

## Feast 86: 'Unity and love'

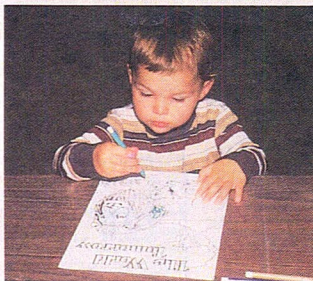
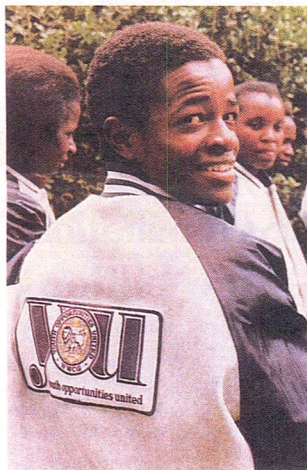
By Jeff E. Zhorne  
PASADENA — "The high point of the Feast for many members here was the opportunity to see headquarters for the first time," Robin Webber, coordinator of the Pasadena Feast site, said. "There was just a desire to soak in as much as they could."

One thing that made the Pasadena Feast site extra special was the presence of Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, according to Mr. Webber. "Mr. Tkach's involvement at headquarters was deep, extensive and personal," one that "wove the brethren together as tightly as ever," Mr. Webber added.

Mr. Tkach started the Pasadena site in 1971 with 312 attending. "This year, 4,000 members from every inhabited continent came to Pasadena for the Feast."

"But what the visitors to Pasadena will probably remember the most," he said, "are all the small, unexpected occasions with Mr. Tkach — talking with him after services, taking pictures with him, having him sign their *Envoy*, walking with him through the campus or responding 'Hag-sameach' [Hebrew for 'Happy Feast'] back to him as he greeted the audience."

Mr. Tkach wrote in the Nov. 4 Pastor General's Report: "I was



### Mexican Trip

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach traveled to El Paso, Tex., and Juarez, Monterrey, Guadalajara, Acapulco and Mexico City, Mexico, Nov. 9 to 16. Articles and photographs about the trip will appear in the Dec. 1 issue.

able to spend hours each day just meeting and fellowshiping with God's people after services right here on the campus.

"I think I probably met most everyone attending here. The pure joy of being a part of the spiritual family God has called us to is immeasurably rewarding."

Leading his first Feast of Tabernacles as pastor general, Mr. Tkach addressed brethren worldwide by satellite on the first day of the Feast, Oct. 18.

Early into his 1 p.m. address, the

**FAMILY TIES** — Clockwise from top left: Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach at a senior citizen's banquet in Pasadena; a choir performs in Malacca, Malaysia; flags form a backdrop in Gold Coast, Australia; a YOU talent contest winner in Regina, Sask.; matching attire for Feastgo-

ers at Ibadan, Nigeria; Sammy Gatugu displays his YOU jacket in Naro Moru, Kenya; a youth in Eugene, Ore., at a children's coloring contest. [Photos by David Malcomson, Rob Verity, Robert Campbell, Richard Schemp, Lip Siaw Ng, Greg S. Smith and Brooks Tish]

pastor general explained that the family and the Feast are inseparable.

"Does your family exemplify the peace of God?" he asked. "Expand your family this Feast. Work on expressing yourself. The Feast is a

(See FEAST 86, page 16)

### Communities comment on brethren

## Feastgoers make impact at sites

By Mark McCulley  
PASADENA — "We have never had a nicer group to stay with us. Everyone was so friendly and the children were so well-behaved. Our entire staff enjoyed your members and many of our employees have asked me if you'll be returning," said the director of sales of the Holiday Inn at Carter Plaza in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mark McCulley is Festival planning coordinator.

Similar comments are being received in the Church's offices from public officials and business people at many of the 93 sites where Church members observed the Feast of Tabernacles this year. The exemplary actions of Church members and their families are being cited time and time again in letters praising the Church.

"Even though we send out news

releases and have meetings at each site to tell the communities what to expect, the message doesn't really sink in until they see our people in action," commented evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration.

"Particularly at new Festival sites the impression left by Church members can be a major factor in determining how welcome the Church will be in those communities in future years. From the reports I've heard, the members of God's Church should be complimented on their outstanding behavior."

A city official commented: "I continue to be impressed with the high degree of organization associated with the Feast of Tabernacles. I hope we will have an opportunity to work with you again in the future."

A sampling of comments from other sources includes the follow-

ing: "We have never hosted a group so pleasant"; "We certainly hope you'll come back next year"; and "They were a most congenial and delightful group of people."

By the actions of members at Festival sites around the world, the Church has gained a reputation for being organized and efficient, and for having friendly, courteous members.

"The credit falls largely on those in the Church who have made an effort to be the light of the world," Mr. Salyer continued.

"By doing so, we are backing up Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach and the spiritual Head of the Church, Jesus Christ, in preaching the Gospel by our example. A hearty 'thank-you' goes to all those who participated."

A comment from a city official underscored this point: "The Worldwide Church of God does not need to be a proselytizing body."

### PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren,

What an inspiring and thrilling Feast of Tabernacles this has been!

Reports from our Festival coordinators around the world describe a wonderful atmosphere of unity and brotherhood among all God's people at the various Feast sites.

Here in Pasadena I have never witnessed a more enthusiastic, family spirit, with all joyfully worshipping God and looking forward with one mind to the glori-

ous return of Jesus Christ. I had a wonderful Feast, personally, spending hours after services each day meeting and fellowshiping with brethren from around the world here to keep the Feast in the beautiful setting of the physical headquarters of God's Work.

God has called us to be a part of His spiritual Family, that we might be "framed together" and grow into a "holy temple in the Lord." We are joined together in Christ for a habitation of God through the Holy Spirit

(See PERSONAL, page 10)

# 1986 Festival: Memories are made of this

Just as it is when you attend your first Sabbath services after the Feast, the first few days after our return to Pasadena, Editorial Services hums with the exchange of Festival experiences, anecdotes and lessons learned.

The staff travels far and wide at Feast time, gathering material and experience to better serve the Church's publications. Twenty-eight Feast sites in 12 countries were attended by Editorial staff members this year. Let me share some of those experiences with you.

My wife, Shirley, and I enjoyed the generosity of the Alaskan brethren the first part of the Feast and beautiful, peaceful Victoria, B.C., the last half.

Just to remind us that even though it was the Feast and not yet God's world, within three days a suicide, a bank robbery and a terrorist attack on the Anchorage, Alaska, newspaper happened within a square-block radius of the site of the Feast.

The terrorist, armed with semi-automatic weapons and smoke bombs, was unhappy because the newspaper hadn't printed his grievances against government officials. With smoke billowing out of the windows, the police and fire sirens screaming outside, the man was finally subdued by the editor and his daughter.

It shows you shouldn't mess around with editors, huh!

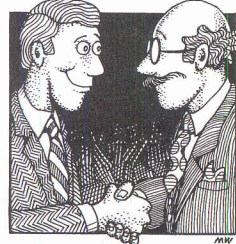
For my 29 years in God's Church I've been exhorted to grow and overcome. Mr. Armstrong always used the analogy of the Christian life being like a fish going upstream, struggling against the elements.

This year in Victoria, for the first time we saw the salmon making their annual run. It was so encouraging to see firsthand this inspiring physical phenomenon of God's creation.

Also in Victoria, Richard A. Sedliack, who works with the Correspondence Course, appreciated the hospitality of a new member from the Philippines and two of her children who are living in Canada.

"It was not your typical dinner in a restaurant, but rather took place in their hotel room! We enjoyed roast chicken, baked potatoes, broccoli, carrots and Chinese rice, which they had carefully prepared.

"But what was most enjoyable was getting to know one another and learning about how much we as families in God's Church have in common, regardless of where we are from!" Mr. Sedliack said.



Mike Hale, art director of *Worldwide News*, said a minister in Vail, Colo., mentioned a sign seen in the mothers' room there: "Behold I show you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed!"

In Corpus Christi, Tex., Sheila Graham, *WN* senior editor, said a waitress at the Hershey Hotel became attached to Mrs. Graham's mother and was impressed because from great-grandparents to great-grandchildren, all were there together enjoying the Feast.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Graham's mothers were at the Feast there with about 30 family members.

"Sui Ching — the waitress — had only been in the United States for about four years, and had left

some of her family behind in Hong Kong," said Mrs. Graham. "When she found that the Church brethren wouldn't be back until next year, she said, 'Oh, please, you must come back sooner, and stay longer!'"

Ron Grove, *WN* graphics editor, said that in Tucson, Ariz., "on the Last Great Day as Mr. Burk McNair was asking us to put our hearts into our offerings, my 8-year-old nephew tapped me on the arm and pointing to his chest said, 'I don't



## Just one more thing

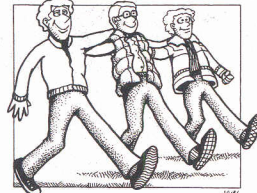
By Dexter H. Faulkner

want to put my heart into the offering."

Mr. Grove also said Keith Walden, pastor of the Midland, Tex., and Hobbs, N.M., churches, made his point about upgrading our lives when after he asked for a show of hands of those who had not ever had an expensive bottle of wine, gave a woman who had raised her hand an expensive bottle of wine.

"Then he said every man should have a red silk tie, and asked how many did not own one. Again, he chose a man to come up and gave him a red silk tie. By this time he had our attention," said Mr. Grove.

Bill Wilson, art director for the Correspondence Course, said the nicest thing to happen to him at the Feast at St. Petersburg, Fla., was getting to know some Florida natives from the Orlando and Port St. Lucie churches.



"It's one thing to meet people at the Feast. It's another to really grow to know someone that you never knew before. This kind of brotherly contact really does promote family unity within God's Church," said Mr. Wilson.

Maria Stahl, News Bureau secretary, said Philip Gray, assistant pastor of the London and Basildon, England, churches, asked for short essays and poems from the YOU at the Paignton, England, Festival site about why they wanted to come back for next year's Feast.

Mrs. Stahl said one of the winning poems by Gordon Wilson from St. Albans, England, gave as "one reason he'll be back for next year's Feast is scones with strawberry jam!"

Our Photo Services manager, Greg S. Smith, said Naro Moro River Lodge in Kenya was not only the site of the Feast, but of a feast. It began when Mr. Smith accompanied member Geoffrey Mukindia to his mud-and-thatch home to round up his fatted goat.

By the next afternoon, Mr. Smith said, "with majestic Mt. Kenya serving as a breathtaking backdrop, the barbecued entree was served with roasted maize and river-cooled drinks for a truly fabulous feast."

Tom Hanson, *WN* managing editor, said that in the hotel he stayed at during the Feast in Ahungalla, Sri Lanka, he couldn't sleep because the band in the hotel bar was playing too loudly. Mr. Hanson was trying to sleep in his room, not the hotel bar, by the way.

He called the front desk and

asked: "Could you tell me how late the band will be playing? I'm having trouble sleeping." The man replied: "Could you speak up? The band is playing too loudly. I can't hear you."

One of our Ambassador College student employees, Arlene Dion, told of four men at the Mount Pocono, Pa., site who were host to "a fabulous evening of feasting and fellowship. The men reserved a quiet little restaurant in downtown

Stroudsburg and then invited approximately 60 people to join them for dinner.

"Genuine warmth met everyone at the door," said Miss Dion, "as old acquaintances and literal strangers became bonded together in new family friendships."

Dan Taylor, one of my assistants, met Wiktor Przybyla, our first member from Poland, at the Bonndorf, West Germany, Festival site. "Mr. Przybyla is an engaging man

and is learning English with a dictionary and by reading *Mystery of the Ages* in English and listening to it on cassette tapes provided by a member in Pasadena," Mr. Taylor said.

My secretary, Eileen Wendling, on the Last Great Day in Corpus Christi, was looking for some extra money to put into the offering when she remembered noticing earlier that a girl about 4 years old was sitting behind her.

"I turned around and handed her the money and told her she could place it in the offering basket. All excited, she held the money above her head, showing everyone around her what she had to give. Later, I felt a tap on my shoulder, and the little girl gave me a gift — a half piece of gum!"

At the Feast in Brighton, England, Maryann Pirog, one of our editorial assistants, said singles were encouraged to volunteer one afternoon to help with a children's trip to Drusilla's Zoo and Adventure Playground.

Miss Pirog said this allowed the singles to experience the family atmosphere of the Feast firsthand. "What made it extra special for me was that I was able to spend the afternoon with my two nephews, which created wonderful Feast memories."

## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



## Ministry of reconciliation: converting the billions

HONG KONG — En route from Britain to the People's Republic of China.

The time: Just before the Feast of Tabernacles.

The subject: How God will teach His way to the one billion human beings on the Chinese mainland — not to mention the other billions of people around the world who have not been taught His way of life.

John Ross Schroeder wrote this edition of "European Diary" while in Hong Kong on the way to China for the Feast of Tabernacles.

One day, this whole world will be reconciled to God and instructed in His way. But how will this be done?

The apostle Paul's second letter to the Corinthian brethren addresses this subject of reconciliation. His first letter to these same Corinthian brethren reflected a strong rebuke. The church at Corinth had been full of spiritual problems.

But II Corinthians clearly shows that many took the correction. Much of this epistle speaks of forgiveness and encouragement. And though it too contains some points of correction, the weight of the letter is one of reconciliation.

Paul tells the brethren there, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ" (II Corinthians 5:18). The blood of Christ has washed away the sins of repentant transgressors. They then become true followers of Christ.

### The Church's job

But God doesn't stop there. He has given this reconciling Church — as a body — something to do. Paul continues, "And [God] hath given

to us the ministry of reconciliation" (same verse).

The Church, therefore, is in the business of reconciliation, of showing people God's way of life. Not everyone is being taught now. But still we are to point people back to God, to show them the right path.

God is the true author of this procedure: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses to them" (verse 19). Remember that God calls those things that be not as though they were (Romans 4:17). Eventually — and this is what the Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day picture — God will reconcile the whole world to Himself.

But He wants our help. He wants to use us in His service. Paul then repeats the Church's commission: "And has committed to us the word of reconciliation" (New King James, verse 19, last part).

### How the ministry of reconciliation?

Each verse of this section of Scripture expounds this matter of reconciliation and our part in it a little more. Verse 20: "Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God" (NKJ).

The principles Paul gives here apply to our modern world today. We, too, as a body, are conducting a ministry of reconciliation. But how? By unlawful interference in the affairs of another nation? By sending missionaries to propagate the word? By making ourselves obnoxious?

No, Paul tells us "we are ambassadors for Christ." The office of ambassador automatically restricts our behavior. We are to observe the laws of that nation. Our behavior is to be immaculate. Otherwise God will hold us accountable.

To wrap this up, Clayton Steep, *Plain Truth* senior writer, has this antidote for post-Feast blues.

"As I was hauling luggage from the motel room to the car the morning after the Feast, I saw a man in the parking lot lost in thought. When I wished him good morning, he laughingly commented that he was suffering 'post-Feast blues.'"

"We exchanged first names and then he said to me, still practically a total stranger, if I was passing through his city on my journey home, I was welcome in his home! Thus, perhaps without even realizing it, he used one of the most effective measures possible to defeat post-Feast blues. He immediately got involved serving and helping other brethren," Mr. Steep said.

If you have a Festival memory you would like to share, please write it briefly in a paragraph or two and send it to Festival Memories, *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129.

## 'Worldwatch'

To make room for our in-depth coverage of the Feast, "Worldwatch" does not appear in this issue. The column will be back next issue when Gene Hogberg takes a behind-the-scenes look at what could be a major step toward European unity.

But then how are we going to get the Gospel to the whole world — to every important nation on earth? The key is we take our cues from God. We look to our Creator for direction. Remember "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself." Ultimately it is His responsibility. He will show His Church what to do!

### Our own spiritual condition

Return to the last part of verse 20. Paul even tells converted Corinthian brethren, "Be reconciled to God." Reconciliation is a process. As we become more in tune with God's will ourselves, we are that much better able to conduct the ministry of reconciliation — to preach the Gospel around the world.

## The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 60,000

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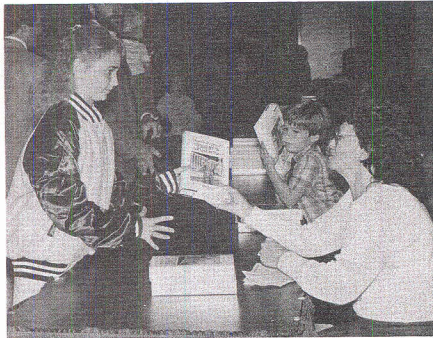
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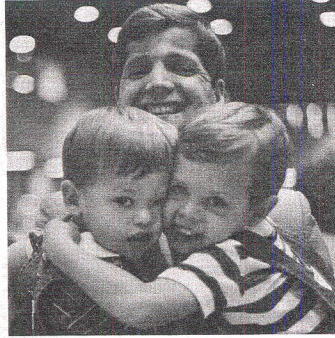
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# Worldwide family in unity

**"The family and the Feast of Tabernacles are inseparable," Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach said on the first Holy Day. For eight days 137,205 members of God's Family gathered to observe the Feast of Tabernacles at 93 sites. In the next eight pages, *The Worldwide News* presents an in-depth look at the Feast — God's worldwide family reunion.**



TUCSON, ARIZ.



CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX.



ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Photo by Nathan Faulkner

## Members meet at 22 U.S. sites

PASADENA — In the United States nearly 90,000 members observed the Feast of Tabernacles at 22 "diverse and beautiful sites, ranging from Anchorage, Alaska, with 504 in attendance, to Pensacola, Fla., with 7,703," said evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration.

"Guest speakers were sent to each of these sites from Pasadena, and they report tremendous enthusiasm among the brethren and very vocal support for Mr. [Joseph] Tkach's leadership," Mr. Salyer continued.

Lyle Welty, coordinator in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., said: "People seemed hungry for instruction. As soon as they heard it, they applied it."

### "Millennial-type weather"

Across the United States, God blessed members with exceptional autumn weather during the Feast. Norfolk, Va., Feast coordinator Robert C. Jones described it as "gorgeous, millennial-type weather."

At the Saratoga Springs site, a soggy summer gave way to sensational, sunny weather for the Feast. "Locals didn't stop commenting on how unusual the weather was during the Feast," said Mr. Welty.

God blessed the 2,616 members at the Spokane, Wash., Feast site with "the best weather ever for a Feast in Spokane," according to Feast coordinator David Treybig. Clear, sunny skies with cool autumn temperatures filled the entire Feast.

Beautiful, pleasant autumn weather welcomed 3,745 brethren to Tulsa, Okla., where the Feast was conducted for the first time.

On the third day of the Feast in Vail, Colo., members were treated to a foot of snow that turned Vail into a winter wonderland. Members enjoyed an afternoon skiing at Keystone ski area.

### Cities take notice

Around the United States, communities welcomed God's people to their towns.

Steven D. Moody, coordinator of the Biloxi, Miss., Feast site, said God has shown members great favor in the eyes of Biloxi citizens. "The management of motels and restaurants alike more than ever before went out of their way to show appreciation for our people. Several restaurants gave out free meals. Motels gave letters of appreciation

to each member. Maids gave postcards saying how enjoyable it was to have us."

Community leaders in Wisconsin Dells, Wis., presented the Church with a bronze plaque commemorating the 15th year the Feast has taken place in the town. Michael Fezell, one of Mr. Tkach's personal assistants and guest speaker at the site, received the plaque on behalf of Mr. Tkach.

According to Joel Lillengreen, Wisconsin Dells Feast coordinator: "As in years past, the local people of Wisconsin Dells received the Church members very well and expressed their positive desire to see us again next year for Festival '87. A number of reports from local merchants reflected their appreciation for the honesty and the personal conduct of both the members and teenagers from the Church."

### Special members, special needs

Special efforts were made at many sites to accommodate the needs of disabled members. A reception for blind members and guides took place Sunday after services at the

Biloxi site. Guide services were also provided for blind members. Sighted members volunteered to help with laundry, shopping and providing escorts to services.

At the Norfolk site a Bible study was given especially for members who are deaf, and a team of volunteers helped disabled brethren from the parking lot into services.

At the Pensacola site preteens stationed themselves at the front entrance of the Pensacola Civic Center to open doors for the elderly and disabled. Members who had difficulty walking were met at their automobiles with wheelchairs. Sign language interpretation was provided for performances of the Festival choir.

Members at the Wisconsin Dells site provided transportation for blind brethren to stores and area attractions.

### God's protection

God answered prayers and provided miraculous protection for members on many occasions during the Feast. On the first Holy Day, Betty Bowers, a member in the Big

## Young people let lights shine

PASADENA — About 15,000 Church youths at Feast sites around the world served brethren and attended organized activities during the Feast, according to the Youth Opportunities United (YOU) office in Church Administration.

Many sites had a youth day, with sermons, special service opportunities and organized activities tailored for Church youths.

"Youth day activities were a great success, with many families in attendance with the young people," said evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration. "Youth day was designated several years ago to emphasize the importance of youths to God's overall plan," Mr. Salyer added.

In Dayton, Ohio, about 250 youths attended an outing at Adventureland Golf, a miniature golf facility.

Ray Meyer, Festival coordinator for Dayton, said a member reported that the co-owner told him it was a pleasure to have the group at the facility.

"He commented on the respect they showed for their elders and

each other. He [said] he could not imagine what would happen with any other group as large as ours.

"It sounds as if our YOU has been a fine commercial for the Dayton area," said the member.

About 900 youths and parents in Wisconsin Dells, Wis., attended a banquet. Church youths provided entertainment and spoke on the topic "Lessons and Values Learned From the Life and Ministry of Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong."

William Rabey, coordinator for the Victoria, B.C., Feast site, said youth day was "very successful."

"Virtually all teens served as ushers, helped in the mothers room, sang in the chorale or performed in an excellent talent contest that afternoon and evening," he said.

In Pensacola, Fla., preteens stationed themselves at entrance doors to help the elderly and handicapped brethren, according to Don Waterhouse, Festival coordinator.

About 50 youths served 550 seniors at a banquet in St. Petersburg, Fla. Teens and preteens in Baguio City, Philippines, entertained brethren at a seniors social.

Sandy congregation, went into labor. After 17 hours of labor, her doctor began making preparations for a cesarean section.

The member was anointed and her condition was announced to those attending the Feast on the Big Sandy Ambassador College campus. Within minutes, she began making progress and soon gave birth naturally to a 6 pound 12 ounce son, Kevin Gregory. Her husband's name is Greg.

According to Mr. Jones, the coordinator in Norfolk, God protected a family from the Roanoke, Va., congregation from tragedy during the Feast. On their way to services the family was stopped in traffic on the freeway when another driver came up from behind them at a high speed.

At the last minute, the car swerved out of the family's lane, hit two cars in the lane next to them, passed their car and swerved back into their lane and hit two cars in front of them. God completely shielded the family's car.

According to Steve Buchanan, Feast coordinator in Rapid City, S.D., one member could not come to the opening of the Feast because she suffered a stroke a few days before the Feast. But after she was anointed, her doctors released her from the hospital because they were unable to find any symptoms of a stroke. She then went to the Feast.

Mr. Buchanan also said, "There were far fewer anointings during the Feast, and fewer health problems reported from the first aid station, indicating better preparation by God's people to prevent sickness." He added that "members were better prepared financially as well — there were no requests for loans or second tithe assistance at the site."

### Bonds of unity

Helping tighten the bonds of family unity within the Church, many members performed acts of love to help make the Feast more special for their brethren.

Before the Feast, members in the Chattanooga area spent several days clearing an undeveloped five-acre lot so it could be used to park cars for the Feast. Savings to members in parking fees was about \$8,000.

Members from Norfolk prepared gifts for first-time Feastgoers. The congregation also purchased fresh fruit to give to members at the family day activity.

When a member at the Feast in Sacramento, Calif., had her purse stolen, "she was compensated by such generous donations at the in-

formation booth that they had to turn donors away after only three minutes because they had received more than they needed," said Feast coordinator Lawrence D. Neff.

### Seniors luncheon

A highlight of the Feast for many senior members of the Church was the senior citizens luncheon. In Chattanooga many seniors commented that the luncheon, prepared by a gold medal chef, was the finest meal they had ever had.

Seniors at the Norfolk site were addressed by *World Tomorrow* speaker David Albert. Althea Jones, of Richmond, Va., was honored as the oldest member in attendance. She turned 99 Nov. 2.

At the Vail senior citizens luncheon, the Denver, Colo., congregation's Tyrolean Singers and Dancers performed a 30-minute production taken from *The Sound of Music*.

### What parking problem?

Parking problems have sometimes been legendary at certain sites. Sometimes, they're legendary for their absence.

A potential parking problem at the Tucson, Ariz., site evaporated in the face of superb cooperation, according to Feast coordinator Carl McNair. "Everyone cooperated beautifully and solved our parking difficulty," he said.

Mr. Treybig, coordinator of the Spokane site, said the parking crew there noted that the parking lots didn't empty very quickly after services — mainly because members didn't want to leave. "People seemed to be fellowshiping longer and getting into the spirit of one family," Mr. Treybig said.

Anchorage, Alaska	504
Big Sandy	5,168
Biloxi, Miss.	3,478
Chattanooga, Tenn.	4,477
Corpus Christi, Tex.	4,835
Dayton, Ohio	4,437
Eugene, Ore.	2,580
Jekyll Island, Ga.	2,817
Lihue, Hawaii	1,396
Mount Pocono, Pa.	4,790
Norfolk, Va.	5,209
Pasadena	4,000
Pensacola, Fla.	7,703
Rapid City, S.D.	2,457
Sacramento, Calif.	3,513
St. Petersburg, Fla.	8,262
Saratoga Springs, N.Y.	2,030
Spokane, Wash.	2,616
Tucson, Ariz.	8,159
Tulsa, Okla.	3,745
Vail, Colo.	2,165
Wisconsin Dells, Wis.	5,281

CHINA • COLOMBIA • COSTA RICA • CZECHOSLOVAKIA • DENMARK • DOMINICA • FIJI • GHANA • GUADELOUPE

## Warmth prevails at Canadian sites

VANCOUVER, B.C. — More than 12,000 brethren met in five English-speaking Canadian sites from Victoria, B.C., to Charlottetown, P.E.I., according to George Patrickson, executive assistant to Colin Adair, Canadian regional director.

Festival coordinators said that a spirit of unity and cooperation among the brethren kept things running smoothly.

Brethren expressed appreciation for the messages from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, noting his enthusiasm during the messages.

"His message on unity, love and concern for each other set the tone for the Feast," Mr. Patrickson said.

The *Behind the Work* film, a high point at each site, gave brethren the chance to see Mr. Tkach at work around the world, he noted.

Evangelist Herman Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor, spoke at the Pentecostion and Victoria, B.C., sites. He addressed the senior citizens in Pentecostion as well as the ministers at both sites.

Lynn Torrance, Big Sandy Ambassador College registrar, spoke in

Charlottetown and Niagara Falls, N.Y.

An exceptional spirit of love, warmth and unity prevailed in Charlottetown, according to Jack Kost, Festival coordinator and pastor of the Sydney, Digby and Halifax, N.S., churches.

Mr. Kost said that during the Feast a woman member found \$5,000 left in a mall washroom by a blind person. She turned the money over to mall security personnel, who were astonished at her honesty.

She shunned publicity and said that there were 1,200 others attending the convention who would have done the same thing.

In Charlottetown, Linda Churchill, a member from Newfoundland, was struck by a car and died from head injuries. Mrs. Churchill, 34, was baptized Aug. 16 and was attending her first Feast. She is survived by her husband, Randy (a nonmember), and their children, Daniel, 7, and Sean, 5.

In Pentecostion striking civic workers picketed outside the nonunion hall used for services as a means of attracting attention to their ongoing dispute with city hall. Toward the end of the Feast, the strikers apologized for picketing, according to Mr. Patrickson.

Anthony Wasilkoff, coordinator for Pentecostion and pastor of the Pentecostion and Kelowna, B.C., churches, said that the visit by Dr. Hoeh and his wife, Isabell, was a high point for brethren.

A family atmosphere was promoted by the brethren, according to Mr. Wasilkoff. He said that a couple who are grandparents acted as grandparents for a day for a family with five children, so the parents could have an afternoon to themselves.

"To quote the father of the five children, 'What an inspiring example to us and our children of God's family in action,'" said Mr. Wasilkoff.

A mysterious "Mr. Hunter" was known to make reservations at one of the finest restaurants in Pentecostion for groups of six to 12 people, according to Mr. Wasilkoff. He then dispatched two Church youths to search out widows and elderly at the Festival site. The individuals would be picked up by taxi for the restaurant and returned after the meal.

Upon arrival the women had corsages awaiting them on their plates. They could order anything on the menu, and the bill was paid. Many



REGINA, SASK.

Photo by Richard Schempo

of these people had not met each other before the dinner.

It was a high point of the Feast as they went home with new friends and happy memories. The identity of Mr. Hunter from Alberta is known only to a few.

"Many farmers from rain-stricken parts of Alberta came to the Feast leaving their grain crops out in the field," Mr. Wasilkoff said. One farmer from central Alberta returned to harvest 1,200 acres of crop that he was unable to reap before the Feast.

Some members are predicting a loss from rot and poor commodity prices. However, these members remain positive, according to Mr. Adair.

"It was noted by ushers that the children were quieter and more well-behaved than in previous years — a tribute to the parents and children," Mr. Wasilkoff said.

Glen Weber, coordinator of the Regina, Sask., site and Regina pastor, encouraged senior citizens in a sermon to share their maturity and add balance by attending activities. Many more attended family day and the YOU talent contest.

"It was a welcome sight to see so

many seniors mixing with the crowd," Mr. Weber said.

Mr. Weber said that Mary O'Hara, singer and harpist, who was in town for a performance, performed for 15 minutes at the end of the YOU talent contest.

In Niagara Falls sunny weather prevailed for most of the Feast amidst the rainiest recorded fall in Ontario.

"Many businesses commented on how they notice we always bring good weather," said Neil Earle, Festival coordinator and pastor of the Toronto East and West and Brampton, Ont., churches.

All the Feast sites were blessed with fine weather, according to Mr. Patrickson. "Regina, Sask., experienced exceptionally nice weather, soaking up eight days of sunshine. This was a pleasant contrast to the last two years, which have seen Regina receive a blanket of snow during the Feast," he said.

Charlottetown, P.E.I.	1,265
Niagara Falls, N.Y.	5,590
Pentecostion, B.C.	2,259
Regina, Sask.	1,830
Victoria, B.C.	1,413

## Five French sites promote growth, family atmosphere

PASADENA — "For the 20th year, French-speaking Europeans were able to attend together at one site," said evangelist Dibar Apartian, regional director.

"All were within walking distance to services," Mr. Apartian continued. "We had a most beautiful Feast, a family atmosphere comprised of French, Swiss, Belgian, African and American brethren.

During the Feast in Belgium, members celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Paris, France, church. Samuel Kneller, Paris pastor, provided brochures filled with historical pictures and facts of the church's past.

Mr. Apartian reported that all five French-speaking sites received Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's first-day message on videotape, which was simultaneously translated. The other messages and Festival films were dubbed in French.

Halfway through the Feast, Mr. Apartian and his wife, Shirley, flew to La Malbaie, Que., where brethren met in a luxury hotel. "Again a family atmosphere prevailed," said the regional director.

Sing-alongs around a fireplace were conducted in the evenings. One member lost his wallet containing all of his second time, but the wallet was found and returned.

"In Jacmel, Haiti, we sent four students from Ambassador College and a couple of guest speakers who gave wonderful sermons," the re-

gional director said. "This was the first time for some of the brethren to be in such an elegant atmosphere."

"In St. Francois, Guadeloupe, we have been keeping the Feast at the same location for the past five years, and it's a little village where we can all be together," said Mr. Apartian. "It's a typical family atmosphere."

Gilbert Carbonnel, site coordinator, reported, "During the Feast, links have been tightened between parents and children, who wanted the Feast to continue." Youths served during meals and helped mothers and the elderly.

After the Feast Mr. Apartian conducted a *Pure Verite* (French *Plain Truth*) Bible lecture in Quebec City, Que., Oct. 27.

"We only have a few thousand subscribers there, but there were 76 new people in the audience," he said.

"The churches in the French-speaking areas are growing and loyal — first to God and then to each other," Mr. Apartian said. "You can see signs of that growth and fruit being born. The brethren understand that Christ is really the Head of the Church."

Hengelhof, Belgium	1,265
Jacmel, Haiti	55
La Malbaie, Que.	1,077
St. Francois, Guadeloupe	298
Tartane, Martinique	315



LA MALBAIE, QUE.

Photo by Jeff Patton

## Feastgoers express appreciation

PASADENA — Brethren from around the world shared experiences and expressed appreciation for the messages, activities, service and meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles in comments received here.

It was the first Feast for many brethren. Here is a sampling of their comments.

"It has been an experience far more wonderful than I expected . . . I pray that this first Feast was just the beginning of many, many more to come," said a member at the Vail, Colo., site.

"This is my first Feast and my nonmember wife really enjoyed herself at all the activities," said a member from Kalispell, Mont.

"It was perfect. I felt so at peace and surrounded by people of God . . . I hope I will never miss another as long as I live, it was so uplifting," said a Feastgoer at the Sacramento, Calif., site.

Members noted the unity and harmony at each site.

"Every year I am able to see

God's Family growing closer together . . . God's fruits of Galatians 5:22-23 are becoming so much brighter as that light on the hill that cannot be hid," said a member at the Eugene, Ore., site.

"This is my 20th Feast and it far surpasses all others . . . I have met many with severe trials and yet they are here really rejoicing," said a Feastgoer in Spokane, Wash. "It is so true that the more we do come and really learn to fear our great God, the more we are at one with Him and with one another."

"There certainly is a spirit of peace and love prevailing," said William Lee, a member at the St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, site.

Brethren cited Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's messages, the *Behind the Work* film, sermons and special music as inspirational.

"I and all the rest appreciate very much [the] messages, most especially . . . on the Last Great Day," said Elizabeth Sy, a member at the

Baguio, Philippines, site.

"Truly it looks like God is using [Mr. Tkach] powerfully in unifying the entire Church throughout the world," said Ralph Roach, a member at the Lonauli, India, site.

Feastgoers also expressed appreciation for family day activities and for members who served at the activities.

"One of the highlights here was family day. How wonderful it was to bring my family and to see the many other families participating in the many activities," said a member at the Corpus Christi, Tex., site.

Some wished that the Feast would last more than eight days.

"I am looking forward to the time I don't have to return home after the Feast — the happy life with everyone happy and enjoying life with God," said a member in Eugene.

"It didn't last long enough," said one Feastgoer in Spokane, "but God in His wisdom knew we would cherish it more because it was so short."

GUATEMALA • GUYANA • HAITI • INDIA • IRISH REPUBLIC • JAMAICA • KENYA • MALAWI • MALAYSIA

## British sites feature unity, peace

**BOREHAMWOOD, England** — The English-language Feasts in Europe went extremely well, reported Paul Suckling, director of Church Administration here. "Attitudes of cooperation and unity were evident everywhere. The brethren really took to heart Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach's admonition."

For the first time as regional director, evangelist Frank Brown was a guest speaker in Australia. The British Office also coordinated Feast sites in Ireland, Denmark and East and West Africa.

### Europe

Evangelist Gerald Waterhouse and Steven Botha, pastor of the Manhattan and Westchester, N.Y., churches, were guest speakers in the United Kingdom.

Members at the Brighton, England, site attended three "magnificent, never-to-be-forgotten" ban-

quets in the King's Banqueting Room of the Royal Pavilion Estate, according to John Meakin, Brighton coordinator.

"The poor weather encouraged our brethren to participate even more fully in planned activities, especially the lunches we had provided each day," Mr. Meakin said.

In Bredsten, Denmark, the annual Scandinavian Spokesman Club ladies night took place, reported Peter Shenton, site coordinator. It is the only meeting during the year, he said, with men giving speeches in English (English is not their first language).

Parallel with the ministerial speaking schedule was a schedule of interpreters who interpreted services into one of the Scandinavian languages. "As a result of *Den Enkle Sannhet*, there is a growing number of members who speak no English at all," he said.

"We have a standing joke at the Feast about an incurable disease that the ministry do not anoint for," Mr. Shenton added. "It is called *Agape Scandinavium* [Scandinavian love], which spread this year through the entire Festival."

A woman from the Manchester, England, church who was unable to attend the Feast in Dunoon, Scotland, received more than 100 cards and bunches of flowers from Feastgoers, said site coordinator David Silcox.

Anthony Goudie, coordinator of the Kenmare, Irish Republic, site, noting the examples set by the brethren there, reported, "Love and concern did not need to be organized on a church basis."

The Beverley Park caravan site, used by half the members in Paignton, England, was bracing to welcome 2,000 children for an international competition after the Feast.

"Commenting on the difference between us and them, one of the camp's personnel said, 'We know you people were sent by God. Next week we have some people from the other place,'" according to Melvin Rhodes, coordinator.

David Wood, coordinator in St. Peter Port, Guernsey, said: "Considerable confusion and difficulty were caused when a strike disrupted ferry services from England shortly before the Feast."



**BRIGHTON, ENGLAND**

Photo by Maryann Pirog

However, in spite of severe problems, everyone who wanted to was able to get there by various means."

### East and West Africa

For the first time, the Festival took place at two locations in Nigeria — Ibadan and Nsukka, both in the south.

Curtis May, an associate pastor of the Pasadena Imperial A.M. congregation, and his family traveled to both sites, where Mr. May was guest speaker. David Bedford, pastor of the Cambridge, Northampton and Nottingham, England, churches, was sent to the two Nigerian sites from the Borehamwood Office.

Brethren in Nsukka "sensed a new dimension being given to the



**PAIGNTON, ENGLAND**

Photo by Barry Stahl

Church to further prepare a people for God's Kingdom," according to coordinator Lateef Edalere.

"Because of growth in the Church in Kenya, a new site in Mombasa was necessary this year, in addition to the usual site at Naro Moru," reported Owen Willis, coordinator for both sites.

Brethren attending the Mombasa site "were thrilled to relive Mr. Tkach's August visit to Kenya, by means of *Behind the Work — A New Chapter*. They appreciate their role in the worldwide work."

Brethren from Uganda who planned to keep the Feast in Naro Moru did not arrive because of problems at the border crossing, Mr. Willis said.

Abner Washington, pastor of the Los Angeles, Calif., church, and his wife, Sharon, visited isolated brethren at the Cape Maclear, Malawi, site, according to Mr. Willis, site coordinator.

"There was a tremendously warm and positive family atmosphere throughout, despite no running water due to pump failure," Mr. Willis said.

The Festival films shown outside attracted nearby villagers. Mr. Willis added that the Feast provides the year's only opportunity for isolated brethren to assemble and fellowship as a whole.

Diane Kinder, a 1980 Pasadena Ambassador College graduate working in the Church's Mail Processing Center, attended the Feast in Ghana.

"The Ghanaians are still recovering from drought and are having trouble finding food and other basic necessities," said Miss Kinder.

"And when they were told that brethren in Pasadena and around the world pray for them, they were deeply moved and brought to tears," she continued. "They mentioned that they pray very diligently for brethren in Pasadena and around the world."

International guests were asked to bring toys for children at the Feast, "and that made the Feast re-

ally, really special for the children," according to Miss Kinder. "They don't often get a chance to play together like that."

In Ghana, where Mr. May and his family observed the Day of Atonement, "we found the brethren very warm and loving and very much behind the work."

"The Ghanaian economy is chaotic," he continued. "Each month people don't know what they're going to be paid, because of the fluctuating inflation rate."

"But they wanted me to convey to Mr. Tkach that they are behind him 100 percent," Mr. May continued. "Some of the brethren are poor, but they're spiritually rich."

"I found the same atmosphere in Nigeria and my experience there was very rewarding, deeply meaningful."



**NARO MORU, KENYA**

Photo by Greg S. Smith

Brighton, England	1,087
Dunoon, Scotland	640
Paignton, England	1,686
St. Peter Port, Guernsey	975
Bredsten, Denmark	290
Kenmare, Irish Republic	325
Ako Sombo, Ghana	400
Cape Maclear, Malawi	124
Ibadan, Nigeria	273
Mombasa, Kenya	103
Naro Moru, Kenya	103
Nsukka, Nigeria	212

## German areas experience 'love like in a close family'

**BONN, West Germany** — "The spiritual food was of very high quality, and also from a physical viewpoint, the Fall Festival... was really the best ever."

"There was a definite feeling of warmth and love like that experienced in a close family," said Frank Schnee, director of the German Office, about the Feast sites in Bonndorf, West Germany, and Brno, Czechoslovakia.

More than 1,300 German-speaking brethren and visitors attended the sites.

Taped messages from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, which allowed brethren to become better acquainted with him, were high-points at both sites, according to Mr. Schnee.

Mr. Schnee spoke in Bonndorf and Brno. David Wainwright, a Pasadena Ambassador College professor, also spoke at both Festival locations.

Nine hundred ninety-six Feastgoers in Bonndorf, including more than 300 overseas brethren, celebrated the 10th anniversary of the

Bonndorf Feast site. The mayor of Bonndorf welcomed the group and presented a cake commemorating the anniversary. Wiktor Przybyla, one of two members in Poland, attended the Bonndorf site.

Thomas Lapacka, Festival coordinator and pastor of the Stuttgart, West Germany, and Basel and Zuerich, Switzerland, churches, said that the Festival was the smoothest-running Feast he has organized — made possible by a spirit of unity and desire on the part of all to make it work.

Brno Feastgoers visited Zidlochovice hunting lodge, where they ate a hot meal of pheasant and venison and were entertained by a string quartet.

In every Feast activity participants were treated like kings, Mr. Schnee said.

Thirteen East German brethren attended the Brno Feast site.

Bonndorf, West Germany	996
Brno, Czechoslovakia	315



**BONNDORF, WEST GERMANY**

Photo by Thomas Erz

## Italians, Maltese meet at Swiss site

**PASADENA** — Lugano, Switzerland, was the assigned Feast site for brethren from Italy, Malta and Greece. Many of the brethren, including transfers from North America and England, stayed in hotels overlooking Lake Lugano, according to Carn Catherwood, regional director for Italian-speaking areas.

"Brethren from Italy and Malta were especially moved by their first opportunity to see and hear from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach," said Mr. Catherwood.

An outdoor family picnic for Italian brethren early in the Feast "quickly became a daily midday event," he said. "A spread of traditional Italian breads, cheeses, wine and local fruit provided a backdrop for truly memorable and meaningful fellowship."

"The warmth, unity and contagious enthusiasm generated at these get-togethers truly made them a highlight of the Feast," Mr. Catherwood continued.

Site coordinator David Stirk and Michael Caputo, pastor of the Rome, Milan and Catania, Italy, churches, performed five baptisms on the last day of the Feast.

"The number of Feastgoers attending from Italy this year was 120 — approximately double the number of those attending the Feast of Tabernacles last year," said Mr. Catherwood.

According to Mr. Stirk, three halls were used in turn for services. One (a casino) was reached by boat across Lake Lugano.

"Separate, Italian-language services were arranged for the Italian-speaking brethren on the first Holy

Day and on Thursday, Oct. 23," said Mr. Stirk. "At all other combined services, translation services were provided."

"Overseas visitors were commended for their willingness to fellowship with the Italian brethren, in spite of the language barrier," he added.

Donna Patillo, secretary for evangelist and Church treasurer Leroy Neff in Pasadena, and her husband, Jerry, attended in Lugano, where Mr. Patillo was an usher.

"Jerry had taken a class in Italian last spring, so the brethren appreciated being able to talk to people from other areas who spoke Italian," said Mrs. Patillo.

Lugano, Switzerland	567
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MARTINIQUE • MAURITIUS • MEXICO • NETHERLANDS • NEW ZEALAND • NIGERIA • PERU • PHILIPPINES

## Festival in Australia, Asia: Mr. Tkach's theme pervades

**BURLEIGH HEADS, Australia** — The theme of love and unity set by Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach for the 1986 Feast of Tabernacles pervaded the Festival sites in Australia, Asia and the Solomon Islands, according to Robert Morton, regional director.

Mr. Morton said that many brethren commented on the spirit of unity and family togetherness that helped make this the happiest Feast they experienced.

In Australia 6,079 people attended seven Feast sites. Nine hundred twenty-nine people attended the five sites outside of Australia administered by the Australian Office.

Festival coordinators reported that it was a virtually hassle-free Feast, with few problems experienced at their sites. There was less illness among Feastgoers than in previous years.

Guest speakers in Australia were evangelists Frank Brown, regional director of the British Office, and David Hulme, director of Communications & Public Affairs in Pasadena. Gene Hogberg, *Plain Truth* world news editor, spoke at the Feast sites in India and Sri Lanka.

Ministers in Merimbula, Australia, received many reports of how impressed the business community was with God's people. In one incident two young people were shopping and accidentally dropped a container of cream. The shopkeeper was amazed that they not only cleaned up the mess, but purchased tissues to do so.

God miraculously protected a 5-year-old at the Merimbula site, who fell from a window. Two families gathered for food and fellowship. As the children played in one of the bedrooms, one of the boys opened a window. Jonathan Jackson, 5, stood on the bed and placed his hands on the screen. The screen gave way, and Jonathan tumbled to a paved area 12 feet below.

His father raced downstairs and found his son unharmed but slightly shaken, promising he wouldn't "do it again, Dad."

Brethren in Ahungalla, Sri Lanka, showed concern, service and warm hospitality toward each other. They were a tremendous example to the community in times of tension, distrust and hatred in Sri Lanka, according to pastor Mohan Jayasekera. The Feast site was in southwestern Sri Lanka, away from the violence that plagues the northern part of the country.

Seven people were baptized at the Sri Lankan site, bringing membership there to 49.

For the first time the Indian site (Lonaui) received all videotaped Feast messages during the Feast, especially important since many of the members live too far away to attend regular Sabbath services.

One employee of the Fariyas Holiday Resort, where many of the brethren stayed and where services took place, asked one member how he could join the Church.

Scattered Pacific island brethren met in Honiara, Solomon Islands, along with international visitors, making for a total attendance of 82. For some it is the only time of the year they can meet with other members. During island night festivities brethren prepared food in the traditional manner by cooking it in the ground.

Preliminary reports indicate that about 40 brethren attended the Feast in Sa Khan Gyi, Burma, the home village of pastor Saw Lay Beh. Brethren there heard tapes of Mr. Tkach's opening night

and Last Great Day messages.

In northern Burma about 60 people met in Kya In village, where deacon Thomas Tial Hoe translated material from Saw Lay Beh.

Terence Villiers, pastor of the Sydney, Australia, North church, said that activities and services at the Gosford, Australia, Feast site were marked by a special and deeper peace, unity and earnest participation than ever before.

The Gosford *Star* published an article titled "Solving the Mystery of the Tiny Green Stickers," about the Feast bumper stickers used in some areas.

In Caloundra, Australia, Rodney Dean, pastor of the Brisbane North and Caboolture, Australia, churches, noted a warmth and genuineness of caring among the brethren that indicates their desire to create the unity of a loving family as Mr. Tkach exhorted.

"The Feast in Malacca [Malaysia] portrayed a family atmosphere where black, white and yellow races from nine countries showed respect, friendliness, love and concern for one another," said Yong Chin Gee, pastor of the Johor Baharu and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, churches.

Caloundra, Australia	1,202
Gold Coast, Australia	1,820
Gosford, Australia	912
Hobart, Australia	387
Merimbula, Australia	638
Perth, Australia	578
Ulladulla, Australia	742
Ahungalla, Sri Lanka	123
Honiara, Solomon Islands	82
Kya In, Burma	60
Lonaui, India	210
Malacca, Malaysia	414
Sa Khan Gyi, Burma	40

## Brethren uplifted at Feast in New Zealand, Pacific

**AUCKLAND, New Zealand** — The Feast in New Zealand and the South Pacific was kept at Rotorua, New Zealand, Pacific Harbour, Fiji, and Mu'a, Tonga.

"Brethren at each site reported an edifying and uplifting Feast of Tabernacles," said Peter Nathan, regional director for the Church in those areas.

Evangelist Harold Jackson was the guest speaker and spoke at all three sites throughout the Festival season. "The warmth, wisdom and dedication of the Jacksons to God's work was added to by the presence of some of their family, who were able to keep the Feast in New Zealand with them," Mr. Nathan said.

Many Feastgoers in Rotorua commented on facing trials before the Feast that could have dampened their enjoyment or kept them from attending had God not intervened, according to Don Engle, Feast coordinator.

Messages from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach helped brethren to identify with him as pastor general in a concentrated manner, Mr. Nathan said. "Their prayers for him will be greatly enhanced."

Currency fluctuations between Australia and New Zealand meant that fewer Australian brethren traveled to New Zealand or Fiji this year, while the strong U.S. dollar allowed more Americans to attend the two sites.



ULLADULLA, AUSTRALIA

Photo by Norman Smith

## Philippine sites prove 'motivating'

**MANILA, Philippines** — "A year of exceptional growth and activity culminated in a most inspiring and motivating Feast of Tabernacles," reported Guy Ames, regional director in the Philippines.

For the first time attendance passed 4,000, climbing to 4,440.

Evangelist Raymond McNair, deputy chancellor of Pasadena Ambassador College, and his wife, Eve, were "our special headquarters guests," Mr. Ames said.

"For the first time, the uplifting Cebu Plaza Hotel ballroom was used as the venue in Cebu," said the regional director. "Some brethren said it was the first time they had set foot on carpet."

A typhoon threatened the Naga site early in the Feast, "but the prayers of the brethren brought a sudden abatement to the wind and driving rain on Sunday evening," according to Mr. Ames. "For the remainder of the week the weather was perfect."

In Baguio services took place simultaneously in two halls. Scheduling the speakers allowed brethren in both halls to hear the same messages by the end of the Feast, according to Jose Raduban, site coordinator and pastor of the Manila church.

One member at the Cebu site lost a piece of luggage while traveling to the site, and was so discouraged that he thought of returning home, according to Pedro Melendez Jr., site coordinator and pastor of the Quezon City, Philippines, church. However, several brethren came to his aid by providing extra clothing and food.

Edmond Macaraeg, pastor of the San Pedro, Imus and Victoria, Philippines, churches and coordinator of the Cagayan de Oro site, reported that less than five minutes after people left the hall after watching the Festival entertainment film Oct. 23, "large pieces of broken glass began falling from the ceiling light installations about 50 feet above."

"God spared some people from serious injury or even death," said Mr. Macaraeg.

Services there were translated into the Cebuano dialect for about

300 brethren.

"My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed keeping the Feast with the Filipino brethren," Mr. McNair reported. "They are certainly some of the warmest people on earth."

"By speaking at a combined Church service in Naga on the Sabbath before the Day of Atonement, and another group on Atonement, I was able to speak to the entire membership in the Philippines during our two-week stay," Mr. McNair continued.

"The Philippine churches certainly exhibit loyalty toward headquarters and a spirit of unity with God's Family."



CAGAYAN DE ORO, PHILIPPINES

Photo by Rafael Uy

Baguio, Philippines	2,119
Cagayan de Oro, Philippines	1,082
Cebu, Philippines	879
Naga, Philippines	360

## Feast features family fun

**PASADENA** — Family days at Feast sites around the world offered a variety of activities.

In Big Sandy each church area assigned to the site was responsible for a game booth. The booths offered a variety of activities including guessing games, ring toss, dart throwing and an obstacle course.

At the Paradise Island, Bahamas, Feast site family day took place on the beach, where futuristic world tomorrow sand castles were constructed by groups of five and 10 people. Games and races were available for children.

In Livingstone, Zambia, members worked to produce a non-sporting family day when all sporting activities were canceled by the government after Samora Machel, president of Mozambique, was

killed in an airplane crash.

Seven thousand eight hundred brethren in Pensacola, Fla., visited the Pensacola Naval Air Station on family day. Captain Walker of the air station said he was impressed with the cordial people and how neat and clean they left the grounds. He extended an invitation for next year.

A helicopter dropped thousands of plumeria blossoms on family day activities in Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii.

Riverfront Park, site of the 1974 World's Fair in Spokane, Wash., was the site of family day there. YES-age children won more than 7,000 prizes, and members thrilled to a simulated ride on the space shuttle at an IMAX theater. Teens served the elderly and disabled at the family day barbecue lunch.



ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

Photo by Kerri Miles

Rotorua, New Zealand	1,401
Mu'a, Tonga	56
Pacific Harbour, Fiji	305

ST. LUCIA • SOLOMON ISLANDS • SOUTH AFRICA • SPAIN • SRILANKA • SWITZERLAND • TOBAGO • TONGA

## Spanish sites emphasize caring

PASADENA — "The central theme that seems to run through the Festival reports from the 10 Spanish-speaking sites is that of a family atmosphere," said evangelist Leon Walker, regional director in Spanish-speaking areas.

Brethren from the United States and Canada transferred to Spain, Puerto Rico and Mexico. Translations were provided for services. "Even though most of them could not speak Spanish, they made a special effort to fellowship with their Spanish-speaking brethren," Mr. Walker said.

This was the first year the Feast was conducted in Venezuela. One member, Hilda Belli, housed 14 people at her home. "In addition she had everybody over for a meal at least once during the Feast," said

Reginald Killingley, Festival coordinator and pastor of the Barquisimeto church.

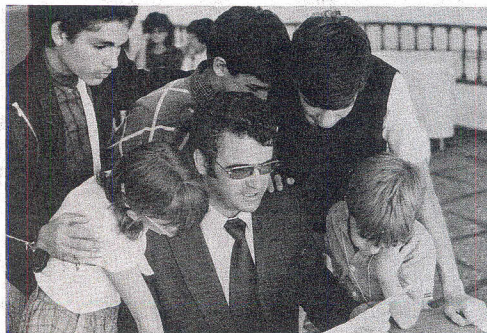
In Acapulco, U.S. and Canadian brethren invited Mexican members out to meals and paid their way for some activities, according to Thomas Turk, Festival coordinator and pastor of the Mexico City, Mexico, church. Some brought toys and clothing for distribution among the Mexican brethren and children.

Seventeen brethren were baptized during the Feast in Antigua, Guatemala, according to Herbert Cisneros, Festival coordinator and pastor of the San Salvador, El Salvador, and Guatemala City, Guatemala, churches. Emphasis was put on youths because they have few opportunities to get together during the year.

Mauricio Perez, Festival coordinator and pastor of the San Jose, Costa Rica, church, reported that brethren at the Liberia, Costa Rica, Feast site gave a generous offering for the brethren in El Salvador who lost homes in the Oct. 10 earthquake. (For more information on the quake and how it affected Church members, see "Scattered Brethren," page 16).

"Though there is much poverty in Peru, God's people here are typically rich in spirit. A friendly, loving and united caring atmosphere prevailed throughout the Feast," said Wilfredo Saenz, Festival coordinator in Trujillo, Peru, and pastor of the Lima and Huaraz, Peru, churches.

A record 50 new people attended the Feast in Maitencillo, Chile.



CULLERA, SPAIN

Four new members were baptized.

In Cullera, Spain, three weeks of torrential rains stopped and an approaching storm broke up an hour before the opening service of the

Photo by Keith Speaks

Feast. The weather stayed dry throughout the Feast except for afternoon showers one day.

For the first time in the seven years the Feast has been conducted in Spain, all services included special music. Nicolas Flaguer, a member from the island of Majorca, brought a portable electric piano to accompany hymns. He also practiced for months to learn to play many of the hymns.

Youths cleaned up nearly a ton of debris from a 150-year beach in front of the Hotel Scania, where services were conducted.

Four baptisms during the Feast brought the number of Church members in Spain and Portugal to 35.

Acapulco, Mexico	1,502
Antigua, Guatemala	449
Barquisimeto, Venezuela	103
Cullera, Spain	120
Humacao, Puerto Rico	245
Liberia, Costa Rica	95
Maitencillo, Chile	242
Melgar, Colombia	283
Trujillo, Peru	265
Villa Gesell, Argentina	309

## Caribbean brethren extend 'much hospitality'

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Meeting at eight English-speaking sites in the Caribbean, 3,565 brethren from the Caribbean and visitors attended the Feast of Tabernacles, according to Stan Bass, regional director for the Church in the English-speaking Caribbean.

"All of the sites reported good weather," Mr. Bass said, and "local pastors are reporting that the ministry fed God's people with food in due season."

Church Administration in Pasadena assigned eight ministers to be guest speakers. Attendance at all the sites except Castries, St. Lucia, was higher than last year. Attendance was lower in Castries because the meeting facility was much

smaller than the one used last year.

"The higher attendance comes in large part from the increased popularity of the Caribbean as a Feast destination and from growth of the Caribbean churches," Mr. Bass said.

Mr. Bass also said that a considerable number of Caribbean members transferred to the United States or other sites this year.

Offerings in the Caribbean were more than 79 percent above last year's offerings. Mr. Bass said that such an increase is truly significant because since last Feast, Trinidad — which has the largest church, but not the largest Feast site — experienced a 50 percent devaluation of its currency.

"God revealed by His actions this year that He does not need the strength of human economics to be able to bless His work," Mr. Bass said.

Brethren attending the Feast in Dominica were surprised by the almost unspoiled landscape. In Bermuda brethren took a cruise around the Great Sound and Hamilton Harbor, while Feastgoers in Tobago walked on the ocean floor and viewed exotic fish on the Buccoo Reef and went deep-sea fishing.

The Ocho Rios, Jamaica, site received the satellite transmission from Pasadena for the first time. "The brethren took Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach's message very seriously and tried very hard to be a loving, united family," said Charles Fleming, Feast coordinator. "There was a tremendous amount of interaction between local and visiting brethren with much hospitality being extended by all God's people."

Before the Feast some members in the Dominica and Antigua churches suffered from an outbreak of bacterial conjunctivitis, so a ban on handshaking was imposed at the beginning of the Feast. It was lifted after about three days.

A bicycle accident in Bermuda hospitalized a teenager from the United States. While in the hospital she was overwhelmed with get-well wishes and gifts, in-

cluding a stuffed lion and lamb.

"The brethren in Bermuda are very warm," said James Haeffle, pastor of the Mansfield, Ohio, church, who attended in Hamilton with his family. "That makes it a wonderful site — not just for the weather, but the people."

"The *Behind the Work* film went over very, very well to help everybody get to know Mr. Tkach and to help people be much closer and enthusiastic behind the work," Mr. Haeffle continued.

"Down in the Caribbean they can identify with the brethren from Kibirichia [Kenya] because they themselves are quite outlying from Pasadena, and are a small dot on the globe."



CHRIST CHURCH, BARBADOS

Photo by Eric White

## Dutch, visitors feel like family during Feast in Netherlands

HOOGEVEEN, Netherlands — Family unity and togetherness prevailed here in the Drenthe province of the Netherlands, where 486 brethren kept the Feast.

"Although the weather was overcast with occasional rain, the Dutch language area enjoyed its best Feast ever," said Bram de Bree, regional director for the Dutch-speaking area.

Four Dutch-language churches and 107 visitors from 10 nations were represented in Hoogeveen, a city amidst farmlands and villages.

Services at De Tambour were in Dutch and translated into English.

"This was our seventh Feast in the Netherlands, and they keep on getting better and better," said Pieter Michielens, pastor of the Fort

St. John, B.C., and Grande Prairie, Alta., churches.

"It's very much a family atmosphere," Mr. Michielens continued. "The unity of a family is much more felt at a smaller site."

"In a large foyer we had meals together and all the activities. We even had an indoor barbecue, and everybody basically attended."

A number of brethren could not attend the Feast because of illness, Mr. de Bree said. They received an overwhelming number of cards, flowers and telephone calls from members at the Feast. As one said, "It's just great how the brethren reached out to me."

Hoogeveen, Netherlands 486

Castries, St. Lucia	204
Christ Church, Barbados	585
Georgetown, Guyana	204
Hamilton, Bermuda	341
Ocho Rios, Jamaica	819
Paradise Island, Bahamas	592
Roseau, Dominica	135
Store Bay, Tobago	684

## Feastgoers experience China by touring, staying together

NANJING, China — Ninety-three brethren kept the Feast in Nanjing and toured several other cities in the People's Republic of China, according to Festival coordinator John Halford, an associate producer of *The World Tomorrow*.

The tour was coordinated through an official tour service of the People's Republic of China (Swan International Tours).

The group met in Hong Kong two days after Atonement, according to Fred Stevens, assistant Festival coordinator and manager of the Church's Accounting Department in Pasadena.

About 70 U.S. and Canadian Feastgoers flew from Seattle,

Wash., to Hong Kong. Before departing for China, they were joined by members from Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

After touring Hong Kong, the group flew to Nanjing for the Feast, where they stayed at the Jinling hotel and toured together almost every day, which created a family bond among them, said Mr. Stevens.

Brethren saw a Chinese opera and traditional Chinese song and dance shows. The Little Red Flowers, a children's group, gave a performance that was a high point of the Feast, according to Mr. Halford.

On the last day of the Feast the group visited a memorial to those killed in World War II. The memorial was at one of 13 burial grounds in the city for the more than 600,000 Chinese who were killed during their eight-year occupation of Nanjing.

"It was sobering for everyone. It helped bring out the meaning of the Last Great Day," Mr. Stevens said.

After the Feast, brethren toured Xi'an, where they saw the terracotta army of the Qin dynasty, and Beijing, where they saw an acrobatic performance, toured the Forbidden City and visited the Great Wall.

On their last day before leaving Beijing, group members were guests at a breakfast played host to by Zhang Wen Jin, former ambassador to the United States and now president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries.



HAMILTON, BERMUDA

Photo by Graham Mocklow

Nanjing, China 93



VAIL, COLO.

Photo by Gary Castle



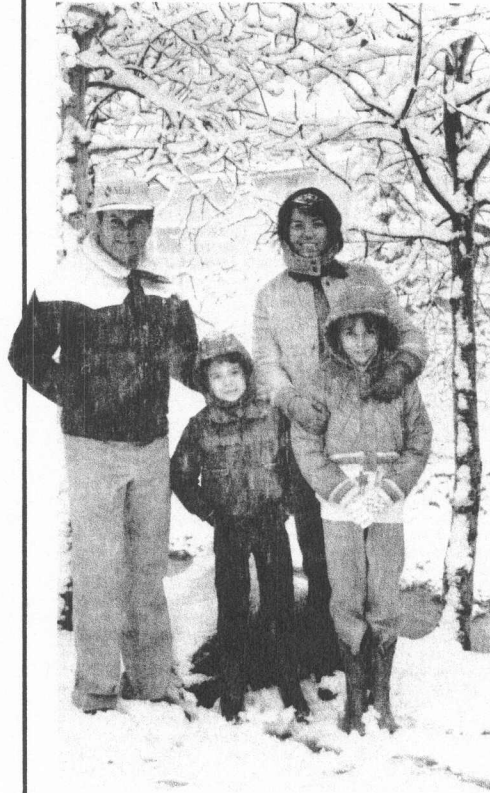
PASADENA

Photo by David H. Malcomson



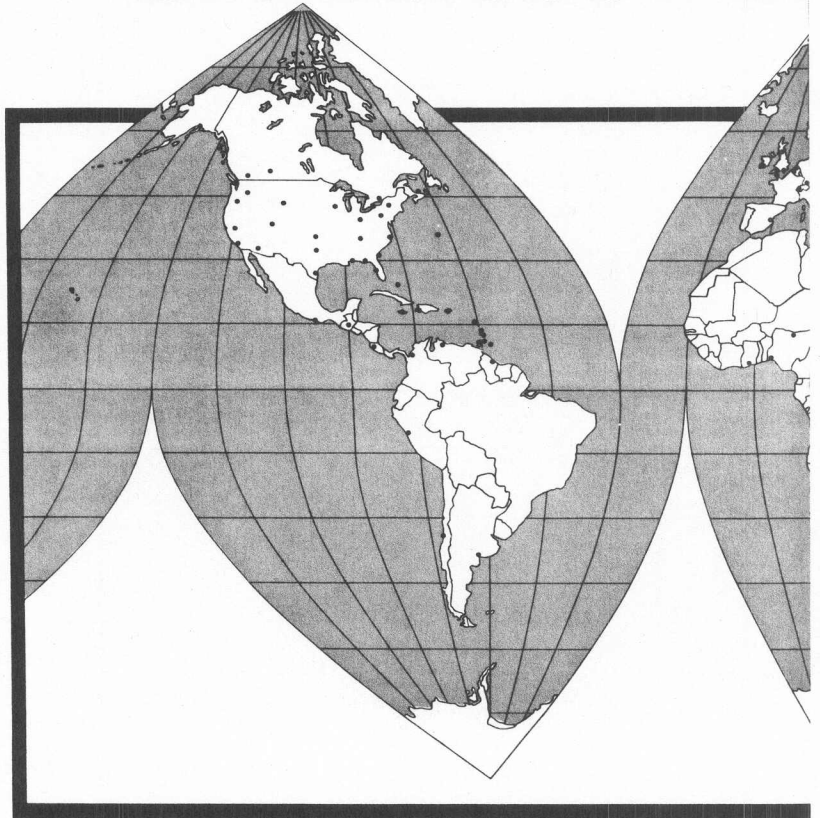
MALACCA, MALAYSIA

# 'Grandest Fair



VAIL, COLO.

Photo by Ronald Kelly



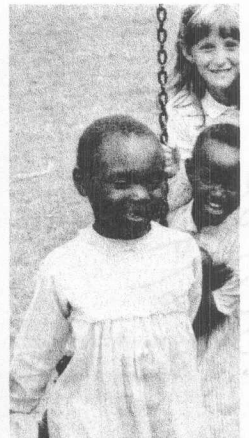
IBADAN, NIGERIA

Photo by Lip Siaw Ng



VICTORIA, B.C.

Photo by John Plunkett



NARO MORU, KENYA





Photo by Robert Verity **DUNOON, SCOTLAND**

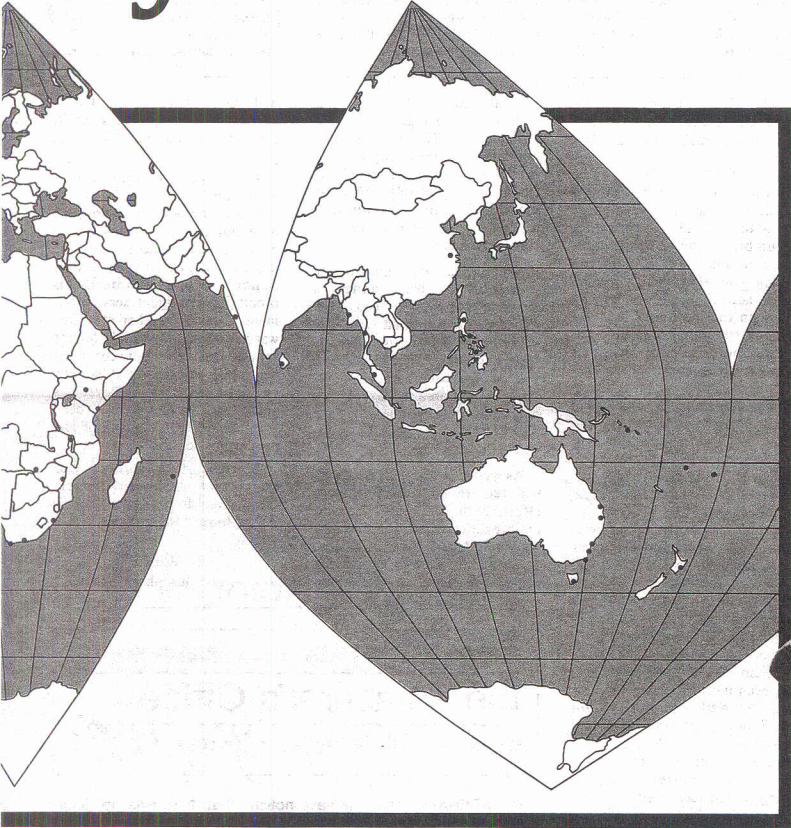
Photo by Bob Schimmel



**PASADENA**

Photo by Stanley Martin

# nily Reunion'



**DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA**

Photo by Alan Roberts



Photo by Greg S. Smith **AHUNGALLA, SRI LANKA**

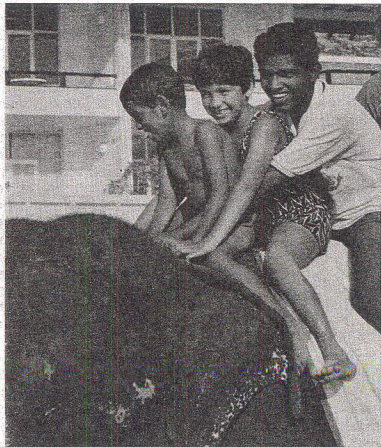


Photo by Tom Hanson **DAYTON, OHIO**

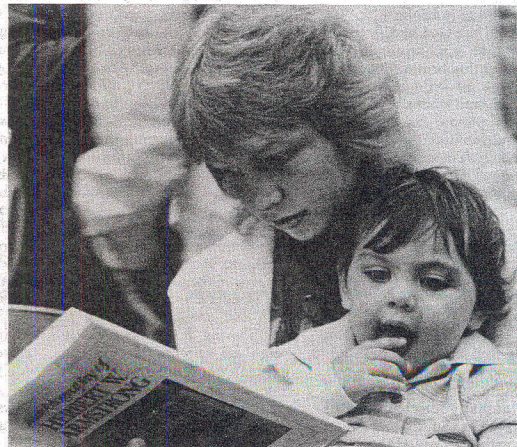


Photo by Norman Koon



Photo by Gary Castle



PASADENA



MALACCA, MALAYSIA



DUNOON, SCOTLAND



PASADENA

# 'Grandest Family Reunion'

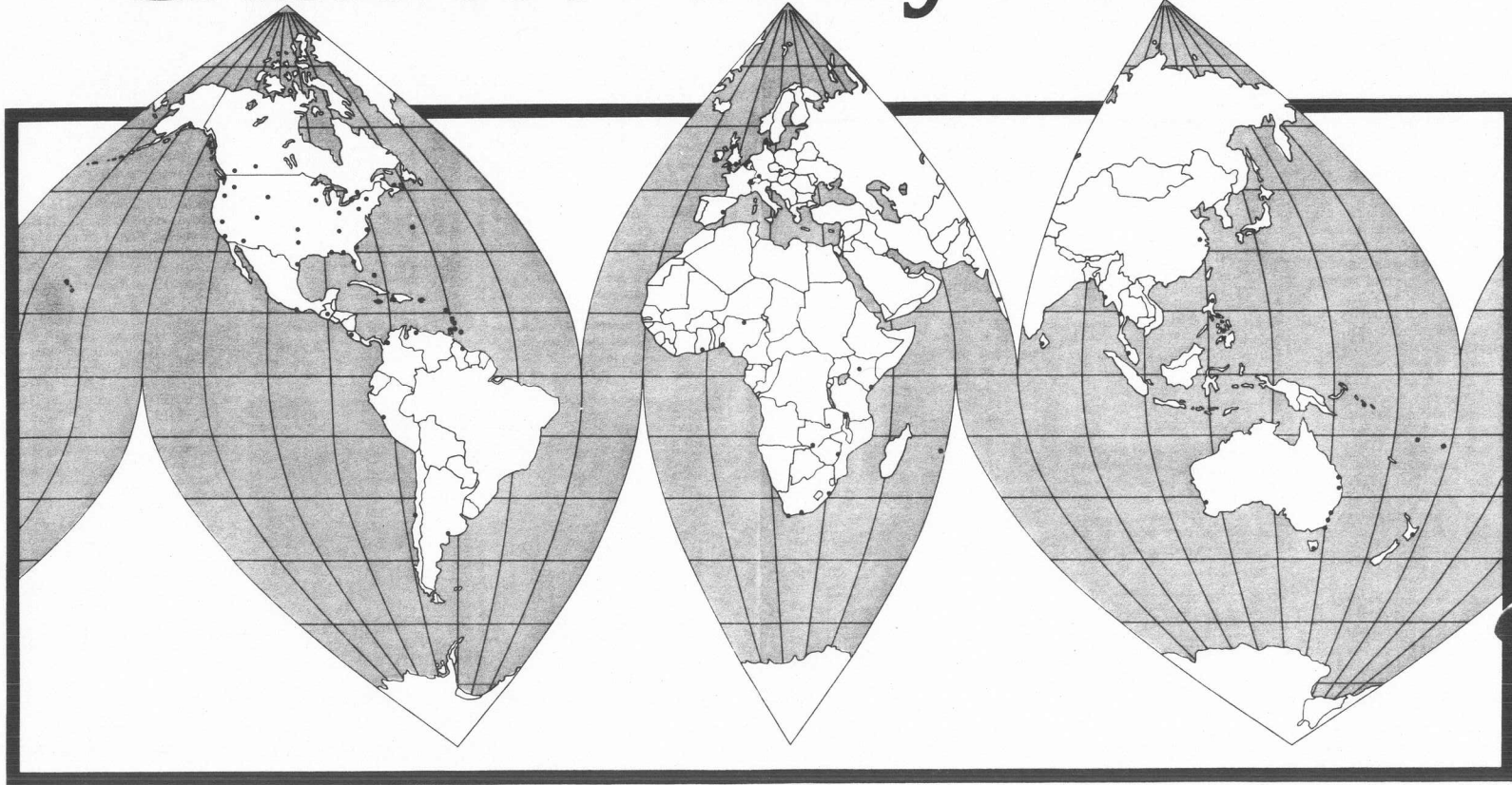


Photo by Ronald Kelly



DURBAN, SOUTH AFRIC.

28/1/84

UNITED KINGDOM • UNITED STATES • VENEZUELA • WEST GERMANY • ZAMBIA • ZIMBABWE

## Southern Africa brethren rejoice

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — "God blessed us abundantly," said Roy McCarthy, regional director for the Church in southern Africa, about the Feast of Tabernacles at six sites administered by the regional office.

"There was greater emphasis on putting God first. Attendances at services remained very high throughout the Feast. All six Festival elders reported excellent Feast attitudes and conduct."

Evangelist Richard Ames and his wife, Kathryn, visited the Durban, George and Hawton, South Africa, sites. Mr. Ames delivered sermons, and Mrs. Ames played her violin for special music.

"My wife and I were able to meet with the various ethnic groups," said Mr. Ames. "I was impressed with the depth of conversion, loyalty and support of the South African brethren for headquarters and Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach."

"God richly blessed us with a family-like atmosphere of unity, to-

gether and rejoicing. The sermons were uplifting and inspiring, highlighting our calling as kings, priests and teachers with and under Christ," said Andre van Belkum, pastor of the Cape Town, South Africa, church and Festival elder in George.

"Mr. Ames delivered three powerful sermons while his wife thrilled the congregation with two violin solos," said John White, pastor of the Durban church and Festival coordinator at that site.

According to William Bentley, pastor of the Bulawayo, Chegutu and Harare, Zimbabwe, and Lusaka, Zambia, churches and Festival coordinator in Livingstone, Zambia, brethren visited poorer members at campsites bringing food and fellowship. "The lunch hour continued until 4:30 p.m. — no one wanted to leave," he said.

Activities at the Zambia site included a cruise up the Zambezi River, where brethren saw hippopotamuses and Victoria Falls.

Terence Browning, Festival coordinator at the Sonesta Holiday Resort in Hawton, said, "With a top attendance of 248, beautiful attitudes, wonderful cooperation, fine weather, very little illness and an ideal Festival setting, the 1986 Feast of Tabernacles was a very successful, smooth-running occasion."

At the Black River Bay, Mauritius, site, Church youths looked after the young children one afternoon so parents could have free time for themselves.

Evelyn Rakotomalala, a Church member in Madagascar, told of becoming sick in January. She said blood vessels in her head broke and she was unable to concentrate or speak. "I passed 15 days of troubles and three months of convalescence... God healed me completely and I got no paralysis. I am very grateful and never will I forget what He has done for me," she said.

At the George site, two Church members, Mr. and Mrs. David Sykes, were protected from death



MUTARE, ZIMBABWE

Photo by John Nester

when a bus hit their car from the rear, according to Mr. van Belkum. The impact hurled their car down a 15-foot embankment.

A policeman thought no one in the car could have survived. Mr. Sykes had bruises and a slight concussion, and Mrs. Sykes injured her back. Both were discharged from a hospital after a few days of observation.

"The incident helped all of us at the Feast appreciate God's protective power," Mr. van Belkum said.

Durban, South Africa	1,569
George, South Africa	691
Hawton, South Africa	248
Black River Bay, Mauritius	126
Livingstone, Zambia	111
Mutare, Zimbabwe	488

## Personal

(Continued from page 1)

(Ephesians 2:20-22). That is, God dwells in us, His Church, which is a unified *body*, the Body of Christ, through His Holy Spirit.

The apostle Paul prayed in Ephesians 3:17-19, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in LOVE, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God." The key to unity, to the spiritual *oneness* to which God has called us and to being filled with all the fullness of God, is *godly love*, described by the Greek word *agape*.

Jesus had a lot to say about that love in the gospel of John. In John 17:23 He prayed, speaking of those who would be called through the ages, "I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

Love is the glue of unity. God is love (1 John 4:8). When we are at last fully born of God at the return of Christ, we too *will be love*. It is in godly love that we are to be growing daily as Christians.

John wrote in 1 John 4:20, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

Most people in this world would agree with these concepts about love. The only problem is, they don't know what love is. They don't know what *defines* love. They don't recognize the authority that tells us how to love and what constitutes love.

Jesus made it quite clear. He said, "If you love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

In John 14:23 He said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." God actually dwells with us through His Spirit if we love Him, and if we love Him we will keep His commandments.

Furthermore, the way we are

able to have godly, or *agape* love for one another is to keep His commandments. Notice 1 John 5:2-3: "By this we know that we love the children of God [fellow brethren in the Church], when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Jesus set the example. He said in John 15:9-10: "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love."

The love of God is defined by His commandments. The apostle Paul said in Romans 7:12: "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." David said in Psalm 119:172: "My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness."

### Love — a way of life

God's way of life produces peace, happiness, joy and unity. And unity is built and maintained in the Church of God through the process of obeying God! Like the old saying goes:

"To live with Those above they say is glory, but to live with those below is another story!"

Human beings like to believe they can be at one with God while rejecting His law about how to treat each other.

Our relationships with one another must be based upon godly love through obedience to God. God shows us in His Word *how* to get along with one another. He shows us how to *resolve* our problems or disagreements that are bound to arise between human beings. It is up to us, then, to *do* it God's way. To believe His Word and follow His teaching.

As we draw closer to God, overcoming and growing in obedience to Him, we will also be drawing closer to one another. As we conduct our relationships with one another according to God's living laws that *produce* peace and harmony, we will as a natural consequence become more unified and closer knit as a spiritual family.

Your ministers will be giving you more instruction on this vital subject in the weeks ahead, and throughout the year, so that the

wonderful lessons of unity we have experienced during the Feast can be maintained all year.

### Announcement

Now I have an important announcement to make! I suppose it has been about 18 years since a number of the senior citizens came to me here in Pasadena asking how they could become more actively involved in the Work in the local area.

They suggested a number of things, but one idea that was brought up seemed to have special merit. "Can we place *Plain Truth* magazines in locations around the city where people could feel free to pick them up and read them?" From there the ball began rolling.

One of our local deacons (now an elder), Mr. Lee Sefcak, prepared in his workshop quite a number of fine quality Plexiglass magazine holders. I then began contacting local businesses about placing *The Plain Truth* in their establishments.

It was a beginning like a grain of mustard seed. Our fledgling program had its ups and downs, but eventually the concept grew into the well-established *Plain Truth* newsstand program many of you are a part of today. And what a fantastic job you are doing! Well-organized teams in nearly all our local congregations keep the current issue of *The Plain Truth* before the public each month.

The excellent success of this program over the years, and the beautiful zeal and dedication of all you brethren who are involved, have made it possible now for us to take a broader step forward in the newsstand program!

A new, revitalized program is to be implemented that will make far more effective use of our newsstand copies and reach a great many more people than our current program is able to. It will require an even more diligent and carefully coordinated effort by you newsstand personnel and will probably open up more opportunities for others to serve as well.

The new program will work as follows: Instead of spreading our newsstand copies so thin that most of our major cities are only able to have 3,000 to 15,000 copies available each month, we will rotate our available copies

from area to area. This will make it possible to blanket a city with perhaps 10 to 12 times the number of newsstand copies now available for a prearranged period of time, probably four to six months. Then that area will have a "rest period" until its rotation comes up again.

We expect this method to provide a very strong witness in an area by giving it *maximum exposure* for a limited time. Because each display will clearly state how long *The Plain Truth* will be available on the newsstand in that area, we expect not only that more people will read it, but that more will be motivated to subscribe.

As you can see, this program will require a great deal more effort, both in preparation and maintenance than the current program. And frankly, brethren, I would not even begin to approve such an ambitious program

if I didn't have confidence in God's people to be able to do it. But I know you can! The fruits prove it!

The diligent, faithful, coordinated work that all of you involved in the newsstand program have put in (and I know many have put their hearts into the program in *prayer* even if they couldn't be involved directly) is proof! Your diligent service has made possible another step forward in God's Work. So let me THANK-YOU, not only for what has been accomplished so far, but *in advance* for what yet lies ahead! I believe God has been well pleased with the *zeal* of His people for doing His Work.

Brethren, the Work of God marches on. Let's grow in love for God and for one another, hastening toward the return of Jesus Christ!

With deep love,  
Joseph W. Tkach

## Report from the Treasurer's Office

Joseph W. Tkach

PASADENA — You may have noticed that there was no report from this office at the end of September. The reason is that it is difficult to make a proper comparison of September with the same month a year earlier. At the end of October, after the Holy Day season is over, we can again make more accurate comparisons.

First, let me give a brief report of the increase for all the Fall Holy Day offerings in comparison with 1985. For the Feast of Trumpets, 16 percent; the Day of Atonement, 20.5 percent; the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles, 21.6 percent; and the Last Great Day was 8.1 percent. For the year the Holy Day offerings were 12.9 percent greater than last year.

It has taken the two weeks since the Feast to input all the income and expense information for the month of October into the computer financial record. This record includes all financial and Holy Day offering information for Pasadena and U.S. Feast sites.

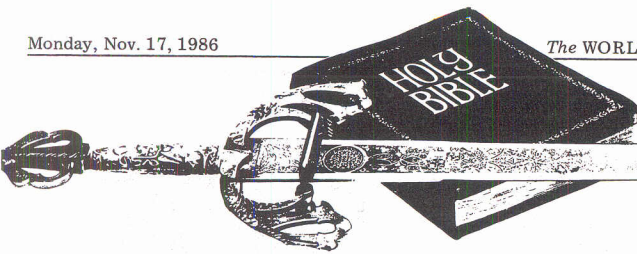
Finally we have the necessary information. The increase in income for the year to the end of October is 7.9 percent. As a result of the efforts of the many departments involved, our expense coverage has now decreased and is 0.8 percent above budget. This is quite an improvement over the figures at the end of August.

We have now begun our budget process for 1987. This is what I think of as a "necessary evil." There are probably more appropriate words than that, as it is not evil, but it is necessary. We must have such a financial guide, or model, for the year in order to keep proper control.

We have decided on a percentage base for income that we believe and hope will turn out to be safe and conservative. Now we must build an expense model for all of the many departments that will fit within this expense estimate. During the next two months much time and effort will be required to complete this new budget.

Thank you for your prayers and monetary support, which have made possible this positive financial report.

# IRON SHARPENS IRON



## Beat those post-Feast blues: Recapture that Feast feeling

By Rick Sherrod

Inspiring sermons, travel, fine hotels and restaurants, excitement, fun and fellowship with friends, old and new. That was the Feast of Tabernacles of 1986.

In eight short days, the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day flew by. And now it's over, with several long months till the next Holy Day season. During this time, "post-Feast blues" often can set in, leading some to become discouraged and to generally let down.

*Rick Sherrod is a local elder in the Chattanooga, Tenn., church.*

But it doesn't have to be this way! If we use the Feast and the weeks immediately following in the right way, we can beat the post-Feast blues before they begin.

### Feast — fifth century B.C.

About two and a half millennia ago, a memorable Feast was kept in Jerusalem. The Jews, recently delivered from Babylonian captivity, had returned to their homeland to resettle and rebuild.

As part of this national restoration, these returning exiles sought to get back to godly worship. In the fall, all Judah assembled "as one man" to hear Ezra, Nehemiah and the priests and Levites "read in the book of the law distinctly" and cause those listening "to understand." During that exciting Feast

of Tabernacles, the priests, scribes and Levites "taught the people" God's way of life (Nehemiah 8).

Their Feast, much like ours, was a combination of listening to instruction from God's teachers and enjoying physical blessings — eating of the fat, drinking of the sweet and making great mirth, "because they had understood the words that were declared unto them" (verses 10, 12). The Jews of Nehemiah's day rejoiced and enjoyed life for eight consecutive days.

But notice what they did immediately following the Feast.

### A fast solution

On the 24th day of the seventh month, just two days after the Last Great Day, we find those same Jews "assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them" (Nehemiah 8:18-9:1). Why the rapid change from joy to somber reflection?

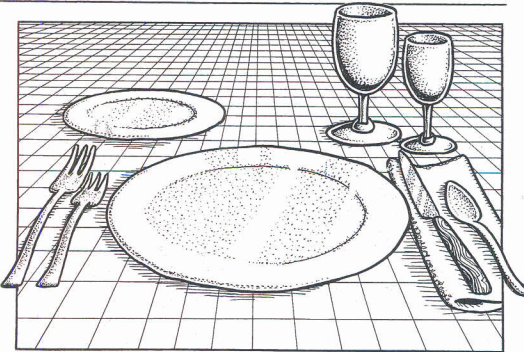
These Jews had just come out of pagan Babylonian society. The inspired explanation of God's Word at the Feast showed those listening what they had carried with them from Babylon back to their homeland. The Jews sought to change what was wrong in their lives by drawing close to God as quickly as they could. This preserved the spirit of the Feast.

For the physical Jew who came out of physical Babylon or the spiritual Jew (Romans 2:28-29) who is coming out of spiritual Babylon

(Revelation 18:4), fasting is a most effective means to "draw nigh unto God" (James 4:7-9).

As we leave behind friends and loved ones and return to our homes after the Feast, the letdown some of us feel may come from no longer being as close to God as the Feast enabled us to be. For eight days we were insulated from Satan's world. We received gourmet spiritual meals daily as we listened to the ministry nurture and nourish us. Being that close to God produced a spiritual high that may collapse once we leave the Festival site and return to our day-to-day routines.

Notice that we are not commanded to fast during the Feast of Tabernacles. When we are close to God, the need to fast is not as great. The disciples of John the Baptist asked Jesus, "Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?" (Mark 2:18). Alluding to the time when He would return to marry the Church, Jesus replied: "Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them?" (verse 19). There is no need to fast to draw close to God because Christ



was there with His disciples. Speaking of a time when He would not physically be with the disciples, Jesus observed, "But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days" (verse 20). When that time came, we find the disciples continuing "with one accord in prayer and supplication [a King James term that can imply entreaties made while fasting]" (Acts 1:14).

### Stay close to God

On this side of the Millennium, the Feast of Tabernacles can be the easiest time of year for us to draw close to God. When we leave the godly environment produced by the Feast — when we lose that ready ac-

cessibility to God through daily instruction from His ministry and contact with His people — then it is time to fast. Through proper use of this spiritual tool, we can preserve or recapture the closeness to God that made the Feast the wonderful time that it was.

It's a foolproof means of drawing close to God. If we fast as God instructs, He promises, "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rereward (Isaiah 58:8).

Let's beat the post-Feast blues this year. Let's draw close to God in the weeks and months ahead and maintain the spiritual high this year's Feast brought to us all.

## While the world celebrates

# This is the season to be tactful

By Michael A. Snyder

"Here are the financial reports you asked for, Mike. By the way, I need you to help set up the Christmas tree and arrange for drinks before the Christmas office party on Friday," said my boss at a job I had some years ago.

I swallowed hard as he turned away. How am I going to get out of this one? I thought nervously.

*Michael A. Snyder is assistant director of Communications & Public Affairs for the Church.*

I was working as a public relations official and it was important that I maintain positive relations with my supervisor. As I shuffled through the financial reports, the office manager approached my desk.

"Hi, Mike. Since you're the PR expert here, can you organize the Christmas gift exchange this year?"

### A tight situation

The above is a true story. As a member of God's Church, how would you have handled this situation?

As Christians living in a deceived world (Revelation 12:9), we have both the responsibility to obey God first (Acts 5:29) and to be good examples as a witness of God's way of life (Matthew 5:16, John 17:15-17).

Christmas seems to be a difficult time to fulfill these responsibilities — especially at work. True Christians understand that the yuletide season is of pagan origin, but outright refusal to participate in time-honored tradition often offends colleagues and, ominously, your

superiors. While Christmas appears to be an annual sore trial, here are some points that can help you turn a problem into a unique opportunity to let your light shine.

(1) *Know why you don't observe Christmas.* As the apostle Peter wrote, "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (I Peter 3:15). Few actions appear as foolish as bucking a major traditional event such as Christmas and not being able to explain why. Reread and study your copy of *The Plain Truth About Christmas*. And go a little further — go into your library and read the encyclopedic and historical references about the origins of Christmas. Know your subject well.

(2) *Don't preach or judge others for observing this pagan season.* As Matthew 10:16 says, "Be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." If asked why you don't keep Christmas, calmly and briefly explain why, but don't offend. Peter said explain "with meekness and fear." Pursue peace. Show love for your colleagues by being courteous, even if you are persecuted (Matthew 5:11-12, I Peter 3:8-11).

(3) *Pray for divine guidance and assistance before going to work in the morning.* When you know that you may face some difficult situations, follow the admonition in Hebrews 4:16: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

(4) *Don't apologize for obeying God (Romans 1:16).* Claim the promise given to the Church in Christ's final prayer (John 17:6-26)

and confidently display the maturity God gives you as a Spirit-filled Christian (Acts 4:29).

(5) *Cooperate with and obey your superiors as much as God's law allows (Romans 13:1, I Peter 2:13-17).* Assisting in certain aspects of preparation for an office party may be OK, provided that your actions don't telegraph passive participation in the pagan season (I Thessalonians 5:22).

(6) *Exercise faith (Romans 1:17).* Claim the promise of God that the apostle Paul declared: "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13).

These are well-known truths for baptized members, but they are too often forgotten in the heat of the moment.

### A happy ending

My Christmas trial ended on a happy note. When the office manager asked me to organize the gift exchange, I quickly (but calmly) explained why I don't observe Christmas and thus would be ethically at odds with my beliefs if I organized the exchange.

As I explained the reasons, my boss overheard and came back.

Instead of the expected resentment and bad reaction, I was surprised at the empathy shown. The *tenseness of the situation* quickly evaporated and the trial ended. As long as I worked there, I never had a problem with Christmas or observing God's Sabbath and Holy Days.

Employ these points and transform the curse of Christmas into a blessing!

## Are you doing your part?

By Bradford Rosenquist

"It is up to you." Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach often uses this phrase to remind us of our part in the great work we've been called to. We are to be unique, shining examples before this world, and we can be with the power of God's Spirit.

*Bradford Rosenquist is a deacon in the Bakersfield, Calif., church.*

What Mr. Tkach has given us is actually a formula for success as Christians! Each of us individually — yet all of us together, too, as a family — must do our part, using the spiritual knowledge the Church provides.

### Not by ourselves

However, to use that spiritual knowledge, we need an outside power — God's Holy Spirit — to set a fire within us. Our motivation must be genuine and powerful enough to keep us alive with enthusiasm, and encouraged to change.

Can we succeed? Can we make it? Can we really overcome each obstacle, enemy and circumstance that we must confront in our lives?

The answer lies within the expression, "It is up to you!" This is just another way to say, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12). We cannot ignore our responsibility in God's plan for the salvation of all mankind. We have been called to a unique job. A job requires work.

Work is the result of dispensing or using energy.

We must, therefore, obtain the necessary power or energy to do the work! That power is the Holy Spirit.

Unless we daily "pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17), determined to do what God commands us to do (Acts 5:32), we cannot receive His Spirit. True repentance requires us to obey the knowledge we have — to submit to Christ's commands as we have been given the understanding to do so. We must strive to receive the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5).

### It's up to us

If we are to overcome, we must be convinced that it is up to each one of us — that we cannot do it without the power of God.

Many of us tie God's hands, keeping Him from promoting the work in us. "Ye have not, because ye ask not," says James 4:2. Or sometimes we ask with a wrong motive. Seeking more of God's Spirit, so it is a driving dynamo of power within us, bearing the fruit of outgoing concern for this world, requires serious, painstaking effort. Casual prayers, irregular Bible study and infrequent fasting will not do it! We must prepare the way for the greatest event of all time — the return of Christ! God's work must be foremost in our lives (Matthew 6:33).

It is up to you! God works out His plan through individual humans. The Body of Christ must be about God's worldwide work.

# ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH

## Singles organize activities

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.**, brethren were hosts for a "Meet Me in Memphis" singles social Aug. 30 and 31. Two hundred singles attended.

Rowlen Tucker, pastor of the Memphis and Jackson, Tenn., churches, gave a Sabbath sermon titled "Living Single: How Do You Do It God's Way?" After services refreshments were served by the Memphis singles.

Michael Horchak, assistant pastor of the Memphis church, gave a Bible study encouraging singles to make sure a romance is carried out God's way.

After the Sabbath the singles boarded a riverboat for a dinner and dance on the Mississippi River.

A picnic featuring food, fellowship and games took place Sunday. *Tom Bart.*

**PHOENIX, Ariz.**, young adults sponsored a young adults weekend Aug. 29 to 31. Guests came from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California.

Evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Mail Processing Center, gave a Bible study Friday evening about qualities of the ideal man and woman. At Sabbath services messages were given on the spirit of fellowship and God as the center of one's life.

Saturday evening a Hawaiian theme dance took place at Squaw Peak Park. The Phoenix East church band provided music, and a skit was performed by Monte Knutson, Debbie Benson, Mike Hoff-

man, Dave Jutson, Sandra Morgan and Rick Bernard.

Sunday activities included a barbecue and picnic at Kiwanis Park. Frisbee throwing, football, horseshoes, volleyball and other games. *Debbie Benson.*

**FLINT and LANSING, Mich.**, singles attended a camp-out Sept. 12 to 14 at Cedar Lake recreation area. Guests from several other areas also attended.

Flint local church elder Eugene Nouhan conducted a Bible study. Darrell West created and coordinated a Bible treasure hunt and provided guitar music for a sing-along at the beach. Dennis Milner, associate pastor of the two churches, gave a sermon on prejudices.

Other activities included a dance with music provided by Dan Maybury.

The event was planned and coordinated by Mr. Milner, Douglas Miller and Niel Lacosse. *Joanne Whitehead.*

Twenty-five **SAN DIEGO, Calif.**, young adults were hosts for the church's YES picnic Sept. 14 at Crown Point Mission Bay in San Diego. About 40 youths attended.

Activities included sack races, relay races, a water balloon toss, wheelbarrow races and a balloon stomp. After lunch the group played more games.

The activity was organized by Skip Miller and Greg Sherman and seven members of the young adult committee. *Jay Petrek.*

## Brethren have clean fun

**DULUTH and GRAND RAPIDS, Minn.**, brethren spent Labor Day weekend, Aug. 29 to Sept. 1, at the Summer Educational Program (SEP) camp at Orr, Minn., to close the camp for the winter.

Friday evening Leonard Holladay, pastor of the two churches, conducted a Bible study. Saturday evening began with a round of hymn singing and ended with games and dancing.

Sunday and Monday mornings work crews assembled to clean and delevan the kitchen, sweep the dining hall roof, clean grounds and dorms and pull up the docks.

Sunday afternoon some camp activities were available including

archery, riflery, canoeing, softball and volleyball. In the evening the group ate hamburgers prepared by Floyd Kielczewski, camp caretaker. A sing-along took place around a fire outside the dining hall. *Carol Morken.*

**SHREVEPORT, La.**, and **TEXARKANA, Tex.**, brethren participated in a work crew Sept. 14 at the Big Sandy Ambassador College campus.

The group of about 300 brethren joined in cleaning the Pine Woods Campground in preparation for the Feast of Tabernacles.

After the work was completed, brethren picnicked and swam at the Lake Loma recreation area. *Charles Bryce.*

## Youths learn new skills, receive awards

**CHICAGO, Ill.**, **NORTH and NORTHWEST** Church youths attended a family outing Sept. 21. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Wiedenheft were host and hostess for the occasion. One hundred ten people attended.

Activities included fishing, canoeing, basketball, volleyball, flag football and skateboarding. A hot dog roast also took place. *Sandy Swagerty.*

The annual **PEORIA and MACOMB, Ill.**, **YOU** awards banquet took place Aug. 30.

Daniel Herridge, a Peoria local church elder, directed the program. Coaches and assistant coordinators gave a summary of the 1985-86 season.

Tim Putney, a Church youth who graduated from **YOU** at the end of the season, gave a speech.

Awards were presented to those who excelled in their sports and activities, and all participants were recognized.

Ronald Lohr, pastor of the two churches, announced the 1986-87 youth council for each church. *Jared Olar.*

Twenty **AUSTRALIA** Church

youths, four adults and two children attended a ski trip at the Guthega ski resort in the Australian Snowy Mountains Aug. 31 to Sept. 5.

Only two of the Church youths had been on skis before, and for some it was the first time they had seen snow.

The teens were encouraged to apply the seven laws of success as they learned to ski. The youths had a two-hour ski lesson each day.

The group returned to Canberra, Australia, Sept. 5 where they spent the Sabbath with Church members. *Gary Regazzoli.*

**MELBOURNE, Australia**, **NORTH and WEST** Church youths participated in a three-day cross-country ski trip, which included two nights of snow camping, Aug. 31 to Sept. 2.

The group of 19 explored the Mt. Baw Baw Plateau about 180 kilometers (about 112 miles) east of Melbourne. Stan Thomson navigated for the trip, and Barrie Hodgkinson organized the equipment. *Chris Crawford.*

The **SAN ANTONIO, Tex.**, talent team, made up of Church youths, presented a program of mu-



**SABBATH SINGING** — Raynard Eddings, a member who attends the Pasadena Auditorium P.M. church, leads hymns after a brunch for Auditorium P.M. ushers Sept. 20. Ushers brought widows to the brunch as guests. (Photo by Thomas C. Hanson)

## Churches move outdoors for weekends

The **EDMONTON, Alta.**, Active Adults Association spent the weekend of Aug. 29 to Sept. 1 camping in western Alberta's foothills.

Sabbath services, Aug. 30, were conducted by William Davies, an Edmonton South local church elder, and Gordon Graham, associate pastor of the Edmonton North church. In the evening the group visited Miette Hot Springs and returned for a sing-along.

Sunday some people fished while others explored passageways of the Cadomin Caves. *Rebecca Quade.*

**AARHUS and COPENHAGEN, Denmark**, brethren attended a family camp-out Aug. 22 to 24 near Ebeltoft, Denmark. Thirty-one Denmark brethren and nine visitors from the United States, England, Australia and West Germany set up camp or settled into rented cabins Friday afternoon.

Sabbath services were conducted by Peter Shenton, pastor of the Ipswich and Norwich, England; Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Sweden; and Aarhus churches. Mr. Shenton updated brethren on the Church's activities in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark and gave a sermon

about living what we preach.

Saturday afternoon Mr. Shenton gave a lecture about how to answer questions. A barbecue meal was served, and brethren participated in a sing-along around a fire.

Sunday morning some people went on a 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) hike. *Ib Jarlskov.*

Fifty **EVANSVILLE, Ind.**, YES-age children and parents camped Aug. 30 and 31 on a Church member's property, a former Boy Scout camp.

Some of the group located constellations and also saw the natural phenomenon of bioluminescence caused by a fungus that attacks dead trees and glows in the dark.

Families slept in tents, trucks, vans and buildings.

Sunday's activities included games, relay races, hiking, rowboating, fishing and swimming. *Dorothy A. Webb.*

Seventy-one **DALLAS, Tex.**, **EAST** Church youths camped out Sept. 6 and 7 at the David Rand ranch, 40 miles east of Dallas.

Saturday night activities included a Bible study, a sing-along and a hayride.

Sunday morning the group played volleyball, basketball and croquet, and grilled hamburgers. After lunch Allen Bullock, church pastor, and Ross Flynn, associate pastor, officiated at a miniature Olympics, which included a three-legged race, whistling after eating crackers, a bubble gum blow and a water balloon toss. *Ross L. Flynn.*

**BELLEVILLE and MOUNT VERNON, Ill.**, brethren attended a camp-out Aug. 15 to 17 at Montauk State Park.

## Churches honor seniors

Sixty-four **YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio**, senior brethren attended a semiformal afternoon tea Sept. 7. Lloyd Briggie, pastor of the Youngstown church, and his wife, Marcia, were host and hostess for the occasion, which took place in their home.

Musical entertainment was provided by Louise Greuter on steel guitar, Leland Greuter on mandolin and guitar and Paul Anchors on electric guitar.

Tea, hors d'oeuvres, pastries and cookies were prepared by women in the church. *Libby Kebrdle.*

Senior citizens of the **SACRAMENTO, Calif.**, church were hon-

ored with a dinner Sept. 7. Lawrence Neff, church pastor, and his wife, Linda, were host and hostess for the event, which took place at the Lamplighter Mobile Home Park. Fifty seniors attended.

Wayne Dunlap, associate pastor, along with elders, deacons and their wives, assisted with organization, preparation and serving the meal.

Tables were decorated with white tablecloths, red napkins and vases of white spider chrysanthemums and red roses.

After the meal violinist Victor Williams and guitarist Jim Abbott entertained the group. *Marian Hall.*

The group set up camp Friday afternoon.

YES lessons and a **YOU** Bible study were conducted Saturday morning. Sabbath services took place in Nanaimo, B.C., at the Coast Bastion Inn. After sunset some brethren provided vocal and instrumental entertainment, and a sing-along took place.

(See **OUTDOORS**, page 13)

## Churches conduct potpourri of activities

**KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.**, brethren attended a spaghetti feed and fun day Aug. 31 at Lake of the Woods, Ore.

Church youths Janette Nicola, Krystal Kizer, Aleais Russell and Kori Kizer served for the occasion. *Jeffery McGowan.*

More than 150 brethren from eight states joined the **CHICAGO, Ill., SOUTHSIDE** church for a weekend of activities Aug. 29 to Sept. 1.

Activities began with a Bible study Friday evening, given by Allan Barr, pastor of the Miami, Fla., church.

More than 600 people attended Sabbath services the next day, where evangelist Harold Jackson delivered the sermon. Mr. Jackson was the first pastor of the Chicago Southside church.

Saturday evening activities included a potluck and games.

Sunday more than 60 out-of-town guests took a walking tour of downtown Chicago, including a trip to the world's tallest building, the Sears Tower.

That evening 300 people attended a formal dinner and dance at the Chicago Marriott Hotel. The menu included prime rib, chicken Wellington, string beans almondine and mint chocolate chip ice cream pie. Dance music was provided by the Cosmopolitans, a Southside church band.

Monday, the Labor Day holiday, a cookout and picnic took place before guests returned to their home areas. *David A. Swanson.*

**CAPE TOWN, South Africa**, brethren attended a social and games evening Aug. 30.

During the evening handcrafted items were sold. The sale was organized by Louise Peck, and proceeds will go to the Summer Educational Program. Hot soup and curry and rice were also sold.

A fruitcake, baked by Barbara Botha and iced by Barbara Simon, was won by Sally-Ann Russell, who guessed how many coins were in a bottle filled with two- and one-cent pieces. *Sylvia Young.*

**BILLINGS, BUTTE, GREAT FALLS and HELENA, Mont.**, brethren participated in an annual river raft float Aug. 17 on the Missouri River.

The trip began at Holter Dam, north of Helena and ended about eight miles downstream at Craig, Mont. The day's activities ended with a potluck picnic at Holter Dam. *Donna Love.*

The **PHILADELPHIA, Pa.**, church sponsored its third annual trip to Sesame Place in Langhorne,

Pa., Aug. 31. Twenty-three children and 13 adults participated in the event.

Sesame Place, a theme park inspired by the *Sesame Street* television program, is designed for children ages 3 to 13 and features physical activities, science experiments and computer games.

The group watched trained bird shows and a variety show featuring Big Bird, Bert and Ernie, characters from the television show. They also visited the Sesame studios, a replica of the *Sesame Street* set.

The group ate a picnic lunch with Arthur Dyer, pastor of the Philadelphia, Pa., and Vineland, N.J., churches, Roger Ludwig, assistant pastor of the two churches, and their families. *Ruby Tarboro.*

The **AUSTIN and WACO, Tex.**, churches were hosts for a softball tournament Aug. 31 at the Lions Park softball complex in Temple, Tex.

Twenty-three teams from 11 Texas church areas participated in the tournament, which was organized by Frank Fridrich of Austin and Ben Mauldin of Waco under the direction of Harold Lester, pastor of the two churches.

In the women's division the Houston, Tex., North team placed first, and the Fort Worth, Tex., team placed second. Men's finals, which were to be played Sept. 1, were canceled because of rain.

Hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the Austin and Waco churches were served to about 450 people who attended the tournament. Brethren in the Temple area

provided housing for out-of-town guests. *Jo Gail Fry.*

**TIJUANA, Mexico**, brethren organized a series of summer tours of Tijuana for San Diego, Calif., brethren. One hundred forty adults and 15 children participated in the tours, which took place between June 23 and Aug. 24.

Tijuana brethren picked San Diego brethren up on the U.S. side of the border and transported them in private cars to selected areas of the city. The tours included time for shopping, a meal in a Mexican restaurant and a visit to the museum at a cultural center (El Centro Cultural de Tijuana) and a showing of a film, *El Pueblo del Sol (The People of the Sun)* at Tijuana's Omnimax Theater. *Ignacio Mendoza.*

**KITCHENER, Ont., YES-age** children, parents and teachers spent a day Aug. 17 at African Lion Safari Wildlife Park near Cambridge, Ont.

James Dailley of the Kitchener church was host for the group. He and his father operate the wildlife park.

The day began with a guided tour in safari trams through six game reserves where animals and birds roam freely. Other attractions were a boat cruise around Water Safari park and a ride on a miniature railroad. In the afternoon the group saw animal and bird shows.

About 72 people attended the outing, which was organized by Rick Dubler. They were accompanied by Terry Johnson, pastor of the Kitchener church, and his wife, Elizabeth. *Peter Grainger.*



**BALLOON TOSS** — YES-age children try to hold onto slippery water balloons at a picnic sponsored for them Sept. 14 by young adults of the San Diego, Calif., congregation. See "Singles Organize Activities" page 12. [Photo by Wendy Barno]

## Churches mark 10th year

**ABERDEEN, Scotland**, brethren celebrated the 10th anniversary of the congregation Aug. 30 and 31.

Francis Bergin, business manager for the Church's Borehamwood, England, Regional Office, gave the Sabbath sermon, and brethren received greetings from members in other areas.

After services a social evening took place. A commemorative cake baked by Harry Masz was served with a champagne toast, followed by a buffet. William Duncan, a local church elder, and his wife, Maudie, were presented with a carriage clock for their 10 years of service to the congregation. A photo album featured church activities and families.

Sunday evening, Aug. 31, a Spokesman Club ladies night took place at the Holiday Inn in Dyce,

Scotland. Thirty-five club members and guests ate a traditional Scottish meal.

Hugh Smith conducted table-topics and John Thornton was toastmaster. Tim Lemar gave the Most Helpful Evaluation, Jim Brown was the Most Improved Speaker and Brian Grant gave the Most Effective Speech.

Colin Wilkins, pastor of the Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Irvine, Scotland, churches, presented Gordon Glennie with a graduation certificate. *Jim Brown and John Thornton.*

The **MIDDLESBROUGH, England**, church celebrated its 10th anniversary Aug. 30 with 54 in attendance.

David Stirk, business manager for East and West Africa in the Church's Borehamwood, England, Regional Office and pastor of the Basildon and Dunstable, England, churches, gave the sermon.

After Sabbath services the church had a three-course luncheon of melon slices, roast beef and smoked turkey salad and a selection of desserts. An anniversary cake was cut and a toast was proposed by Mr. Stirk. *Jeffrey Kidd.*

## Women get taste of Spokesman Clubs

**ILOILO, Philippines**, brethren participated in a day of activities Sept. 7 beginning with a Spokesman Club meeting at 8:30 a.m.

After the meeting a YES evaluation took place and members watched videotapes of *The World Tomorrow*.

At noon brethren shared lunch followed by an afternoon social. Activities included children's games and a Bible bowl. The day concluded with brethren singing "It Won't Be Long Now." *Ben Babol.*

The **MARIKINA, Philippines**, Spokesman Clubs A and B ended their season with a combined ladies' night Sept. 14 at Alfredo's Steak House in Quezon City, Philippines.

Rodelio Madrid, president of club B, presided over the meeting, and Mario Natividad, president of

club A, was topicsmaster. Wilfredo dela Pena was toastmaster, and speeches were given by Benedicto Lorenzo (Most Effective Speech), Manuel Albano, Antonio Ancheta, Homer Velarde and Rex Wylmer dela Pena (Most Improved Speaker). Noel Albano gave the Most Helpful Evaluation.

The first half of the meeting was evaluated by Romeo Pusta, club director and pastor of the Marikina and Puerto Princessa, Philippines, churches. Rodney Matthews, Philippines Regional Office manager, evaluated the second half. *O.B. Pangilinan.*

A **SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga, Philippines**, Spokesman Club ladies night took place Aug. 17 at the Pampanga Capitol Conference Hall. Forty-

eight people attended.

A dinner of baked chicken and potato salad was served. Lorenzo Tipon conducted table-topics, and Oliver Villanueva was toastmaster. Speakers were Pio Umias, Jaime Navarro, Antonio Beatriz, Pio Guzon and Carlos Castro. Evaluators were Camilo Umias, Adolfo Remo, Aurelio Mandap, Rodolfo Sultan and Eugene Guzon.

Mr. Navarro was the Most Improved Speaker, Mr. Castro gave the Most Effective Speech and Mr. Guzon gave the Most Helpful Evaluation.

After Bermevon Dizon, church pastor, gave an overall evaluation, graduation certificates were awarded to Mr. Tipon and Mr. Castro. *Carlos M. Castro.*

## Outdoors

(Continued from page 12)

Sunday's activities included softball, horseshoes, volleyball, a corn roast, races and a sand castle competition. *J. McKinnon.*

**WINNIPEG, Man., EAST and WEST** singles and young married couples gathered Aug. 15 to 17 for a weekend of camping at Big Bend Resort, about five miles from Winnipeg.

After the camp was set up Friday evening, Cecil Maranville, pastor of the Winnipeg East and West and Morden, Man., and Thunder Bay, Ont., churches, led the group in a question-and-answer Bible study. About 35 people camped, while others commuted to and from the activities.

Saturday evening a sing-along, led by Art Dupas, took place around a camp fire.

After brunch Sunday the group spent the day at Fun Mountain Waterslide Park. The weekend concluded with a barbecue at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Zacharias. *Diana Sollefeld.*

Seventy-five **TORONTO EAST**

and **WEST and BRAMPTON, Ont.**, youths attended a camp-out Aug. 24 to 27.

Activities the first day included swimming and waterskiing at the Alcona Beach area of Lake Simcoe under the direction of Warren Faulkner, a deacon in the Toronto West church.

The teens had dinner with their parents at the Outdoor Education Centre at Mansfield, Ont.

Activities at the center included softball, swimming, tennis, canoeing, archery and nature hikes. Church members from the three churches served as leaders for the activities. Horseback riding was directed by center staff members.

Other activities were a Bible bowl, a Bible study and two movie nights. Campers visited the birthplace of Sir Frederick Grant Banting, a Canadian physicist who discovered that insulin could be used in treating diabetes. They also toured Base Borden, an education center for the armed forces in Canada.

The camp-out was coordinated by Neil Earle, pastor of the Toronto and Brampton churches. Paul Mastin, a Toronto East local church elder, was camp director. *Ella Neale.*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Continued from page 14)



**MR. AND MRS. EDWARD STRANGE**

Lucretia White and Edward Eugene Strange were united in marriage Aug. 2. The ceremony was performed by Michael Hiansko, pastor of the Atlanta North and Rome, Ga., churches. Kathy Strange was maid of honor, and Terry Curran was best man. The ceremony took place in Anniston, Ala.



**MR. AND MRS. JOHN CHICOINE**

Debra Leighton and John Chicoine were united in marriage Aug. 10 in Buffalo, N.Y. The ceremony was performed by Warren Haston III, pastor of the Buffalo South church. Craig Kaiser of the Rochester, N.Y., church was best man, and Diane Rybicki of the Buffalo South church was maid of honor. The couple reside in Batavia, N.Y.



**MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL PERRY**

Michael Anthony Perry and Regina Lee Vaccaro were united in marriage Aug. 10 in Youngstown, Ohio. The ceremony was performed by Lloyd Briggie, pastor of the Youngstown church. Celeste Vaccaro, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Scott Cannon was best man. The couple reside in Ohio.



**MR. AND MRS. MARK BOLZERN**

Mr. and Mrs. Right Lane of Lubbock, Tex., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Virginia to Mark Bolzern of Anchorage, Alaska, son of Neily A. Bolzern of Heidelberg, West Germany, and the late Alfred Bolzern. The ceremony was performed May 28 by Hal Baird, assistant pastor of the Big Sandy church. Julia O'Dell, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Ron Bolzern, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Anchorage.



**MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN DICKEY**

Karen Denise Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin

E. Taylor of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Stephen C. Dickey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Dickey of Ringgold, Ga., were united in marriage July 13 in Chickamauga, Ga. The ceremony was performed by the father of the groom, a minister in the Chattanooga church. Elizabeth McCormick, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Tim Dickey, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Chattanooga.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Wishing a very happy anniversary to Dana and Janice Burkinshaw Nov. 13. Love, Mom and Dad.

Joe and Barbara Willie: We just wanted to wish you a very happy anniversary Sept. 23, and thank you for being such special parents. We love you very much. Love, Yvette, Joey and Pam. Also, Connie K. says happy anniversary, too.

To Harold and Charlotte Davis: Happy 24th anniversary Oct. 5. One more to go until the big one! Thanks for being the wonderful, loving and understanding parents that you are. We love you two hearts. Bill, Brian and Terry.

Mother and Daddy (Mr. and Mrs. David Harmon): Oct. 21 marks 30 years of commitment to each other. You are heroes to us. We love you both. Val, Vicki, Steve, Dee Dee and Elizabeth.

## Weddings Made of Gold

**CROWSWELL, Mich.** — Chester and Margaret Brown observed their 50th wedding anniversary Sept. 11. Vincent Szymkowiak, pastor of the Detroit, Mich., East church, presented the Browns with a 24-karat gold-plated tray at Sabbath services Sept. 13. It was accepted on their behalf by their daughter, Virginia Martin.



**MR. AND MRS. CHESTER BROWN**

The Browns were married in 1936 in Jackson County, Tenn. They have two sons, James and Chester Jr., one daughter, Virginia, and eight grandchildren. The Browns celebrated their anniversary at a party with their children and other family members Sept. 14 at a Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been

Church members since September, 1967. Their daughter has been a member since 1970, and a granddaughter, Susie Clay, has been a member since 1982.

**LONG ISLAND, N.Y.** — Robert and Marie Musus celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sept. 19 at a party given by their daughter and son-in-law.

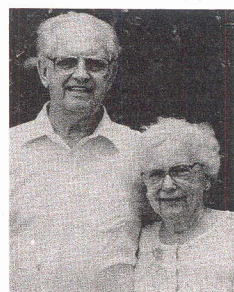


**MR. AND MRS. ROBERT MUSUS**

The couple met at a bank, where they were both employed. After they married they bought a home on Long Island.

The Mususes have two grandchildren, Christy and Darren Allgeyer. Mrs. Musus has been a Church member since 1968.

**ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.** — Mr. and Mrs. Julius H. Heinemeier celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 21. They were married in Carlinville, Ill., and have been Church members since 1967.



**MR. AND MRS. J. HEINEMEIER**

The Heinemeiers have two children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They reside in Holiday, Fla., and attend the St. Petersburg church.

**EUGENE, Ore.** — Ernest and Evelyn Hoyt celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 31 at the home of their son, Bryan, pastor of the Portland East and Hood River, Ore., churches.

Mrs. Hoyt was baptized in 1945, and

whom attend Church services.

Guy Engelbart attended the Pasadena and Brackett Wood campuses of Ambassador College. He married the former Penny Schmaus in Big Sandy in October, 1961, and he now pastors the Cleveland, Ohio, East and West churches. The couple have two sons, Karl, 21, and Kevin, 16.



**MR. AND MRS. OSWALD ENGELBART**

Oswald G. Engelbart attended the Pasadena, Big Sandy and Brackett Wood campuses of Ambassador College. He is married to the former Tina Simin, and they have three children, Karen, 17, Ted, 15, and Natalie Joy, 13. He pastors the Modesto and Stockton, Calif., churches.



**60 YEARS TOGETHER** — John Ogwyn, pastor of the Houston, Tex., North church, presents a commemorative album to Mr. and Mrs. Davis Kelley at a potluck dinner in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. [Photo by Behrman Doucet]

Mr. Hoyt was baptized in 1964. He was ordained a deacon in 1965, a local elder in 1970 and now serves as an associate pastor of the Eugene church.



**MR. AND MRS. ERNEST HOYT**

The Hoyts have six children and 10 grandchildren.

**VANCOUVER, B.C.** — Stan and Marion Kerr celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Sept. 29. Mrs. Kerr was baptized in Edmonton, Alta., in 1965, and has attended the Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., churches. The Kerrs have one daughter, Eileen, who attends the Vancouver church.

## Obituaries

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** — Frieda Senkovs, 59, died Sept. 7 after a stroke. She has been a Church member since 1966.

Mrs. Senkovs is survived by her husband, Nicholas; a daughter, Barbara; a son, Nicholas; and a sister, Dagmar Barnes; all of whom attend the Wellington church.

Funeral services were conducted by Loyal Johnston, pastor of the Wellington church.

**JACKSONVILLE, Ala.** — I. Della Beaird, 87, died Sept. 6. She has been a Church member since 1971, and attended the Anniston, Ala., church.

Mrs. Beaird is survived by two sisters, Lillie Belle Williamson and Alice Allsup, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by James Duke, associate pastor of the Anniston and Gadsden, Ala., churches.

**YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio** — Margaret MacCallum, 84, died Aug. 25



**MARGARET MacCALLUM**

after a seven-year illness. She was born in Airdrie, Scotland, and baptized in 1968.

Mrs. MacCallum is survived by two

daughters, Sheila Lamon and Heather MacNaughton, both members who attend the Youngstown church; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Lloyd Briggie, pastor of the Youngstown church.

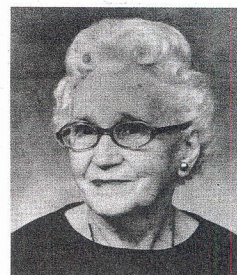
**CANTON, Ohio** — Homer McKinley Dill, 87, died Aug. 20 at the Walnut Hill Nursing Home after a one-week illness. Mr. Dill was born in Vinson, Mo., Sept. 26, 1898. He was baptized in 1974 and attended the Canton church.

Mr. Dill is survived by several nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

Funeral services were conducted by Clarence Miller, a minister in the Canton church. Burial was at Forest Hill cemetery.

**ROCKY MOUNT, Va.** — Hazel Elizabeth McLain, 88, died Jan. 10. She has been a Church member since 1977.

Mrs. McLain is survived by two sons, Leland E. Megreedy and Allen W. Megreedy, both of Rocky Mount; two sisters, Maxine Kiblinger of Parsons, Kan., and Madeline Lance of Joplin, Mo.; one brother, James Allen of Flint, Mich.; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.



**HAZEL McLAIN**

Funeral services were conducted by Bruce Tyler, pastor of the Bluefield and Lewisburg, W.Va., churches.

**MOBILE, Ala.** — Flora R. Irby, 79, died June 30. She was baptized in June, 1959.

Funeral services were conducted July 3 by Donald Thomas, a minister in the Mobile, Ala., church, at the Radney Funeral Home. John Burquist, also a minister in the Mobile church, officiated at graveside services.

**VALLEJO, Calif.** — Alvin L. Treisch, 71, died Sept. 17. He has been a Church member since 1984.

Mr. Treisch is survived by his wife, Mary, four daughters, three sons, 10 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one sister and one brother.

Funeral services were conducted by Arthur W. Docken, pastor of the Fairfield and Santa Rosa, Calif., churches.

**RICHMOND, Va.** — Emily C. Blankenship, 79, died Sept. 14 after a period of declining health. She was a lifelong resident of Petersburg, Va., and has been a member of God's Church since 1957.

Graveside services were conducted in Petersburg by Robert Jones, pastor of the Richmond and Norfolk, Va., churches.



## NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

PASADENA — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach met U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz at a Los Angeles, Calif., World Affairs Council meeting Oct. 31. Mr. Shultz was introduced to area leaders before giving a major foreign policy address titled "Human Rights and Soviet-American Relations."

Mr. Tkach told the Pasadena Auditorium P.M. congregation the next day, "We're all aware of the vast differences between the two countries [the United States and Soviet Union], but neither one has a cornerstone on the law that God placed in motion that would bring about the true freedom and liberty that man has sought for all these years but is unable to find."

Mr. Shultz "is a man of character and stature, very dedicated," said Mr. Tkach.

Mr. Tkach was accompanied by Michael Fezell, one of his personal assistants; evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration; Joseph Tkach Jr., an assistant to Mr. Salyer; evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor; Dexter H. Faulkner, *Plain Truth* executive editor; Gregory Albrecht, Pasadena Ambassador College dean of students; and Michael Snyder, assistant director of Communications & Public Affairs.

☆☆☆

PASADENA — The *World Tomorrow* program "Understanding Prophecy," presented by David Albert Nov. 8 and 9 drew 39,411 calls, the fifth-highest weekend response, according to evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Mail Processing Center (MPC).

☆☆☆

PASADENA — The Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra performed in the Ambassador Auditorium Oct. 22 and 23, the orchestra's only West Coast appearances. According to the Performing Arts division of the Ambassador Foundation, the concerts were sold out.

According to Wayne Shilkret, Performing Arts director, "Audiences stood and cheered the performances, which were under the baton of conductor James Levine."

Mr. Levine, artistic director of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, stood in for Herbert von Karajan, the orchestra's permanent conductor and artistic director.

## Feast 86

(Continued from page 1)  
time for forging new roles."

"Unity cements us together — it's the tie that binds," Mr. Tkach continued. "Unity is an attitude. Unity is the sum of the fruits of the Holy Spirit."

Mr. Tkach's first Holy Day message was transmitted from Pasadena by three domestic satellites in geosynchronous orbit above the equator and two international satellites over the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Services were received live by 27 sites in the United States and Canada, plus additional sites in the Caribbean, British Isles and New Zealand, reported Larry Omasta, director of the Church's Media Services Department.

Most sites worldwide later received a videotape or audio recording of Mr. Tkach's message.

"All sites but one reported excellent reception," Mr. Omasta said. "The transmission of the whole ser-

"Mr. Karajan was forced to withdraw from all performances by the Berlin orchestra on its scheduled 1986 U.S. and Japanese tour because of an infection which developed from an insect bite and which temporarily incapacitated him," according to the Ambassador Foundation.

This caused a change in the program played at the Auditorium including the addition of guest soloist, soprano Cheryl Studer.

The Vienna Choir Boys, founded in 1498, gave a sold-out performance in the Auditorium Nov. 9, according to Performing Arts.

The Austrian group presented a program of costumed operettas and religious, secular and folk music, under the direction of Peter Marschik.



"That also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

PASADENA — Six members' homes were destroyed in the earthquake that struck San Salvador, El Salvador, Oct. 10, reported evangelist Leon Walker, regional director of Spanish-speaking areas.

The only member to suffer personal injury was one man who received bruises.

"It was a devastating earthquake, which destroyed 90 percent of the city," said Mr. Walker. "It was a blessing that only six [members'] houses were destroyed."

According to the International Red Cross in Washington, D.C., Oct. 30, 1,000 people were killed, 10,000 were injured and 200,000 were left homeless (without adequate shelter) by the quake, which measured 5.4 on the Richter scale.

The members there attended the Feast in Guatemala, and "all were in very good spirits with no anxiousness or worry," the regional director said.

There was "no question" about whether brethren should attend the Feast, he commented. "Because the Feast was late this year, it came right in the middle of exams for the students in San Salvador," he said. "Because of the quake the

vice on the first day, and especially Mr. Tkach, really united the brethren worldwide and set the pace and the tone for the rest of the Feast."

According to evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration: "Several of the traveling speakers have stopped by to report that the members exemplified a spirit of unity and joy that was very refreshing."

"I heard stories of overwhelming responses to requests for brethren to serve on the various crews, and stories of brethren going out of their way to help each other, and stories of enthusiastic expressions of support for Mr. Tkach and those at headquarters."

At the close of the Feast in Pasadena, Mr. Tkach and the Festival staff walked onstage and sang "Blessed Be the Tie" with the congregation, said Mr. Webber.

Mr. Tkach alluded to this hymn at the start of the Feast in describing the unity, brotherly love and family closeness that God's Spirit forges, Mr. Webber said.

PASADENA — Telephone responses to *The World Tomorrow* were answered at three Feast sites other than Pasadena and Big Sandy, according to evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Mail Processing Center. New technology made it possible to receive the calls away from the telephone response areas in Pasadena and Big Sandy.

The calls were taken Oct. 18, 19 and 25. In St. Petersburg, Fla., 231 volunteers took 4,115 calls; in Dayton, Ohio, 175 volunteers took 2,188 calls; and in Vail, Colo., 35 volunteers took 384 calls.

The new SWIFT (Supervised WATS In-home Forwarding Technology) equipment allowed calls to be forwarded from Pasadena. The sites were chosen "because we had trained operators and easy access to phone lines at these locations," Mr. Rice said.

Taking calls at these sites "gave us more operators than ever before in our history," said William Butler, supervisor of the telephone response section of MPC. "It added

an air of excitement by bringing the work to the Feast sites."

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PASADENA — Evangelist David Hulme met with officials of Asatsu, a Japanese advertising agency retained by the Church, before the Feast of Tabernacles.

"I wanted to discuss media plans for 1987, which include maintaining and slightly increasing our *Plain Truth* subscriber circulation in Japan," Mr. Hulme said. Mr. Hulme is director of Communications & Public Affairs for the Church.

"We want to continue advertising in English and refine our existing subscription programs in Japan," he said. About 12,000 people now subscribe to the English-language edition of *The Plain Truth* in Japan.

In the Oct. 8 to 10 meetings with Asatsu officials, Mr. Hulme met with media representatives responsible for advertising in the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Stirk said these measures are "resulting in every fourth Sabbath service being held in the afternoon."

"For those members traveling long distances to Owerri, it may mean that only the men and singles will attend as they will have to stay overnight Fridays."

### 1,687-mile trip

Scattered members and prospective members in East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia were paid pre-Feast visits by Winfried Fritz, pastor of the Munich and Nuremberg, West Germany, and Salzburg and Vienna, Austria, churches and responsible for members in Eastern Europe, according to Frank Schnee, regional director for German-speaking areas.

Mr. Fritz drove to East Germany Aug. 29 to conduct Sabbath services there the next day. At the service was a Czechoslovakian woman, a niece of a member from

"We wanted to assess the possibilities of establishing a *Plain Truth* circulation in China," the evangelist said.

Mr. Hulme met with five Church members living in Japan on the Sabbath, Oct. 11.

Mr. Hulme, who was traveling to the Feast with his wife, Robin, and their children Mark, Scott and Kristy, flew to Hong Kong Oct. 12 where he met with representatives of BBDO (Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn), an advertising agency retained by the Church.

Mr. Hulme conducted Atonement services for 12 people Oct. 13.

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PASADENA — A radio station in Dublin, Irish Republic, began airing the *World Tomorrow* broadcast Aug. 10, according to evangelist Frank Brown, British regional director.

"The station, with the cheerful title of Sunshine Radio, is centered on Dublin City and reaches into several of the neighboring counties," Mr. Brown said.

Canada, Mr. Schnee said.

Aug. 31, Mr. Fritz traveled to Poland, where he visited Wiktor Przybyla, a member, the next day. Mr. Fritz then drove another five hours in Poland to visit a family of prospective members.

Mr. Fritz baptized the father, a high school teacher, doubling the membership in Poland, said Mr. Schnee. The man's wife, who does not speak German or English, is also interested in the Church.

Sept. 2 Mr. Fritz, on his way back to Czechoslovakia, visited an 80-year-old woman in Poland.

"Since she is almost deaf, Mr. Fritz had to communicate to her in writing," said Mr. Schnee. "She informed Mr. Fritz that the only treasure in her life is literature from the Church."

On the same day Mr. Fritz visited a family in Czechoslovakia interested in the Church, before returning home to Austria. Mr. Fritz logged 1,687 miles (about 2,700 kilometers) on the trip.

## Outlying area 'fires up' after visit by Mr. Tkach

PASADENA — Joseph W. Tkach spoke in Riverside, Calif., on the Feast of Trumpets, Oct. 4, to 950 brethren from San Bernardino, Banning and Glendora, Calif., assembled in the Rain Cross Convention Center.

"Mr. [James] Peoples [San Bernardino pastor] had expressed an invitation to Mr. Tkach to visit San Bernardino," Dennis Wheatcroft, Glendora pastor, told *The Worldwide News*.

According to Mr. Wheatcroft, "For many brethren, it was the first time to hear Mr. Tkach personally since he was appointed pastor general."

"Several commented on the length of time he spent visiting with the members," Mr. Peoples said. "He shook about half the congregation's hands before services and spent about an hour fellowshipping and shaking hands afterward. He stayed until about 6."

Dean May, director of the Fleet & Transportation Department, accompanied by his wife, Laurie, and daughter, Stacey, drove Mr. Tkach to the 3 p.m. services in Riverside.

"You can see that oneness, that unity, in the congregation of God's Church in San Bernardino, Banning and Glendora," said Mr. May.

"It was encouraging to see the welcome the people gave him," Mr. May added. "One member mentioned to me, 'We are fired up to march forward' as God's people.

Others commented to us that the visit promoted "a sincere sense of family, which made us all feel more a part of the work."

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