorganized but peaceful Feast in Haiti

By Joseph Blaise Franklin

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti—Thanks to God, we celebrated the Feast in peace of mind and spirit. Our group of 73 met in our usual meeting hall during the eight days, rejoicing in the powerful and reassuring protection of our heavenly Father.

Two weeks before the Feast we were living in uncertainty. The American invasion seemed imminent and desolation was everywhere. Nevertheless, we went ahead with our plans in the hope that God would do something.

Our prayers were answered. The troops made a "soft" landing, leaving neither dead nor wounded. This wasn't only an answer to our prayers but also to brethren overseas. We are grateful.

As a precaution, we canceled opening night services, and on the first day we conducted the service in the morning instead of the afternoon. We had nine sermons, some on audio and videotape, and seven sermonettes. The church was filled with joy, a genuine joy coming from the Holy Spirit working in people who were disappointed but content, especially that the Feast had been made possible.

We had negotiated with a restaurant to cater the meals during the Festival, but on the first day when we arrived at noon to eat, the receptionist returned the check we had given them five days earlier. She said the proprietors were away and had left the check to tell us they weren't able to serve such a large group.

I rushed to make telephone calls to obtain, first, 43 meals in one restaurant, 20 in another and 10 in a third. I should mention, too, that we managed all of this to the accompaniment of the noise of American helicopters and warplanes streaking across the sky above our heads.

With God's help, we were also able to reorganize all the activities to be conducted inside—none took place outdoors this year. The essential, however, is to honor God and his Feast, and for that there were no limitations.

We are thankful for the prayers of all the people of God.

Joseph Blaise Franklin is a local church elder in Haiti. Port-au-Prince, Haiti—73

Rwandan refugees keep Feast in Zaire

GOMA, Zaire—Rwandan refugees met here for the Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement and the first and last days of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Thirty-one people, half of whom were children, met in a modest dwelling in the cemented central area of a house. Although the weather was hot and there were some technical difficulties with a tape player, services took place in peace, safety and rejoicing. Brethren ate together and expressed their deep devotion through the collection of an offering totaling about \$5 on each Holy Day.

For the past few months some of these families have lived in the dwelling where services took place. In September the group was separated to live in other dwellings to avoid disease, and to have less cramped living quarters.

Sadly, we have unconfirmed news of the murder of one member and his daughter who returned to Rwanda. The Tutsis, who are now in charge in Rwanda, are allowing farmers and some manual laborers to reenter the country because they need help in rebuilding. However, more educated citizens and teachers are not given the same priority. Schools have not been reopened, and they still do not know when they may return.

Goma, Zaire—31



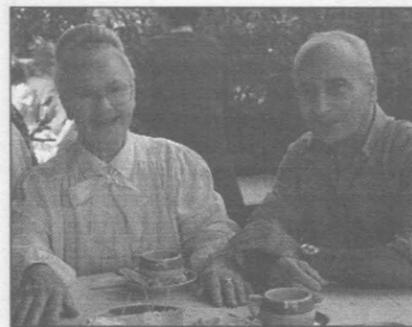
CLOSE-KNIT GROUP—One-room cabin on the edge of the Goma refugee camp in which three church families (Rwandans) have been living for several months. About 35 people gather here for informal services on Sabbaths and Holy Days. [Photo by Bernard Andrist]

Italy, Malta: historic happenings

Fiuggi, Italy

Italians and transfers who gathered in Fiuggi, Italy, enjoyed tours to Rome and Pompeii, a city that disappeared after the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79.

Several area residents attended



Fiuggi, Italy

Photo by M. Reyngoud

some of the Festival services. Services were in Italian and some in English with translations into English and Italian.

San Anton, Malta

More than 300 people attended the Feast here. Activities included a family day with a beach barbecue, a harbor cruise and trips to places of interest.

At the family dance a ballet group performed Maltese folk dances, and senior citizens were presented with gifts by two Maltese members dressed in traditional costumes.

Fiuggi, Italy	520
San Anton, Malta	302

Feast of Tabernacles 1994

Old, new sites rejoice from Asia to New Zealand

By Aub Warren

BURLEIGH HEADS, Australia—“Nothing like this has ever happened before,” said Roy Wakefield, president of the Merimbula, New South Wales, Lions Club, as he took delivery of several thousand dollars' worth of food donated by Feastgoers in Merimbula. Similar comments were heard at other sites where donations were made to community organizations serving the needy.

Food collections were begun last year in Australia and New Zealand. It was one way in which members heeded Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's Festival card admonition to “let Jesus live his life in you as you extend his peace and joy to others.”

In Ulladulla, New South Wales, a concert for Over 60s was developed as a combined effort of the Church and the community. Marking the 10th year the Feast has been conducted in the seaside family resort town, area performers were joined by Church members in a concert open to all senior citizens in the area.

Perth, Western Australia, Feastgoers donated the use of the Cockburn Civic Centre, which the Church had booked for the duration of the Feast, to the Western Australia Paraplegic Association one evening so the association could conduct a fund-raising activity. The association, which employs 200 disabled people and nurses 100, was in need of a hall.

Asian culture

Local culture was shared at many sites in Asia and the Pacific Islands.

In Langkawi, Malaysian brethren celebrated the Feast in their country once again (it has been conducted in Phuket, Thailand, for the past two years) and extended hospitality to members from 12 nations.

Visitors to the new site in Mae Sot, Thailand, appreciated the hospitality of the Karen members, who invited them into their homes. Visitors also saw various aspects of the Ambassador Foundation Development Project. Other cultural experiences included tours to the Kaw Maw Li Kho refugee camp, where many friends of Karen members live, and shopping along the Moei River, which borders Myanmar (Burma).

In Beruwala, Sri Lanka, the Sri Lankan Tea Board introduced visitors to the country's most famous

export by providing a free tea tasting during family day activities.

In Port Vila, Vanuatu, members sponsored an evening of Melanesian food (cooked in earth ovens) and dancing at the chiefs' Nakamal, the National Council of Chiefs' meeting house. Coordinator Rex Morgan was interviewed by Radio Vanuatu about the Church.

“A few years ago the mood in Vanuatu was strongly against any overseas religions entering the country,” said Mr. Morgan. “But the mood has changed in recent years, and when the religious program director of Radio Vanuatu heard about the Feast this year, he asked to interview me.”

In Tonga 75 members from six nations enjoyed activities that included an island cruise, historical sites tour, traditional feast (cooked underground) and family day, in the slow-paced island atmosphere, which they came to know as Tonga time.

In Nadi, Fiji, a similarly idyllic island atmosphere and “eight days of delightfully warm tropical attitudes” greeted Feastgoers at the Tokatoka Resort Hotel, according to D'Arcy Watson, visiting minister from Australia. “The Fijian choir, which presented many items, was simply outstanding and visitors constantly remarked at their magnificent harmony,” Mr. Watson added.

Harmony was a hallmark in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, according to coordinator Tim Grauel. One Feastgoer said that “the fellowship here is all by itself one big sermon about God's love and mercy, and his desire to share this with all peoples.”

The Feast is the sole opportunity members there have to fellowship together.

New facilities

Brethren in the Solomon Islands enjoyed the new Foreign Fisheries Conference Centre in Honiara. Completed at a cost of one million Australian dollars, it features Vasa wood (a type of rosewood) and overlooks the ocean and the World War II site, Iron Bottom Sound. The facilities offer a room with remote-operated headphones, which meant that sermons could be translated into Roviana, the language of the Western Provinces.

The stately Hobart Town Hall in Tasmania, Australia, provided an atmosphere of beauty and grandeur, as the Feast was conducted in that facility for the first time in 10 years.

The hall's pipe organ, played by two Church members, added a resonance and depth to the hymn singing.

The Feast returned to Taupo, the location for the first Festival in New Zealand in 1969, for the first time since 1974. The Great Lake Convention Centre was the hub for activities including river cruises, helicopter and floatplane flights, snow skiing, and trout fishing in the snow-fed waters of Lake Taupo.

Fellowship and activities

Adelaide, South Australia, Feastgoers took a bus tour of the Hahndorf area, one of the earliest settlements in Adelaide, established by a group of German Lutherans. A bus tour for Over 60s finished with tea on the veranda of historic Ayers House.

In Bangalore, India, a day tour to Mysore included a visit to the zoo. Members carried baby gorillas, petted a rhinoceros and posed for photos alongside a white tiger.

Visitors to Hervey Bay, Queensland, enjoyed cruises that took them close to humpback whales making their annual migration south. Hervey Bay is a mecca for whalewatchers.

Bush dances were popular activities at Gosford, New South Wales, and Hervey Bay. In Gosford the dance included a didgeridoo blowing demonstration and competition. The didgeridoo is an Australian

aboriginal wind instrument made from a long piece of thick bamboo pipe.

Gold Coast, Queensland, singles enjoyed a cruise and Polynesian dinner on Stradbroke Island, while pre-YOU-age children played games.

The Feast in Christchurch, New Zealand, which took place within walking distance of Hagley Park and the Botanic Gardens, is bordered on one side by the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Alps on the other. Feastgoers visited Mt. Cook, Milford Sound, Queenstown, ski fields and glaciers.

Adelaide, Australia	533
Caloundra, Australia	856
Gold Coast, Australia	986
Gosford, Australia	578
Hervey Bay, Australia	676
Hobart, Australia	253
Merimbula, Australia	486
Perth, Australia	587
Ulladulla, Australia	576
Taupo, New Zealand	750
Christchurch, New Zealand	222
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	72
Honiara, Solomon Islands	91
Port Vila, Vanuatu	135
Nadi, Fiji	274
Nuku'alofa, Tonga	77
Langkawi, Malaysia	384
Beruwala, Sri Lanka	136
Bangalore, India	230
Mae Sot, Thailand	76
Sa Khan Gyi, Myanmar	30*
Kya In, Myanmar	30*

*estimate

Denver singles hosts for winter weekend

DENVER, Colorado—Colorado singles invite other singles to a winter weekend Dec. 22 to 26 at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch near Winter Park, Colorado, in the Rocky Mountains.

Cost is \$155 per person (excluding transportation) and includes four nights lodging, eight meals, use of a gymnasium and equipment, indoor swimming pool, sauna, roller-skating rink and outdoor ice-skating. Nordic and downhill skiing and other activities are available at extra cost.

Space is limited. Send a nonrefundable \$25 deposit as soon as possible to Gary Flesner, 8525 Moore Ct., Arvada, Colorado, 80005-4723, telephone 1-303-421-7707 to reserve a spot.

Women's Club raises funds

RIVERSIDE, California—The Riverside Women's Club conducted its second fund-raiser, Hearts of Gold, for the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House Aug. 7 at the Ontario Hilton Hotel.

This year's luncheon and auction, coordinated by Mitzie Farmer, club program director, included keynote speaker Marita Littauer, author of *Homemade Memories* and *Giving Back* and coauthor along with her mother, Florence Littauer, of *The Personality Puzzle*. Auctioneer Joseph Horchak auctioned 50 items, including hotel stays, meals, local attraction tickets and two airline tickets. More than \$4,000 was raised.

The Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House will provide temporary housing for up to 18 families of critically ill children. *Deena L. Murray.*

Caribbean

Continued from page 5

ing left some challenges. A high point was the children's choir performance.

Fort Young, Dominica

“The highlight of the Feast was the people,” said a visiting member. Host brethren introduced visitors to the culture and cuisine of Dominica.

Samaroo Village, Trinidad

The Festival took place in the new church building in Samaroo Village in Arima. “Though the building is unfinished,” said coordinator Patrick Fearon, “the members enjoyed a feeling of contentment and of relaxation that is hard to find in a rented hall.”

Frenchman's Reef, St. Thomas

This first-time site in the U.S. Virgin Islands features a well-developed resort, and brethren took advantage of activities and tours.

Christ Church, Barbados

Activities included a dinner cruise along the island's west coast, the Festival ball, family day and picnics for youths. Family day included a steel band, games and Bajan cuisine.

Georgetown, Guyana

Some attending here had to travel down rivers in canoes, walk for miles to a bus route, ride for hours on the bus to a river, wait for the barge and, after a long barge ride, walk to another bus line that went to Georgetown.

Some who traveled by plane because there are no roads into their area could not bring their whole families because of the cost. All were so hungry for spiritual food they wanted Bible studies as well as the sermons. Everyone turned out for family day, swimming, soccer and a barbecue.

1994 Big Apple Singles Dinner Dance

The Big Apple singles dinner dance is back. Dine on prime rib and dance under the New York City skyline with hundreds of fellow singles at the Terrace on the Park Dec. 24. The cost is \$46 (less than two years ago). A disc jockey will play all types of dance music, including bebop, Latin, big band and reggae.

Join us for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Mail this reservation form along with your check to the address below. The deadline is Dec. 12. Make checks payable to the Queens Activity Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone: _____

Dinner dance: number of tickets _____ x \$46 = _____

Bus tour: number of tickets _____ x \$19 = _____

Total _____

Mail to: Walter Dolengo, 157-29 11th Ave., Whitestone, New York 11357-1918, telephone 1-718-767-9149.

Feast of Tabernacles 1994

U.K. and Africa sites share warmth, camaraderie

By Irene Wilson

BOREHAMWOOD, England—A happy, relaxed atmosphere enhanced by sunny days greeted Feastgoers at sites administered by the office here.

England

For the fourth year the southern coastal town of Bournemouth was host to Feastgoers who took organized trips and attended a senior citizens afternoon tea dance and performance by illusionist Richard Griffin.

In Paignton, activities included sports, roller-skating, 10-pin bowling, horseback riding, a theater trip, coach trips, a zoo trip and children's parties. The mayor of Paignton gave a reception during one of the dances, and the Church donated to charities. Audio tapes of services were provided for more than 200 people unable to attend, and sermon transcripts and large-print hymn transcripts were provided.

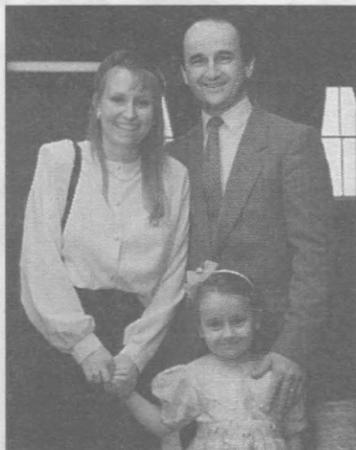
In Scarborough, activities included 10-pin bowling, a water sports afternoon, a senior citizens tea dance and a medieval banquet. At a civic reception by the area council, the mayress of Scarborough described the Church members as being "delightful people." She was impressed by our young people.

Kenmare, Irish Republic

Members and families received a warm Irish welcome in County Kerry, a ninth-time site. Activities included bus trips along the scenic Ring of Kerry, excursions to Killarney, cruises along the Kenmare River, children's parties, treasure hunts and a mystery tour for senior citizens. Also popular was an Irish musical banquet and an evening concert featuring Church instrumentalists and singers.

Llandudno, Wales

Highlights were a male choir, a visit to a Welsh slate mine and a medieval banquet. Jon Buck, Festival



Llandudno, Wales Photo by Chris Bryan



Naro Moru, Kenya Photo by T. Van Acker



Blantyre, Malawi Photo by Bill Whitaker



Accra, Ghana Photo by Theo Okai



Bournemouth, England Photo by David Ashton-Hilton

coordinator, said he felt an especially relaxed atmosphere prevailed throughout the Feast.

Idre Fjall, Sweden

This year the satellite transmission here was live. The site, mainly attended by Scandinavian members, welcomed 11 Estonians and many American visitors. Activities such as hikes and nature walks took advantage of the beauty of the Swedish mountains.

Accra, Ghana

Cultural entertainment provided

by members proved a true bridge builder with young people and old dancing together. Other activities included a beach party and a family day on a farm.

Blantyre, Malawi

Scenic countryside and varied wildlife greeted Feastgoers here. Services were in the Church's own building. Overseas guests delighted in the safe streets and enjoyed vendors selling carvings and souvenirs.

On family day, members enjoyed an unexpected blessing: an aircraft chartered to fly brethren to Lake Malawi for a day of water sports was unable to collect them for their return trip. Air Malawi arranged for accommodations in one of Malawi's best lakefront hotels that included dinner and breakfast for the entire group.

Nigeria

For the first time in Benin, most of the brethren attending the Feast at the auditorium of the Motel Benin Plaza came from their homes within the city. Political instability and the economic crises that plagued the nation a few weeks before the Feast affected attendance.

However, the Festival was a joyous celebration and members felt encouraged. During a cultural evening all age groups entertained with songs, drama, stories and skits.

The Festival, conducted for a second time at Pinewood Hotel in Owerri, was a success although about a month before the Feast political uncertainties and economic crises cast doubt on how many members would attend. Brethren enjoyed games, fun and free meals at Kedeni Park, and a cultural and talent show.

Brethren attending in Lagos made history by observing the Festival in their own hall built this year. For nearly three months before the Feast, Nigerian brethren experienced one of the worst political and economic crises in the nation's history. As if that were not enough, armed robbers broke into the hall on the eve of the Festival of Trumpets and stole equip-

ment and machinery.

Despite these setbacks, members rejoiced. Activities included a children's party, a boat cruise and beach party, all blessed with perfect weather in what is the rainy season.

Brethren in Jos visited wildlife parks within two hours' drive of the site and exhibits of Nigerian terracotta and full-scale models of chieftains, warriors, palaces and sultans at the National Museum.

Kenya

Under tropical skies, those in Mombasa celebrated with plenty of free time for families to plan activities and spend time together. Kenyan members organized a family sports day.

The Naro Moru site, just a short distance from the equator, is adjacent to Mt. Kenya. A high point was a tea dance organized by brethren from the church in Kibirichia.

Tororo, Uganda

Near the Kenya-Uganda border is the small town of Tororo, where Ugandans enjoyed the Feast. Ugandans rarely have international guest speakers, so they were delighted to receive Andre van Belkum, South Africa regional director, and George Delap, who pastors churches in Scotland. Ugandans sent their gratitude to Scottish brethren for the famine-relief funds they sent last year.

Crisp weather graces German sites

By Paul Kieffer

Bonndorf and Goslar were hosts to brethren from more than 20 nations for the Festival in Germany.

Sunny and crisp fall weather allowed brethren to enjoy the beautiful scenery provided by the Harz Mountain area near Goslar and the Black Forest around Bonndorf.

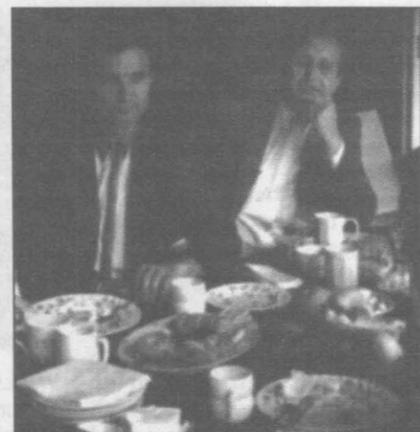
Activities at both sites included a senior citizens luncheon, family day, a YOU ice-skating party and a trip to the largest indoor water adventure park in Europe (near Zurich).

Concerts were also presented at both sites. In Bonndorf the Pirna Symphony Orchestra presented a concert with works by German and Austrian masters Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

Members of the children's choir, directed by Annette Riffner, performed special music in services on youth day, then sang for 110 senior citizens. They also sang for the senior citizens home in Bonndorf.

The announcement of our decision to find a new, more centrally located site beginning in 1996 provoked a number of positive comments at both sites. Articles in the press demonstrated the impact members have had here over the years.

Visitors on the Last Great Day in Bonndorf included Vasyl Mondich from Khust, Ukraine, vice chairman of the Sabbatarian federation in the former East Bloc, together with other Ukrainian Sabbatarians. Mr. Mondich spoke in afternoon services on the Last Great Day.



Goslar, Germany Photo by Susan Earle

Bonndorf	661
Goslar	478

Bournemouth, England	737
Paignton, England	1,238
Scarborough, England	909
Llandudno, Wales	639
Kenmare, Ireland	440
Idre Fjall, Sweden	273
Accra, Ghana	606
Blantyre, Malawi	211
Lagos, Nigeria	322
Benin, Nigeria	139
Owerri, Nigeria	277
Jos, Nigeria	198
Naro Moru, Kenya	195
Mombassa, Kenya	221
Tororo, Uganda	180

Feast of Tabernacles 1994

Spanish-speaking sites lit by the fire of service

By Don Walls

BIG SANDY—From the warm tropics to the cooler temperate zones, Feastgoers gathered for a rejuvenating and uplifting Feast in 13 sites across the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking region. One of the most frequent observations by coordinators was the outstanding spirit of service that prevailed among the brethren.

Mario Seiglie, coordinator in Chile, commented on "the notable increase in the willingness to serve during the Feast, whether helping with meal preparation, setting up for services or assisting the elderly, the disabled or those who were attending the Feast for the first time." The attitude of outgoing concern helped make the Feast an inspiring and profitable experience.

In El Salvador, the tiny Central American nation torn with violence for so many years, brethren of 11 nationalities blended together as one for a profoundly moving Feast. Herbert Cisneros, coordinator and pastor of the churches in El Salvador and Honduras, reported that "the spirit of peace, joy and brotherhood that reigned throughout the Feast showed how the fires of racial strife and nationalism that are so common in this part of the world can be utter-



Puerto Vallarta, Mexico



Photo by Javier Flores San Salvador, El Salvador

ly extinguished."

He added, "Cheers, tears, shouts, whistles, smiles, hugs and kisses were among the many expressions that characterized a colorful Feast of love in San Salvador."

From Peru, coordinator Wilfredo Saenz said that one of the priorities this year was to make sure children and young people enjoyed the Feast and genuinely felt like part of the Church.

In Spain one visiting couple commented: "We were particularly impressed by the way the children are such an integral part of every activity, which we noticed by the consideration and attention given to our daughter."

Activities included banquets in honor of the senior citizens, family day, dances, Spokesman Club graduations and ladies nights, deep-sea fishing and excursions to beaches, parks and archaeological and historical sites.

Favorite activities were the talent and variety shows at each site. Again this year audiences were treated to a delightful array of regional, national and international presentations.

Feastgoers throughout the region felt that the Feast was a truly peaceful and unifying experience. Mes-



Villa Carlos Paz, Argentina



Photo by Alberto Sousa Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

sages concentrated on the Festival's spiritual meaning, looking forward to the time when the knowledge of God will inundate the earth and all humanity will receive salvation.

Hector Barrero, coordinator in Colombia, summed up the 1994 Feast experience. "There were plenty of activities so everyone could be

involved in the Feast. There was peace, harmony and love among the brethren, and the Feast was a success because everyone wanted to cooperate and help in every activity. That success was not the result of the efforts of any one person, but of the combined efforts of everyone, working together in harmony as a family."

Villa Carlos Paz, Argentina	389
Maitencillo, Chile	482
Melgar, Colombia	182
Liberia, Costa Rica	141
San Salvador, El Salvador	247
Quetzaltenango, Guatemala	430
Ensenada, Mexico	163
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico	977
Veracruz, Mexico	236
Trujillo, Peru	250
Parador El Guajataca, Puerto Rico	77
Talavera de la Reina, Spain	224
Barquisimeto, Venezuela	118

Feast still special over the years

By Gerrie Belo

HOOGEVEEN, Netherlands—"This is our second Feast in Hoogeveen and it's even warmer and better than last year," said Nettie Staal, 68, a member who attends the Zwolle church. "We know more people now, so it feels more or less like a big reunion with close friends."

Mrs. Staal and her husband, Jan, 69, started attending Church 18 months ago. On the Sabbath during the Feast they were baptized. Said Mrs. Staal: "We hadn't told anyone, so when our minister announced it the next day everyone in the auditorium responded with a surprised 'aaah.' That gave us a great feeling, we are really part of the family now."

Lien De Ridder, 17, attends the Antwerp, Belgium, church with her parents and younger brother. This was her 13th Feast. "It's funny, but the Feast is still different every year," she said. "When I was a kid, I especially liked the activities and the presents. Now I think more and more about the meaning of the Feast. I am more serious about the Church and talk a lot about it with my parents. This Feast I tried to pray regularly and paid more attention during services."

To Wim Wilms, a member who attends the Eindhoven church, the Feast is still special, even after 30 years. "This year I shared my bungalow with three other guys. Two of them I hardly knew, but they turned out to be really great people." Mr. Wilms was also one of the masters of ceremonies for the Festival talent show. "It was great to work together with others, to try with them to make a good show and perform this at the Feast."

For Hans de Moei, a local elder, and his wife, Denise, this year's Feast was an especially joyous time. "Our first child was about to be born, so we had to stay home," Mr. de Moei said, "because our midwife didn't give my wife permission to travel." Halfway through the Feast, Sept. 22, their daughter Yvonne was born.

Activities at the Dutch site included a dance, a seniors dinner, an organ concert, youth day and a performance by a Dutch band called Captain Gumbo, which played New Orleans-style Cajun music. The four Dutch congregations put on a memorable talent show with the participation of young and old.

Hoogeveen, Netherlands

514

Ohio: historic visit by pastor general

Continued from page 1

brethren turned an old hardware store and lumberyard into a comfortable and serviceable church building. The Dayton congregation also shares the building with another church.

On the Sabbath about 575 brethren and friends met at the Dayton Downtown Convention Center Theater and heard a wonderfully comforting, question-answering, warm, yet powerful and heartfelt message from Mr. Tkach.

He explained clearly Christ's teachings through the Church that salvation is certainly not by works but a gift from God to everyone who fully believes in and accepts the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who repents, is baptized and then confirms one's conversion and faith through the example of performing good works that demonstrate love.

Mr. Tkach received a personal letter of welcome and appreciation on behalf of Michael R. Turner, Dayton mayor, for the Church's service to the Dayton area. The mayor also gave Mr. Tkach a plaque depicting Dayton history.

After services Mr. Tkach shook hands and visited with everyone for an hour or so and posed for pictures with all requesters. He was a real friend to his extended church

family in the Dayton and Tipp City congregations. Brethren expressed their thanks and affection to Mr. Tkach.

Mr. Tkach was also host at a meeting with elders, deacons, deaconesses and spouses.

Dale Schurter pastors the Dayton and Tipp City, Ohio, churches.



WELCOME DISPLAY—Dale and Mona Schurter flank Joseph W. Tkach in front of the church building and marquis announcing Sabbath services in the Dayton, Ohio, community.

Feast of Tabernacles 1994

Philippine sites share two decades of closeness

By Eleazar Flores

MANILA, Philippines—The new understanding on the nature of God helped members attending Filipino sites to spiritually rejoice before God during the Feast. This is the general observation of William J. Sidney, regional director.

Overflowing with joy

In a warm welcome to Feastgoers, Baguio Mayor Mauricio Domogen acknowledged the impact of the Church in the development of Baguio as a tourist destination and in the city's spiritual renewal and education.

Festival celebrations have taken place in Baguio, the biggest site in the country, for more than two decades. This year's Feast was a joyous family reunion of worship, service and caring among brethren. International guests came from Australia, Canada and the United States.

Enjoying the Feast

Just like last year, services at the Cagayan de Oro site took place at the Limketkai Cinema 4 of the Limketkai Shopping Center complex. Since many members from the Bukidnon congregations cannot speak and understand English, we provided a simultaneous translation into the Cebuano dialect.

Brethren attended family activities and a cultural tour to the Museo de Oro and the Macahambus Cave, both in the city.

At the Philippines' southernmost site, Davao, brethren enjoyed perfect weather and exotic fruits. All were impressed by the inspiring messages and warmth of the brethren.

A smooth Feast

The site in Cebu City took place in the beautiful and comfortable ballroom of the Cebu Plaza Hotel, one of the city's five-star hotels. The high-



Davao, Philippines



Cagayan de Oro, Philippines



Baguio, Philippines



Cebu, Philippines

light of the Feast was ice-skating on youth day.

Giving in face of calamity

Cafe Valenzuela in Guiguinto, Bulacan, was the site assigned for congregations in Pampanga, Olongapo, Malolos, Manila South, San Pablo, Calapan and Batangas. Brethren from nearby areas kept the Feast in Bulacan because of its proximity to Metro Manila.

Evangelist Richard Rice and Robert Dick, pastor of the Seattle and Federal Way, Washington, churches, gave encouraging messages.

Because of heavy rains in Pampanga during the Feast, lahar or mudflows more than five feet high

wrought havoc in the towns of Bacolor and Porac and areas close by where some of our brethren live. Roads became impassable, and some commuting members slept in temporary lodging offered by the brethren.

Enjoyable site in cleanest city

At Puerto Princesa City, known as the cleanest city in the Philippines, brethren enjoyed the spiritual and physical activities.

The city is known for its many beautiful tourist spots. Topping them all is the eight-kilometer underground river. Some brethren made this a highlight of their Feast in Puerto Princesa.

Vibrant new site

At Naga, a new site this year in the

heart of the Bicol region, fair weather prevailed although the region is normally visited by typhoons this time of year.

The people were "very responsive and vibrant," remarked Mr. Sidney. Almost a third of the Feastgoers transferred from other area churches.

Brethren were pleased with the messages because they further clarified our doctrinal positions.

Bulacan, Philippines	823
Baguio, Philippines	1,761
Cagayan de Oro, Philippines	1,079
Puerto Princesa, Philippines	331
Davao, Philippines	557
Cebu, Philippines	661
Naga, Philippines	460

Personal: Loving God should occupy us 100 percent of the time

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all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:36-38).

With every ounce of our being, with every moment of our time, we should love the Lord. Every action and every thought should be done in the context of love for God, and done for his glory. Our relationship with God ought to be characterized by love. Everything we do should be motivated by love for God.

God is love, and his children ought to love, too. Therefore, the second-greatest commandment is, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (verse 39). If we love God, we will obey him, including his laws about how to treat others.

"All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (verse 40). The entire Bible is built on these two basic commands. They encompass all other laws. Other laws tell us how we can apply the most basic principle, love, in our relationships with God and other humans. We cannot underestimate the importance of love.

Jesus emphasized the importance of these love commands. Luke tells us that a scholar asked Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

(Luke 10:25). Jesus asked him what the law said, and the man repeated the two greatest commandments. "You have answered correctly," Jesus said. "Do this and you will live" (verse 28).

If we love God with all our heart and mind, we will live. If that occupies us 100 percent of the time, we will inherit eternal life.

However, no one is able to keep these commandments perfectly. Jesus did, of course, but no one else can. And yet Jesus tells us to be perfect, to love perfectly, just as God does (Matthew 5:43-48). Since we all fall short, God, by his grace, imputes the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ to us. We are counted as righteous because of Christ's perfect righteousness and his death on our behalf.

But the fact of having the perfect righteousness of Christ imputed to us does not mean we do not have to obey the commandments. They are not done away or abolished. They remain as standards that all Christians ought to strive to meet. These commandments describe the fundamental basis and proper motive for all righteous relationships. When we fall short of these requirements, we sin, and we need forgiveness.

The law therefore leads us to Christ.

The law defines righteousness, and it is by the law that we know that we have fallen short and sinned. The law convicts us of sin and condemns us to death. This forcefully shows us our need for mercy and grace. The good news, the gospel, is that grace is available, made possible by Jesus Christ.

After we have received grace, the law continues to define righteous behavior, and it is therefore a guide for Christian life and sanctification.

We have all broken the law and, without grace, we'd be condemned to die, even if we could live obediently from now on. Therefore, without grace, we would have no motive for keeping the law. We'd have no future except death, and life would be hopeless and pointless.

However, grace gives us hope and reason to live obediently. Grace encourages us to keep the law. Grace is given not to those who deserve it, but to people who deserve punishment. None of us deserves grace. Rather, it is a free gift of God that we could never earn or deserve. None of us are worthy of this favor or blessing.

But God shows us great favor. Even while we were enemies, he sent his Son to die for us. This is the greatest

gift, and it is given as the solution for the fact that we have broken the greatest commandment. God's generosity toward us gives us reason to love him. In grateful devotion, we give our lives in willing service to God, knowing that our life and obedience are not in vain.

We have been rescued from death and, through no goodness of our own, have been given eternal life—and this life is in the Son of God (1 John 5:11)! The more we realize that we deserve death, the more we are thankful for God's grace, and the more we are willing to live for him. As we realize what a tremendous price Christ paid to redeem us, we realize how destructive sin is, and we want to avoid it with all our heart and mind.

When we realize the depth of God's love for us, we respond by loving him with all our being. "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). Because he took the initiative to love us, we love him and we love our neighbors. God's love is imparted to us through the Holy Spirit. His love prompts us and motivates us to obey his commandments.

Expressing love for God

Love and law go together throughout the Bible. In Deuteronomy 6:5, See Personal, page 10

Personal: Love encompasses all commandments

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the greatest commandment is squarely in the context of obeying God's laws. We are told to love the Lord and keep his commandments from the heart (verse 6). We should obey God not from compulsion or fear of punishment, but because we *want* to obey him—because we love him.

We should teach our children by talking about God and his way of life throughout the day, as appropriate situations arise. We should write his laws down so we can see them often (verses 7-9). This is an expression of our love for the Lord.

And, paraphrasing verses 20-25, when our children ask us about these laws, we can tell them: We were once enslaved to sin. We were in its power, but God, through Jesus, has rescued us. He has given us a great inheritance and told us to obey him, and it is for our own good that we keep his laws. If we obey him, we'll be doing right.

The Israelites were told to obey God because he was the God who rescued them from Egypt. Similarly for us today, we love the Lord with all our being because he is the one who saves us through faith in his Son. He has the words of eternal life, and there is nowhere else to go.

We obey God because he is our strength and our salvation. We are willing to give up every possession, we are willing to refuse every temptation. There is no sacrifice too great for the God who has given us his own Son. Our heart and mind and soul have been created and sustained by our Lord, and we have been redeemed by him even after we rebelled. It is only right that our lives should be used for his honor and glory, not our own.

"If you love me," Jesus said, "you will obey what I command" (John 14:15). If we know Christ, we obey his commands (1 John 2:3-4). And if we obey, God's love is in us (verse 5). "This is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love" (2 John 6). Love for neighbor flows out of our love for God and our obedience to him. In allegiance to our Lord, we love everyone he loves. We want to be like him in every way possible. We want to be like the perfect example that Jesus set for us.

"This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome" (1 John 5:2-3). God's law is inseparably linked to his love, and therefore to his grace and mercy. He gives grace to those who have faith in his love for them.

The apostle Paul wrote about grace and faith, and he connected these attributes to obedience. He wrote of the "obedience that comes from faith" and obeying from the heart (Romans 1:5; 6:17). "Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts" (1 Corinthians 7:19).

Can grace and faith do away with the law? Certainly not! (Romans 3:31; 6:1-2). "Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law" (Romans 13:8). The Ten Commandments, and all other commandments combined, are summarized in the command to love (verse 9).

The Ten Commandments are not an exhaustive guide to love (they do not explicitly require faith and mercy, for example), but they are specific appli-

cations of love. The love commandment encompasses all the others. If we love our neighbors (in action as well as emotion), then we fulfill the intent of these commandments. All these are included in the greatest commandment, love for God. Our love for him motivates us to love his children, too (1 John 5:1).

Motives and superstitions

The greatest commandment tells us that love should motivate *all* our obedience. And yet we all fall short in our motives, too. Sometimes we do right for the wrong reason. Perhaps we are afraid of what the neighbors might think, or what other Christians might think, or what the pastor might think. We want others to think well of us, so we do right, but our motive is essentially self-centered. We do it because it benefits *us*. This falls short of what God demands. Our action may be right, but our motive is wrong.

Sometimes we do right because we think God will punish us if we don't. That may be true (he chastens every son he loves), but it is a less-than-perfect motive for obeying our Creator. This is like the obedience a reluctant slave gives—it is done for self-benefit. Our desires are sinful, our heart is rebellious, but we are smart enough to suppress it. We are not obeying the greatest commandment.

In a less obvious but similar approach, some people are afraid to disobey because they'll be plagued by feelings of guilt. They don't like to feel guilty, so they avoid the unpleasant feelings by toeing the line. This obedience is also done for self-benefit.

Some people do the right thing because they think they'll be blessed for it. They are keeping the law because they think that God is paying them to do it. It's a mercenary motive, still essentially selfish, and their relationship is like that of a servant instead of a member of the family. It's better than not obeying at all, but it is *less than God requires*.

All such motives are selfish, and God wants us to do better. He demands perfection in our motives as well as in our actions. He wants the law to be written in our hearts so that we *want* to do what is right. All our thoughts and all our actions should be an expression of love for God. Our motive is just as important as our behavior, and God calls for perfection in both. "Just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in *all* you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy'" (1 Peter 1:15-16).

All Christians have accepted Jesus as Lord as well as Savior. We accept him as an authoritative Master whom we ought to obey. We have covenanted with him, given him our oath of allegiance. Do we obey him because we are "righteous" enough to honor our word and keep our promise? This falls short, too, because the greatest commandment requires all our obedience to be motivated by love, not by extolling our own honor or our own faithfulness. God has created us and redeemed us, and we get no credit or honor for doing our duty. Even at our best, we are unprofitable servants. We deserve punishment, but God gives us grace.

In everything, we ought to live to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). It is in him that we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28). He gets all the credit; all our work is of him and for him, not ourselves. There is no room for self-congratulation, even if we keep the greatest commandment. After all, Christ lives in us and motivates us. He is the one who enables us to have faith. Whatever good we do, he gets the credit. God lives in us to will and to do according to his good plea-

sure (Philippians 2:13).

All our obedience should be motivated by love, but we fall short. We sin. We need grace. The righteous demands of the law inevitably lead us to our need for grace, and grace continues to point us back to our need to love and obey even more perfectly. We are faced with a humanly impossible task, an ever-ascending spiral, and only if we have faith in God's grace can we maintain a willingness to continue. Some have given up the race because they weren't aware enough of grace and faith.

The gospel of Christ tells us about God's mercy and grace, but it also tells us about God's right as Creator to tell us how to live. The Bible tells us that we have failed to keep his law, and that we deserve to die. Grace is not needed if there are no longer any laws to break. Grace is not needed if there is no death penalty, so the gospel of grace has to include the concepts of law and sin.

The good news is that grace is available—but Jesus' message does not stop with grace. He also tells us to sin no more. Paul tells us to live for Christ and not for self, to be led by the Spirit, to be slaves of righteousness. The epistles tell us to join with others, to meet with others for mutual exhortation and worship and growth, to do good especially to those who live in the same grace and faith.

Of course, we fall short. The problem is not with God or his covenant or his grace, but with us as people. Even though grace points us to a love for God that motivates us to keep the laws he has given us, we fall short.

Even worse, our neighbors fall short. Worse still, our neighbors sin against us, and God is gracious to them! We are not quite as willing to forgive as God is. We think he ought to punish our neighbor's sins; we think he ought to lay down the law. Our own sins, after all, aren't all that bad, and they don't hurt anybody. We perceive a problem with God's grace.

God simply isn't the way we expect him to be. When he said, "My thoughts are not your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8), he was not extolling his superior mental abilities (although his intelligence is infinitely superior to ours)—he was referring to his *mercy*. The previous verse shows the context: "Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon" (verse 7). God is willing to pardon, because he doesn't think the way humans do.

"Come," he says, "all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat ... without money and without cost.... Listen to me, and eat what is good.... Hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you" (verses 1-3).

Similarly, Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:6-7).

Do you hunger and thirst for righteousness? You can be filled. You can be shown mercy. You can be forgiven. But God's grace comes with an obligation: You have to be merciful. You have to forgive those who sin against you. You have to love even your enemies.

We will sometimes fall short—even frequently fall short. It's a sin, and it can be forgiven. If we are in Christ, if our faith is in him, if he lives in us, we are acceptable to God. "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). God's grace is sufficient. We may fall 490 times,

and yet God forgives. Sometimes we don't even know what we are doing, and we don't realize we need to repent, but God forgives our ignorance.

Is God too merciful? Maybe it seems that way sometimes. The Pharisees certainly thought that Jesus was a bit too merciful with the sinful woman. And yet he was the one who, at the same time, demanded righteousness that was more exacting than the Pharisees!

Jesus demanded perfect love. He commanded not only tithes of mint and cummin, but he also commanded justice, mercy and faithfulness. He told the commandment-keeper to sell all that he had and to take up a cross and follow him. He walked to the cross himself, forsaken by all his disciples. He died for us, and he lives in us despite the dirty vessels that we are.

What a precious gift! How great our love ought to be for our Father in heaven! It should transform our lives! We should live for him and admit that whatever good we do in this life is possible only because of his grace—it is possible only because he has not given us the death we deserve!

God's ways are not the ways of humans. He has mercy on whomever he wants to have mercy. If we love God with all our thoughts and all our emotions and all our actions, we will live by every word he has given us—especially the Word who became flesh to die for our sins. We will live by Jesus Christ.

We will recognize that we are but sinful humans, as Peter did. We might deny Christ at times, as Peter did, but we'll be restored, as Peter was, upon repentance. We'll live as witnesses for Christ, as Peter did, and we'll sometimes get caught in hypocrisy, as Peter was. But in the end, we'll be guaranteed a place in the New Jerusalem, as Peter was.

A love that perseveres

The greatest commandment helps us see the gospel. It tells us that we have an unlimited obligation to God. It tells us that we ought to obey the God who has delivered us. It tells us that our love for him must persevere even after we have sinned against the Holy One. And if we continue loving God, we will live.

Love conquers a multitude of sins, and a continuous love for God goes hand in hand with faith in his grace. Perfect love casts out fear, so we are not afraid of God, for life itself is a gift of our generous Lawgiver. It is our pleasure to serve him and do his will. It is his will we want, not our own. And his will, of course, is that we love him, that we trust him, that we have faith in him, that we are thankful for what he gives, that we extol his praises and his greatest gift to us, Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your prayers, brethren. I thank God that he has called us together to do the work set before us. We face difficult challenges and decisions, but we can have confidence that the One who died for us will also complete his work in us.

Pray for the needs of the work—especially our spiritual needs: unity in the Body of Christ, which is made possible by love and mutual service. Pray for one another, that your examples might be proper reflections of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your cards and letters of support. Your faith strengthens my faith, and I hope that mine strengthens yours. Christ inspires our growth by calling us to work with and help each other. I pray that God will bless you abundantly, both physically and spiritually, as he knows all our needs. To him be the honor and glory and love forever.

Announcements

BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS, ANNIVERSARIES AND OBITUARIES

Births

CASHEN, Daniel and Regina (Whitaker) of Midland, Michigan, boy, Sean Donovan, July 23, 9 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

CLARK, Edward and Tracey (Bullock) of Albany, Oregon, boy, Nicholas Lee, July 30, 3:06 a.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

CONTI, Joseph and Sarah (Kielczewski) of Chicago, Illinois, boy, Micah John, July 6, 9:35 p.m., 7 pounds 7 1/2 ounces, first child.

CROMEANS, Lesly and Chasity (Edwards) of Magnolia, Arkansas, boy, Tyler Keith, April 27, 8:22 p.m., 10 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

CUNNINGHAM, Walter James and Eva Sue (Moore) of Corning, New York, girl, Sara Helen, June 24, 7 pounds.

DAMERON, Joseph and Georgina (Hall) of Richmond, Virginia, boy, Jaden Andrew, July 4, 3:59 a.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, first child.

DAY, Paul and Jennifer (Ellis) of Adelaide, Australia, girl, Rebekah Kaylee, March 3, 12:25 p.m., 8 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

FRICKE, Pete and Ramona (McKinney) of Albany, Oregon, boy, Peter James, July 8, 6:45 p.m., 9 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

FRIDDLE, Harvey and Ruth (Grabbe) of Altadena, California, girl, Julie Rose, July 14, 2:55 a.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 girls.

GRAHAM, John and Kimberly (Jorza) of Beaver Valley, Pennsylvania, boy, Ty Jonathan, July 18, 6:48 a.m., 8 pounds 1 1/2 ounces, first child.

GOODING, Martin and Margaret (Gedye) of Bathurst, Australia, girl, Charlotte Lilian Vidette, June 23, 5:22 a.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

GREENSTIEN, Stacey and Sherry (Snydal) of Vancouver, British Columbia, boy, Landyn Benjamin, June 28, 8:12 a.m., 8 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GROVE, Ken and Lynn (Pensyl) of Cleveland, Ohio, girl, Cara Esther, April 30, 7:36 p.m., 7 pounds 2 1/2 ounces, first child.

HOWIE, Sam and Daniele (Huber) of Ashmore, Illinois, boy, Dustin Brandon, Nov. 13, 10:54 a.m., 3 pounds, 12 ounces, first child.

KRICK, Daniel and Barbara (Mende) of Tomahawk, Wisconsin, boy, Allen James, July 18, 2:14 a.m., 9 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

KUMAR, Billy and Malvina (Kardos) of Niles, Michigan, girl, Bianca Renee, March 10, 4:24 p.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 4 girls.

KVIZ, Ladge and Rosemarie, (Van Der Eyk) of Canberra, Australia, girl, Moya Jane, June 24, 8 pounds, third child.

LANDGREN, Gregory and Esther (Kielczewski) of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, boy, Austin Gregory, July 6, 9:19 a.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

MAUGHMER, Scott and Lisa (Ling) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, girl, Lindsay Michelle, May 11, 5:16 p.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

O'DONNELL, John and Wendy (Gubb) of Brisbane, Australia, girl, Jacqueline Leigh, July 30, 6:50 p.m., 7 pounds 9 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

PEARSON, Ray and Kathy (Takals) of Surrey, British Columbia, girl, Jordan Rheaune, March 26, 11:05 p.m., 9 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

PETERSON, Robert and Linda (Bortolotto) of Paynton, Saskatchewan, boy, Greg Robert, July 8, 7:31 p.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

REGISTER, Jon and Carol (Fitzgerald) of Orlando, Florida, girl, Alexandra Michele, July 21, 1 p.m., 9 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 girls.

SALCEDO, Tim and Aletha (Davis) of Garden Grove, California, boy, James Benjamin, June 23, 12:30 a.m., 7 pounds 7 ounces, first child.

SLATER, John and Sherry (Greer) of Lubbock, Texas, boy, Zane Brant, May 28, 6:03 p.m., 7 pounds 12 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

SOTOJ, Pablo and Maria (Cuyuche) of Los Angeles, California, girl, Brenda Alicia, April 9, 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

TABIN, Honorio and Angelita (Santos) of Quezon City, Philippines, boy, Herbert Angelo, March 26, 5:48 p.m., 8 pounds, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

THOMPSON, William and Jackie (Dougall) of Denver, Colorado, boy, Scott William, July 21, 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

WADDLE, Michael and Linda (Forsha) of Cincinnati, Ohio, boy, Brit Michael, Jan. 11, first child. (adopted July 3).

WELLS, Mark and Cathy (Kidd) of Paintsville, Kentucky, girl, Mary Ellen, July 21, 9:33 a.m., 5 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

WILKINSON, Thomas and Stephanie (Battaglino) of New Haven, Connecticut, boy, Ryan Thomas, May 28, 11:24 p.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

Engagements

Estella Sumption of Salem, Oregon, is happy to announce the engagement of her daughter Natasha Lynn to Jeremy James Petersen, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. James Petersen of Lyons, Oregon. A Dec. 11 wedding is planned in Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Tschritter and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schmidt are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Lorinda and Walter Jr. An August wedding is planned in Edmonton, Alberta.

Mrs. Harris J. Verdun of Raceland, Louisiana, is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter Karrie Ann to Richard Paul Raney, son of Mrs. Joe Albert of Hammond, Louisiana. A Nov. 26 wedding is planned.

Virginia Long of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and Arnold Long of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, announce the engagement of their daughter Shelley (Long) Hower to Dennis Jones of Grand Rapids, son of Robert B. and Lucille Jones of Harlingen, Texas. A Sept. 4 wedding is planned.

Juan Quinones of Brooklyn, New York, is proud to announce the engagement of his daughter Juanita to Steven Christopher Hill. A Dec. 3 wedding is planned in New York.

Weddings



WALTER & CRISTINA TEPER

Cristina Lorraine Brandon and Walter Joseph Teper were united in marriage May 8. The ceremony was performed by Leslie Schmedes, pastor of the Pasadena P.M. church. Lara Vieyra, sister of the

bride, was maid of honor, and Michael Rice was best man. The couple live in Beverly Hills, California.



KELLY & LISA PATMOR

Lisa Marie Berkowitz, daughter of George and Janie Berkowitz of Sussex, New Jersey, and Kelly Patmor, son of George and Phyllis Patmor of Sturgis, Kentucky, were united in marriage May 29. The ceremony was performed by the groom's father, a local church elder in the Madisonville, Kentucky, church. Jen Russell, Debra Brady and Melissa Berkowitz attended the bride, and Derek Ramsey, Lawrence Merritt, Kyle Patmor and Nathan Patmor attended the groom. The couple live in Denton, Texas.



BILLY & BOBBIE WOLFORD

Bobbie J. Vanhooser, daughter of Truby and Mary Vanhooser of Tannersville, Virginia, and Billy S. Wolford, son of Clyde and Dorothy Wolford of North Tazewell, Virginia, were united in marriage June 10. The ceremony was performed by William Pack and Derrill Douthat, ministers in the Bluefield, West Virginia, church. Trudie Rickman, niece of the bride, was maid of honor, and Allen Wolford, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Tannersville.



EDWARD & SHANNON OLIVER

Shannon Renee Siebert, daughter of John and Fran Siebert of Aumsville, Oregon, and Edward Walter Oliver, son of Dan and Ruth Oliver of Amity, Oregon, were united in marriage June 26. The ceremony was performed by the father of the groom, a minister in the Salem, Oregon, church. Brenda Wright was maid of honor, and David Swanson was best man. The couple live in McMinnville, Oregon.



DAVID & TAMMY STAPLETON

Tammy Jean Ferguson, daughter of Allen and Loretta Ferguson of Cookeville, Tennessee, and Timothy David Stapleton, son of James and Betty Stapleton of Huber Heights, Ohio, were united in marriage May 21. The ceremony was performed by Tom Maddox, a minister in the Cookeville church. Teresa Ferguson, Suzanne Farrow, Darlene Davis, Susan Wright and Jennifer Carnes attended the bride. The groom was attended by Jim, Matthew and Mark Stapleton, Tony Ferguson and Tim Wright. The couple live in Cookeville.



JOHN & ANGIE PARKER

Angie Paul and John Parker were united in marriage April 23. The ceremony was performed by Keith Brittain, pastor of the Wilmington and New Bern, North Carolina, churches. Ada Shoe was maid of honor, and Carl Derstine, a local church elder, was best man. The couple live in Jacksonville, North Carolina.



GREGORY & ELIZABETH RICE

Elizabeth Bodinsky and Gregory Rice were united in marriage Jan. 1. The ceremony was performed by

Randy Bloom, pastor of the Syracuse and Utica, New York, churches. Donna Hegner was matron of honor, and Charles Denny was best man. The couple live in Syracuse.



FRANCIS & GOLDIE HINEMAN

Goldie Billie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy G. Lewis of Lodi, California, and Francis "Skip" Hineman of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed by John Meyer, a minister in the Stockton, California, church. Georgia Daugherty, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Louis Barreiro was best man. The couple live in Stockton.



STEVEN & LORI ANDERSON

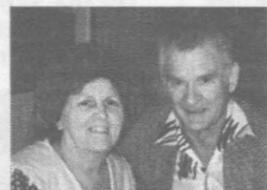
Lori Hoyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hoyer of Olympia, Washington, and Steven Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Anderson of Phoenix, Arizona, were united in marriage March 13 in Washington. The ceremony was performed by Mel Dahlgren, pastor of the San Jose and Aptos, California, churches. Sarah Gjesvold was matron of honor, and Mike Brock was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



MARK & IDELL KAMPMEIER

Idell Carrie Long of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, daughter of Virginia Long of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, and Arnold Long of Black River Falls, and Mark Kampmeier of Sparta, Wisconsin, son of Russel Kampmeier of Tomah, Wisconsin, and Constance Kampmeier of Sparta, were united in marriage June 3. The ceremony was performed by Mitchell Knapp, pastor of the Eau Claire, Wisconsin, church. Thelma Rowluof was maid of honor, and Shannon Kampmeier was best man. The couple will live in Black River Falls.

Anniversaries



KEN & DOTTY HOLLEY

Ken and Dotty Holley celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary July 23. They have two sons, Ray and Randy; one daughter, Vikki; two daughters-in-law, Paula and Donna; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild, Jonah.



ROBERT & ADELA ORT

Robert and Adela Ort of Victoria, Texas, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. They have three children, Robert, Roberta and Albert; and six grandchildren.



ZEB & JUDY LOCKLEAR

Zeb and Judy Locklear of Salineville, Ohio, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary July 1. They have three children, Robert, Laura and James; a son-in-law, Jason Kyle; and one grandson, Zachary.



ROBERT & AMELIA FRIDDLE

Robert and Amelia Friddle of Stokesdale, North Carolina, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary June 25. They have four sons, two daughters and eight grandchildren.



TOM & NANCY SMILEY

Tom and Nancy Smiley of Huntsville, Alabama, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary June 6. They have one son, Tom; two daughters, Jennifer Pulis and Linda Conner; two sons-in-law, Trent Pulis and Eric Conner; and three grandchildren, Christine and James Pulis, and Marissa Conner. The Smileys serve as deacon and deaconess in the Huntsville church.



ISMAEL & SALLY BELOSO

Ismael and Sally Beloso of Orlando, Florida, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary May 24. They have two daughters, Riccinni and Iris; and a son, Ismael Jr.

Anniversaries Made of Gold



WILLIE & MAE DUNN

Willie and Mae Dunn of the Dallas, Texas, East church, celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary Sept. 21. They have one son, one daughter, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



WILFRED & LIL PUMP

Wilfred and Lil Pump of Melbourne, Australia, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 29. They have two children, Bran and Jill.



FRED & LIBBYE KEBRDL

Fred and Libbye Kebrdle celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary June 12. They serve as deacon and deaconess in the Youngstown, Ohio, church.



HUGH & RUTH MATTHEWS

Hugh and Ruth Matthews of Somerville, Australia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 12. They have five children, Rod, Helen, John, Richard and Carolyn; and eight grandchildren. Mrs. Matthews is a deaconess in the Melbourne South church.

George and Naomi Bower of Monroe, Wisconsin, celebrated their 59th anniversary Sept. 5. They

Obituaries



ADELLE SHAW

SHAW, Adelle, 87, of Meridian, Mississippi, died Feb. 27. She is survived by two daughters, one son, six grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, one sister and one brother. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clyde.



JAMES MOSES

MOSES, James T., 71, of Carrollton, Georgia, died June 21. He is survived by his wife, Elнора; a son, Shannon; a daughter, Sue McDowell; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

BAKER, Elizabeth Jane, 70, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Nov. 14 of complications after heart-bypass surgery. She is survived by three daughters, Cheryl, Suzanne Fisher and Robin Campbell and her husband, John; and four grandchildren, Rachel, John III, David and Michael.

MITCHELL-HASENOEHL, Ann, 70, of Culesac, Idaho, died April 7 of complications from cancer. She is survived by her husband, Carl Mitchell; three sons, Kylan, Dwaine and Joseph; and eight grandchildren.



NORDA DAY

DAY, Norda, 70, of Bellingham, Washington, died March 18. She is survived by a son, Roger, and his wife, Sherry; three daughters, Bernice and her husband, Danny Mansour; Arlene and her husband, Jerry Hofer; and Louise and her husband, Darryl Roberts; and 11 grandchildren, Amanda, Heather, Blake, Jason, John, Rosette, Sandy, Nichole, Crystal, Brandon and Andrew.



WINSOME BERAMSING

BERAMSING, Winsome, "Winnie," 62, of London, England, died April 17 of cancer. She is survived by her sister, Vivienne.

RUDER, Gina Marie, of Spring Hill, Kansas, died June 16 just before birth. She is survived by her parents, Edward and Linda; her grandparents, Martin and Phyllis Gerfen and Ed and Mary Ruder; three aunts; two uncles; and her great-grandmothers, Ruth Bickhart and Mary Klaveman.



WILLIAM OATES

OATES, William Nathan, 70, of Houston, Texas, died July 6. He is survived by his wife, Elaine; three daughters, Ellen Hairston, Sandra Burkhardt and Patsy Elmore; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Update

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

Meeting of minds in Bonndorf

BONNDORF, Germany—**Vasyl Mondich**, pastor of a Sabbatarian congregation in Khust, Ukraine, gave a sermonette on living faith on the Last Great Day here.

Mr. Mondich and his companions had a lunch meeting with **Paul Kieffer**, German regional director, and some ministers and members.

"I definitely felt that I was with someone of like mind,"

said Mr. Kieffer.

During his sermonette, Mr. Mondich said: "We see the fellowship we can enjoy at the feet of Jesus Christ." Mr. Mondich brought his own translator with him, so that while he spoke in Ukrainian his message was translated into German and English.

"When I look into your face I can see that you know the end goal. For that we need a deep faith and a deep relationship with God," he declared. Applause broke out after his talk.

Mr. Mondich is the administrator of spiritual matters of a Sabbatarian network that stretches from northern Germany to Sakhalin Island, north of Japan. He was in Germany to address Sabbath-keepers who originally emigrated there from the former Soviet Union. Church Administration invited Mr. Mondich to speak in Bonndorf. *Neil Earle*

Church activities

CHICAGO, Illinois—Young adults, single or married, are invited to the Chicago Young Adults Windy City Weekend for fun, fellowship and dancing Dec. 24 to 26. The cost per person is \$90 and includes three nights at the

Radisson Hotel, five meals.

For more details and reservations, call **Vikki LaRocco** at 1-708-351-6242 or write to her at 41 Salt Creek, Roselle, Illinois, 60172. *Garrett Herschleb*.

PHOENIX, Arizona—Phoenix singles invite other singles to their second Fun in the Sun weekend Dec. 23-25. Activities will begin Friday evening with a Bible study and a get-acquainted social.

Services will be conducted by **John Halford**, a *Plain Truth* senior editor. That evening a candlelight dinner will take place at the Sun Burst Hotel ballroom followed by a desert moonlight dance.

Activities Sunday will be brunch, a square dance, barbecue, hiking and other group activities.

Cost for the weekend is \$40 if paid by Dec. 12. After then the cost will be \$50. Make checks payable to Phoenix East Activity Fund and mail to **Jan Lee**, 2551 E. McKellips MH38, Mesa, Arizona, 85213.

For more information call **Crystal Graham** at 1-602-246-7674 or **Donna Elder** at 1-602-439-0884. For hotel reservations call the Sun Burst Hotel at 1-602-945-7666. Room rates are \$67 per night for up to four peo-

ple in a room.

VANCOUVER, British Columbia—The third annual Great Canadian Get Away Weekend (Sept. 5 WN) that will take place Feb. 18 and 19 is for married couples and singles. For more information, write to **Richard or Virginia Will**, 3049 Charles St., Vancouver, British Columbia, V5K 3B4, Canada, or call them at 1-604-255-4706.

Kalamazoo church to mark 25th anniversary

KALAMAZOO, Michigan—The Kalamazoo church will mark its 25th anniversary Dec. 10. Services will be at Western Michigan University's Bernhard Center at 2:30 p.m. A dinner and dance will follow services. For further details, call **Stan Hargus** at 1-616-729-5403. *Tim Snyder*.

British member turns 100

LONDON—**Ella Scotchmer** of the North London church celebrated her 100th birthday July 26.

After services July 30, congratulatory telegrams were read from **Queen Elizabeth** and others.

Mrs. Scotchmer was born in London. She is a widow and has two stepsons, five

grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She walks unaided, lives alone and does her daily chores, which include shopping, baking her own bread and cleaning house.

In 1987, at age 93, she and a friend in her 80s went on a



Ella Scotchmer

world cruise.

Mrs. Scotchmer swims twice a week, bowls regularly, does aerobic exercises and loves church dances. Active in community service, she serves at a primary school listening to children read English.

Mrs. Scotchmer stresses having a positive outlook on life and forgiving past offenses. She is dedicated to making herself useful to God for the remainder of her long life. *Denise Browne and Duncan Morrison*.

Feastgoers trace steps of apostle Paul at new site in Greece

By Bill Palmer

A generous blend of Mediterranean sunshine, impressive historical sites, breathtaking scenery, irresistible banquets and inspiring messages were hallmarks of the first-time Festival site in Athens, Greece.

An outdoor sound-and-

light show, conducted on a hill facing the Acropolis and featuring the Parthenon under a full moon, introduced Feastgoers to Athenian history.

Members visited the Acropolis on a half-day tour of Athens. The next day they visited Delphi, site of an ancient temple complex. Afternoon services included a discussion

of Greek culture and mythology by K.J. Stavrindes and a look at the apostle Paul in Greece by Ronald Kelly.

On Friday Feastgoers visited the National Archaeological Museum in Athens. Children joined in a pool party on top of the Marriott Hotel.

On the Sabbath, Russell Duke presented a sermon titled "The Unknown God."

The apostle Paul addressed the Athenians about their statue of the unknown God (Acts 17:22-23) at Mars Hill, just below the Acropolis.

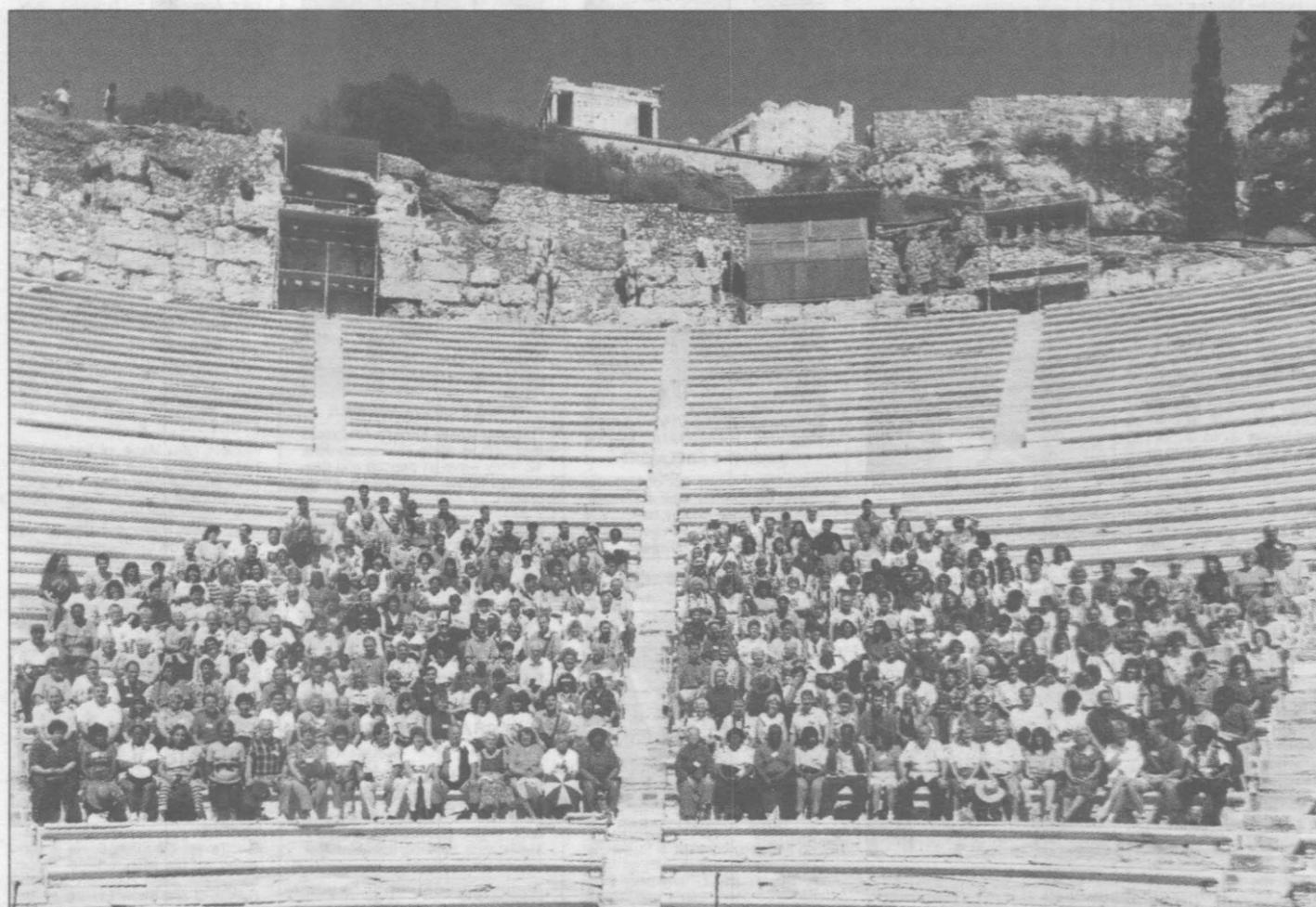
On Sunday, members enjoyed a cruise through the Saronic Gulf with stops at three islands. The final excursion was a day trip to Corinth.

After Feastgoers toured the ruins of the ancient city,

Dr. Stavrindes presented a lecture about the significance of the site during the time of Paul.

Members ended their Festival with a farewell dinner and folklore show Tuesday evening.

Bill Palmer is a department editor for The Plain Truth.



MAKING HISTORY—Most of the members attending the Feast in Athens, Greece, visited the amphitheater at the base of the Acropolis.

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