



The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. XIX, NO. 9

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MAY 13, 1991

European conference lays foundation for future growth

By Dexter Faulkner

COLMAR, France—A ministerial conference for all of the Church's ministers in Europe took place at the Hotel Europe near Colmar April 21 to 25.

"Welcome to this historic event," said evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration International, in his opening comments at the conference to lay the foundation for future growth of God's Church and Work in Europe.

The conference was a first step in viewing the Church in Europe as a whole, Mr. Salyer said. "We want to overcome borders and language barriers and learn from the ministers in Europe how to help the Work to move forward here."

Crossroads of Europe

Colmar is the wine capital of the Alsace region of France. Situated in the northeast corner of France, Alsace is considered the crossroads of Europe.

In 1949 Alsace became a symbol for the unification of the Continent when the Council of Europe was founded with its seat in Strasbourg.

It is in this symbolic region that the European ministerial conference took place, paving the way toward greater unity in God's Church on the Old Continent.

Topics covered

Conference speakers were Mr. Salyer; a videotape from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach; Randal Dick, assistant director of Church Administration International; Victor Kubik, assistant director of U.S. Church Administration; Steven D. Andrews, director of Finance & Planning; and evangelist Carn Catherwood, Italian regional director.

Each regional director gave an overview of the region he serves.

Mr. Kubik, in his talk titled "Pastors, People, Problems, Peace," encouraged the ministers to be shepherds, not sheriffs, to win people over, not to be dictators, not even benevolent ones.

Mr. Catherwood stressed the need for Ambassador graduates in Europe. He said that in future years the number of graduates needed in the ministry and to serve in the offices will increase considerably.

John Karlson, German regional director, mentioned that 20 people from Poland and a small group from Estonia have asked for a ministerial visit.

Geographical group

Mr. Andrews addressed some of the opportunities and challenges posed by the changes in Europe.

National boundaries no longer inhibit the flow of trade or people, and "therefore, we have greater flexibility to use multilingual ministers to serve congregations in the same or different countries on the Continent," Mr. Andrews said.

He also pointed out some of the operational challenges the Church would continue to face because of European nationalism.

Why a European conference?

According to Olivier Carion from Pasadena: "To me, a European, the need for such a conference is very clear. The challenges we face on the European continent are basically the same, no matter what language we speak.

"This is the first opportunity to bring everybody together and forge the kind of unity that will help us face our awesome future challenges together.

"Over the centuries, a number of attempts have been made by emperors and rulers to unite Europe. None have been truly successful. However, in the Church, we have been given a common spiritual identity that far transcends all of our linguistic, cultural and national differences."

According to Winfried Fritz, pastor of the Bonn-Duesseldorf, Darmstadt and Zwickau, Germany, churches: "Being together with all the fellow ministers and wives from all over Europe gave us a special sense of unity and harmony."

Said Pedro Rufian, pastor of the Madrid, Spain, church: "I think the European conference is going to be a turning point for the Work in Europe. Now, we can be aware firsthand about what is going on in every country in Europe."

Said Sam Kneller, pastor of the Paris church: The European conference "witnessed a kind of unity among the ministers that the designers of Europe would envy. Discussions centered on ways to announce the gospel and to better (See CONFERENCE, page 3)



HISTORIC EVENT—Ministers and wives gather in Colmar, France, for a European ministers conference to lay the foundation for future growth of God's Church and Work. [Photo by Dexter Faulkner]

Conference for strategic planning

Managers chart Work's future

By Paul Monteith

PASADENA—"Ours is a work of faith, we rely on God, we look to him for doing the Work and supplying all our needs," Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach told operation directors and department managers at the Strategic Planning Conference May 2.

"We do not rely on planning or on good procedures alone, but we must use planning and wisdom if we are to be good stewards of what God provides," Mr. Tkach continued. "So our strategies are

strategies planned in faith, but that is not a blind faith, but prayerful faith for God's blessing, his direction and guidance."

Mr. Tkach told those present that they must constantly be looking for new ideas and new methods to do the Work.

"There is a better way out there, and we need to find it. We should never be satisfied with the procedures we use without constantly being aware that there is always a better way to accomplish the task."

Strategic Planning Session I is the first of four sessions designed to help the managers prepare their five-year plans.

Making plans

After Mr. Tkach's opening address, Steven D. Andrews, director of Finance & Planning, explained why it was necessary to introduce a planning procedure to assist the Work's managers in their development of a five-year plan.

Without a consistent method of planning based upon the mission of the Church and Work, it is possible for "a group of people to come together each with their own vision and perception of where the Work should be," Mr. Andrews said.

"What we want to come up with is a fully integrated plan that truly sees the Work in a whole and complete perspective," Mr. Andrews said.

"We are complex and do under one roof what might take a whole conglomerate of corporations to accomplish. This is a testament to God's greatness not ours," he said.

Several Strategic Planning Sessions have been prepared to help the managers understand what "we are looking for in terms of input and to give them an idea of what is expected of them as they go through the planning process."

Also, to help them organize their thoughts, a series of materials and standardized electronic forms has been created for them to use. The completed forms can then be brought together to create a single business plan document.

Once the business plan has been created, Mr. Tkach and others can analyze the information and establish a set of priorities.

True priorities

In the past, managers prepared their plans working from a budget. The dollar amount was set and their plans were determined accordingly. But the entire process is going to be inverted through strategic planning, Mr. Andrews said.

Setting goals by finances is only one way to plan. However, "we cannot afford to think that we are like a regular corporation that answers primarily to a bottom

PERSONAL FROM Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren,

By the time many of you receive this, we will have observed the Feast of Pentecost, commemorating the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and the calling

of the firstfruits of all nations into the Body of Christ.

As we observe this Festival, we rejoice in the magnitude of God's love toward us and are at the same time humbled by what God has set before us in our calling in Christ.

As James 1:18 points out, the Church is only the firstfruits of God's creation in Jesus Christ. There yet remains the great future harvest to begin at Christ's return, pictured by the Feast of Tabernacles, and for which we pray daily!

Though we are small and weak of ourselves, as God's firstfruits, we belong to him, and in his love he gives us the strength we need to do his Work.

Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ lives in us. Through the Spirit, he gives us unity, faith, hope and power to endure to the end.

Through the Spirit, we are transformed, we are converted, that we might conform to the image of Christ. We are born anew as children of God and have become citizens of the kingdom of God.

Crech's location, I was staying in my sister's home in south Wichita, taking care of her three children along with my three, all of which were under the age of 8.

Looking out the upper level window, I could make out the shape of a funnel nearly a mile away. Since the split-level home's lower level is not entirely underground, I herded the children into a closet under the stairway in the basement. I asked them to hold hands while we said a short prayer.

Seconds later, because of the quiet, I crawled from the closet to peek out the basement window. My heart seemed to stop when I saw the tornado, less than a block away, huge and filled with debris, heading for us. I felt there was no way it could not slam into our house.

I dove back into the closet and told the children to cover their heads. The roar of the twister was unbearably loud as we waited for

South church. "At first they didn't believe me."

The three men followed their basic instincts and ran. Mr. Crech led the way, heading through a privacy fence on the back side of the car lot.

Tracy Pribbenow-Sims, a member who attends the Wichita, Kan., North church, works for the Mount Hope, (Kan.) Clarion.

Then a passing motorist yelled at the men to get in his car, which they did, speeding down the block just in time to see the fence they had come through wiped out by the twister.

The tornado, which cut a 60-mile path from Clearwater to Cassoday, killing 19 people and injuring 192 others, was the largest of the 30 tornadoes sighted in Kansas that Friday, April 26. No one from the two Wichita congregations was injured. Just a few blocks northeast of Mr.

(See TORNADO, page 3)

(See PERSONAL, PAGE 7)

(See PLAN, page 3)

Members not hurt in tornado

By Tracy Pribbenow-Sims

WICHITA, Kan.—Ron Crech was locking up his office at his car dealership and getting ready to head home when he saw the twirling cloud filled with debris.

"I ran back and yelled at the two guys in the garage that there was a tornado," said Mr. Crech, 43, a member who attends the Wichita

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Overlooked causes behind natural disasters

PASADENA—"Not since the end of World War II have so many people in so many different continents faced such devastation."

That's how the May 13 *U.S. News & World Report* summed up the succession of disasters that have rocked the globe, from earthquakes and violent storms to epidemics to threats of famine as a result of war.

In the words of one relief official, "It seems there is a disaster, not only of the week, but of the day."

Said another: "I don't know what I'll wake up to next."

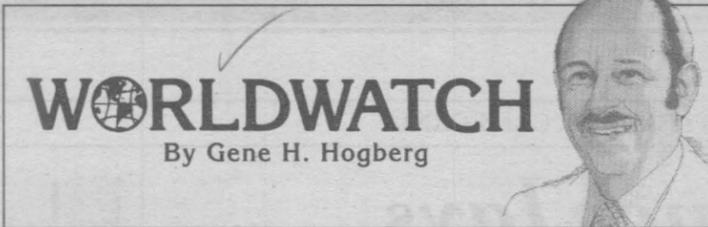
A third described the flare-up in global crises as "biblical in proportion."

The effect on global aid efforts was reflected when delegates from nearly 130 American relief organizations met in Washington, D.C.

A Los Angeles *Times* report enumerated the disasters they discussed: "The Kurds needed help. A cholera epidemic was spreading death across Peru. Meanwhile, massive earthquakes had struck Costa Rica and Soviet Georgia. A worsening famine in east Africa was threatening 27 million residents in six countries."

Yet, ironically, as these delegates deliberated, the biggest calamity to date struck: A cyclone slammed into Bangladesh, packing furious 145-mile-an-hour winds.

After the eight-hour raking of the Bay of Bengal coastline subsided, the tides washed back on shore their grisly flotsam of thousands of



WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg

human and animal corpses. To date, the official death toll stands at 125,000. But up to four million others remain imperiled.

The Bangladesh disaster placed further strain on overburdened relief organizations. "Blankets and weatherproofing materials so urgently needed in Bangladesh are scarcer than ever," continued the Los Angeles *Times*. "They have already gone to the Kurds fleeing Iraq."

"Medical supplies, notably intravenous solutions, that Bangladesh requires are also in short supply; crates already have been shipped to Peru, where the cholera epidemic so far has struck 165,000 people, killing 1,200. Other commodities ... are scattered all too thinly between famine-stricken African republics and hard-hit earthquake zones."

Americans in particular are known for their generosity in contributing to humanitarian causes. Private agencies in the United States provide a disproportionate share of the aid needed each year worldwide.

Now there is evidence that the public is weary—"burnout," aid officials, call it—of appeals for

help. "We're getting very little response for the cholera epidemic in Peru and the African famine," bemoans a Red Cross official.

Aid spectacles seem to be fading, too. In the mid-1980s, \$300 million poured in to relieve impending starvation in Ethiopia.

Yet, while the threat of famine in east Africa is even greater today, there are no hints of a repeat of Live Aid style fund-raising concerts.

Money and relief supplies, however vital, can only treat the effects of natural disasters. Rarely are attempts made to eliminate the causes responsible for what, in most cases, are preventable situations.

Take Bangladesh, one of the poorest and most densely populated countries. The low-lying Asian nation comprises little more than the delta region (said to be the world's largest) of the mighty Ganges, and the Brahmaputra river systems.

Known as the drainpipe of Central Asia, these rivers transport huge volumes of water, some of it pouring uncontrollably from the increasingly deforested Himalayas. While a certain amount of seasonal flooding is necessary for agriculture,

will return, and of course, God will send him at the proper time, but it is important for Christians in any age to pray for his return.

We do know that before Christ returns the world will suffer great tribulation.

The more we perceive the suffering in this world, the more earnestly we should realize the need for Christ's return. The more we see the world descending into further evil, which will cause further suffering, the more fervently we should pray: "Thy kingdom come."

When we read of mass starvation in Africa, of millions of children dying a wretched death, not having known even fleeting glimpses of happiness, let us pray: "Thy kingdom come."

When we hear of famine in Ethiopia and a civil war that hinders relief efforts and condemns people to further suffering, let us pray with

honey, so will he deliver this world and usher in his kingdom flowing with love, peace and joy.

Our part

God wants us to be involved in this scenario. We should have compassion for the plight of the world.

We are to follow the example of Jesus Christ when he taught his disciples to pray: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth,

When we read of mass starvation in Africa, of millions of children dying a wretched death, not having known even fleeting glimpses of happiness, let us pray: "Thy kingdom come."

as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10, King James Version).

We know that the "effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16). We Church members can make a difference with our prayers.

When Peter was in prison, the church offered constant prayer to God and, consequently, God sent an angel to free Peter (Acts 12:5-7).

Our job is even greater. We are to pray not for the freedom of one man but of the world. And God does listen to our prayers.

Jesus, speaking of the great tribulation, said: "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (Matthew 24:22).

Relevant for today

We do not know when Christ

many times there is far too much.

In addition, storms spawned over the Indian Ocean are drawn as if by a magnet up the shallow Bay of Bengal, pushing ahead of them huge walls of tidal water.

Thus, Bangladesh is subjected to the double threats of river flooding inland and coastal devastation. Since the early 18th century more than one million people have been killed in monsoon storms. Simply put, too many people are living in dangerous surroundings.

In the case of Peru and other countries in South America and Africa confronted with the scourge of cholera, the cause is not difficult to isolate—lack of basic sanitation procedures, compounded by poverty and ignorance.

The remedy, as described in the April 27 *Economist*, is not complicated: "All you need is a clean water supply and an efficient way of getting rid of human excrement."

The impending famines in east Africa have two root causes—war and deforestation. Take the case of the food crisis in Sudan, threatening more than five million people.

Water shortages in rural areas are partly responsible. So is the fact that hungry people are eating seed grains, guaranteeing no harvests in 1991.

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Africa: Disease, famine, stalk the lost continent

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Journalists are forever searching for new ways to describe the sorry plight of Africa.

It has been known for centuries as the dark continent. Last year I referred to it as the forgotten continent. Now it is depicted as a lost continent.

Said a somewhat surprising lead editorial in the March 31 *Independent on Sunday*: "If God looks down on his creation ... he must weep for Africa and Africans. It is the lost continent, not the dark one."

"Millions of people, millions of children, children like our own children, are starving and dying from hunger or AIDS. And it seems we can do nothing: Large quantities of public and private aid disappear but nothing changes."

Clearly, the four horsemen of the apocalypse are riding in Africa. Famine brings war—and war brings famine! But both bring loathsome disease epidemics.

Some observers blame European or Communist colonialism.

The *Independent* continued: "Africa has now been deserted by its Communist colonialists as it was by European colonialists thirty years ago. There are no Cubans left in Angola, no East Germans advising the Mozambicans, no Chinese to be found in Tanzania, few Russians remaining in Ethiopia."

And Africa has the beginnings of what some have termed the sick country syndrome.

As a companion article in *The Independent on Sunday* reported: To date sick country syndrome "has affected only countries with marginal semidesert economies, such as the Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Mali. But it takes only a moderate dislocation of tra-

ditional peasant ways for it to break cover.

"Today, oppressed by dictatorships and corruption, foreign debt and urban elites, the less marginal agricultural economies of Africa such as Zaire, Zimbabwe and Kenya, even South Africa, are stumbling in the same direction."

The question is: If a continent-wide African tragedy is allowed to occur, can it be confined to African soil? Can a catastrophe be limited to the Third World?

The *Independent* article went on: "The problem may soon become not one of preventing a few million people dying, but that we cannot let a major part of the planet turn into a howling ecological wilderness. Today huge numbers of Ethiopian farms are being washed down the Nile due to deforestation."

"In 50 years' time a largely desertified Africa will present a climatic bill to Western Europe and North America that may wipe out the vineyards of Burgundy or the wheat fields of Kansas."

But the problem, in the end, boils down to one of government. The generally accepted concept of noninterference in a sovereign state's affairs hinders the world community from dealing with global dilemmas. This same concept is a stubborn barrier to workable solutions in Africa.

So at the end of the day, God is Africa's only hope. As the writer of that lead editorial said: "Africa is so much without hope that it is difficult to believe it can help itself."

But the author did finish on an optimistic note. "If God is looking down ... on Africa the seemingly lost continent, perhaps his tears are tinged with hope."



Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner



Thy kingdom come

More than 3,000 years ago the Israelites were captives in Egypt. God saw their sufferings, and he heard their cries.

God, in his mercy, proclaimed to Moses: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey" (Exodus 3:7-8, New King James, unless noted).

The deliverance of Israel from captivity is recorded in the rest of the book of Exodus.

An ongoing condition

Oppression is prevalent in the world. I wrote in this column last issue about the suffering I witnessed during my trip to the Soviet Union.

But by no means does the Soviet Union hold a monopoly on suffering. Indeed, Soviet citizens are well off compared to many other parts of the world.

Suffering is spreading. Crime is increasing in alarming proportions in Europe. Europe is also acquiring an addiction to drugs. A war in the Persian Gulf that was hailed as a victory brought untold suffering to the Kurdish people and colossal environmental destruction.

We live in a world filled with oppression. God sees the oppression, he sees the misery in this world and he hears the cries of all who suffer.

And as he delivered the Israelites from bondage and brought them to a land flowing with milk and

Conference

(Continued from page 1)

serve the brethren by pooling physical and human resources, keeping within the bounds of distinct historic and cultural lines."

According to Luciano Cozzi, assistant pastor of the Milan, Italy, church: "It was particularly inspiring for us to see how, in the few days we spent together, national boundaries and language barriers were placed on a second level by the fruit of God's Spirit in action."

"We leave Colmar, France, feeling a great sense of accomplishment, and with a new strong feeling of unity with our fellow ministers stretching far beyond the physical, national and cultural barriers."

"The ministry in Europe had been looking forward to this conference for a long time," said John Adams, pastor of the Valletta, Malta, church. "I feel the reality actually far exceeded the anticipation. It was inspiring, unifying and great fun."

Mr. Salyer said he hopes to have a European conference every couple of years. He encouraged the ministers to speak at the Feast sites in other European countries.

Ordination

During the conference Bernard Andrist, pastor of the Geneva and Neuchatel, Switzerland, and Yauonde, Cameroon, churches, was ordained a pastor. Mr. Catherwood conducted the ceremony in French.

In attendance

Pasadena: Larry and Judy Salyer; Randal and Susan Dick; Victor and Beverly Kubik; Steven and Liz Andrews; and Olivier Carion.

Dutch-speaking area: Bram and Trudy de Bree; and Johan and Miek Wilms.

The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 69,000

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Art director: Ronald Grove; **illustrator:** Ken Tunell

Photography: G.A. Belluche Jr.; Charles Feldbush; Hal Finch; Glenda Jackson; Barry Stahl; **photo librarian:** Susan Braman.

Printing coordinators: Skip Dunn and David Bradford.

Notice: The Worldwide News cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited articles and photographs.

Subscriptions: Subscriptions are sent automatically to the members of the Worldwide Church of God. Address all communications to The Worldwide News, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129. See The Plain Truth for additional mailing offices. Entered as second-class mail at the Manila, Philippines, Central Post Office, Feb. 10, 1984. **Address changes:** U.S. changes of address are handled automatically with Plain Truth changes of address. Postmaster: Please send Form 3579 to The Worldwide News, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

England: Leslie and Marion McCullough; John and Ana Maria Andrews; and Dexter and Shirley Faulkner.

French-speaking area: Bernard and Maria-Jose Andrist; Bernard and Colette Audoin; Jean and Anne-Marie Carion; Tony Gallagher; Sam and Marilyn Kneller; Jacques and Jacqueline Le Houedec; Joel and Marjolaine Meeker; and James and Odile Muir.

German-speaking area: John and Kristina Karlson; Robert and

Valerie Berendt; Martin and Denise Fekete; Matthew and Lisa Fenchel; Wade and Kay Fransson; Winfried and Carola Fritz; Alfred and Margarete Hellemann; and Henry and Edel Sturcke.

Italian-speaking area: Carn and Joyce Catherwood; John and Ann Adams; Daniel and Colomba Bosch; Ford and Francesca Burden; Luciano and Suzanne Cozzi; and Cliff and Connie Veal.

Spanish areas: Leon and Reba Walker; and Pedro Rufian.

Plan

(Continued from page 1)

line—financially.

"We cannot make that mistake in this organization because our values are spiritual in nature and not material. We must be consistent with the values and the mission of the Church."

Therefore, managers will begin their strategic planning process by ensuring that the mission of their department or operation is supportive of the Work's overall mission, value and goal statements.

Opportunities and risks

When planning for the future we notice there are risks, he said. "Strategic planning helps us find which risks are worth taking and which risks are not."

This kind of analysis enables us to arrive at a framework within which to set up meaningful, tangible goals, which "tie back in to the mission statement."

The purpose of strategic planning is to have the goals of each operation support the goals in each of the other operations and departments throughout the Work.

"Once goals have been developed, Mr. Tkach and the operation directors will review the material and coordinate those objectives, so that the Church has a set of prioritized, mutually attainable goals that it is looking to achieve," Mr. Andrews said.

Only after a meaningful strategy has been developed, "can we talk about cost of materials, or manpower needed to apply the task." In the past this was the point at which we started making our plans, "but now it is well down the line."

"That's the basis upon which we will develop our budgets. Once we do that we'll go through another review process with Mr. Tkach and review whether we can afford to pay for all the things which we said were priorities."

Strategic planning "allows for the coordination and allocation of resources." However, "we are all aware that we are not given every-

thing that we ask for in unlimited measure."

But at this point "we are in a position to write a business plan document that can be communicated to those who support us."

"We can go to God's people and say, 'This is what we are doing and we need your help,' and we can go to the co-workers and say, 'Here's what we're doing, and why, and we need your help at this time.'"

And "we have a basis upon which we can go to God and say we don't have enough to do the job which you want us to do and we need more."

Mr. Andrews concluded, "It's up to us to make sure we address all the significant factors that present themselves to us, in a coherent and consistent way, so that Mr. Tkach can lend the direction we look to him for."

Tornado

(Continued from page 1)

impact; the house creaked under the pressure and debris bounced off the exterior. Then we realized the roar was diminishing and all was past.

The tornado had passed just half a block from where we were. The neighborhood was filled with debris of all types, yet my sister's home was virtually undamaged. The car I had parked in the driveway didn't even have a scratch.

The storm continued through southeast Wichita, destroying part of McConnell Air Force Base as it headed for Andover, where the family of Charles Calahan, pastor of the Wichita South church lives.

Dave and Beverly Johnston, and their daughters Angela and Shely, were headed to the Calahans for supper when they crossed paths with the twister.

"We were coming into Andover traveling west just as the tornado was leaving northeast," Shely Johnston said. "I saw it toss a huge tree like it was just a piece of

paper, and it had ripped one wall off a home, leaving it looking like a dollhouse with everything inside still neatly in place."

As the Johnstons drove farther into Andover, they feared they wouldn't find the Calahans alive.

"But then you could see where it left total destruction about two blocks southwest of their home, then apparently lifted up and skipped their whole subdivision," Mr. Johnston said.

The twister diminished slightly in size as it wound its way up the Kansas Turnpike. Butch Gilbert Jr., and his daughters Keri, 10, and Cori, 14, who attend the Wichita South church, were heading back toward Andover when they met the tornado 15 miles north of El Dorado.

"At first, I couldn't tell exactly which direction it was going," Mr. Gilbert said. "A news truck went flying by me the other direction and parked under an overpass. I made a U-turn and followed them. We had about five or 10 seconds to spare."

The Gilberts and the news team took sanctuary in the overpass embankment as the tornado passed directly over them and picked up another car on the highway. That car, Mr. Gilbert said, was originally only 200 yards behind his vehicle.

As a community service project, the Youth Opportunities United (YOU) group picked up rubble left behind by the tornado, in addition to gathering clothing for those who lost their homes.

"Into all the world..."

Your involvement in the Work produces fruit. This column shows how the *World Tomorrow* telecast and the Church's publications change the lives of subscribers, co-workers and prospective members.

Plain Truth

I find *The Plain Truth* to be a quality magazine with valuable teaching and general interest articles. I appreciate the lack of advertising, which so many Christian denominations have stooped to in order to fund anything.

God's Work should never be financed by petty begging or commercialization, and you are setting a good example by steering clear of these. Though I may not agree with everything you print, the vast majority of your articles I find educational, inspiring and uplifting.

R.C.
Timaru, New Zealand

☆☆☆

Your magazine reflects stark reality concerning immorality and the problems associated with it.

Being a Briton now visiting the United States of America, I could conclude that the Western world is in an advanced stage of being swallowed by moral decadence. The staggering rates of divorce, murder, rape, child abuse, incest, robbery, illicit sex, cruelty, etc., are mind-boggling.

The United States of America and Britain epitomize Western decadence and this is paradoxical since church attendance in these two societies is so

high. Where did Christianity go wrong?

I have been reading your magazine since I was 6 and still continue to do so. My faith in Christianity has not been shaken one bit, but I do feel dejection when I observe the rapid disintegration of Western Europe and the United States—societies purporting to be guided by Christian principles.

Avoca, Pa.

☆☆☆

Learning experience

Thank you very much for all the literature you have sent. It has been a tremendous blessing and a wonderful learning experience.

For years I have been reading the Bible, becoming much confused. Your pamphlets have made it a much more enlightening experience.

H.G.
Gainesville, Fla.

☆☆☆

Correspondence course

I am a 63-year-old Catholic who started your wonderful Bible study some time back. It has been very enlightening and revealing.

It took me some time as you know, but I finally sent in my last test. Now I am going to start reviewing it, and with our Lord Jesus Christ, try to understand and comprehend more. I was not exposed to Bible reading at home, and at church we memorized prayers. We bought a Bible when we were married but could not understand it.

C.S.
El Paso, Tex.

Employees on the move

PASADENA—After eight years on the staff of *The Worldwide News*, associate editor Kerri Dowd transferred to *Youth 91*, where she works as associate editor.

Becky Sweet, formerly a researcher for *The Plain Truth*, replaced Mrs. Dowd as *Worldwide News* associate editor.

Larry Johnson, previously a researcher for *The Plain Truth*, and his wife, Kathy, formerly *Youth 91* associate editor, moved

to Florida to pursue personal business interests and to be closer to family.

George Hague, previously an audio engineer for *The World Tomorrow*, transferred to the Editorial Department, where he works as a researcher.

Jennifer McGraw transferred from the Publishing Department to Editorial, where she works as an editorial assistant for the Bible correspondence course.

ATTENTION CHURCH YOUTHS

PASADENA—*The Worldwide News* would like to feature Church youths who are 1991 valedictorians and salutatorians. If you graduate first or second in your class, send us your name and include a photo, the name of your high school, your church area and indicate your class ranking. Please have your church pastor sign it. (We will return photos accompanied by a self-addressed envelope.) Please mail to *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129, by July 1.

Media praise Mitchell brothers for putting Sabbath before sports

By Alvin Rose

The Ashland City Times

ASHLAND, Tenn.—Martin Luther King Jr. High School (MLKHS) is one of Tennessee's newest high schools. The school was created as a magnet high school by the Metropolitan Nashville Schools five years ago.

This article is reprinted by permission of the Ashland City, Tenn., Times. Joey and Mike Mitchell attend the Nashville, Tenn., church with their parents, Kendell and Mickey.

Since MLKHS is a magnet school, students must apply to attend there. They must also supply their own transportation. All of King's students are the college-preparatory type.

MLKHS is not exactly a haven for "jocks." The school does compete in some sports, however, including basketball, and is classified in category A (small school) by the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA).

The school opened five years ago. That year, MLKHS played only a freshman basketball schedule and won none of its 22 games. One of the players on that team was an eighth grader named Joey Mitchell.

King's basketball team has gotten much better since that 0-22 team of five years ago.

Most agree that King's most valuable player (MVP) is Joey Mitchell, now a senior. Joey's brother, Mike, is a sophomore and also plays for the MLKHS Royals.

The Mitchell family are members of the Worldwide Church of God (WCG). The WCG, founded by Herbert W. Armstrong in the 1930s, teaches its followers to keep the Jewish Sabbath, which begins at sundown on Fridays and ends at sundown on Saturdays. This is the same Sabbath kept by the Seventh-day Adventists and the Church of God (Seventh Day).

The Mitchells are true to their religious beliefs and are faithful to keep their Sabbath. So Joey and Mike Mitchell will not play basketball on Friday nights or during the day on Saturdays.

Since Joey is the best player on the MLKHS team, naturally his coach has wanted to use him in as many games as possible. In Tennessee, high school teams usually play basketball games on Tuesday and Friday nights. To let Joey and Mike play in a maximum number of games, MLKHS Coach James Shelton has tried to reschedule his Friday night games for Thursday or Saturday nights.

This past season, MLKHS only played basketball games on three Friday nights. Without the Mitchell boys, they lost two of those three games. With the Mitchells, King

had a very good team. Good enough to get to the state tournament.

To win the tournament, MLKHS would have to win three games. They won their quarterfinal and semifinal game and earned a spot in championship game.

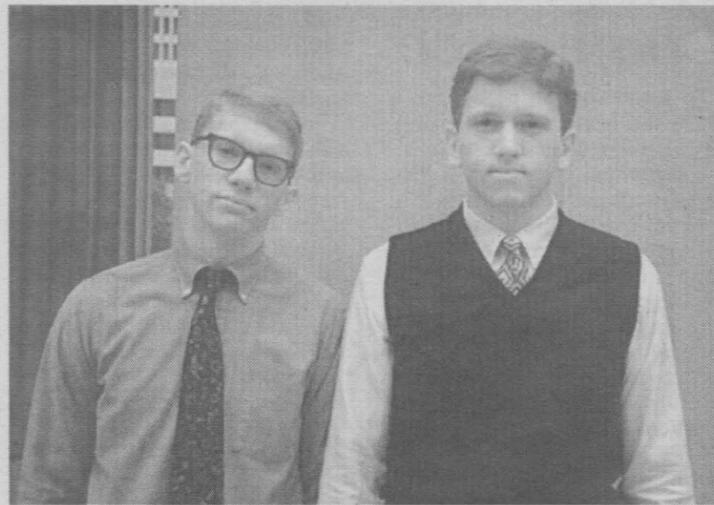
The games were played on Saturday, March 23. The sun set that day at 6:01 p.m., well after the time the Class A game, the game for MLKHS, was scheduled to be played.

The Mitchell boys had said all along that if their team were in the state finals on Saturday, they would not be there, but would be at home and at their religious services at the War Memorial Auditorium, rented by their WCG congregation. That's what they did!

What happened? MLKHS was without their MVP and his brother, but the Royals won anyway. M.L. King defeated Chattanooga Arts & Sciences High School 51-47 to win the TSSAA Class A championship.

The boys got home from church services in time to see the last seconds of the game on television. They saw their team win the game.

They then watched the Class A awards ceremony. Even though they sat out the last game, the Mitchell boys had played well enough in the first two games that Joey was named the tournament MVP and Mike was named to the all-tournament team.



MIKE & JOEY MITCHELL

They drove down to Murfreesboro, where the tournament was being played at MTSU's [Middle Tennessee State University] Murphy Center, and were introduced to the crowd at the end of the Class AA game. They received a standing ovation from the crowd.

I am not in agreement with many of the WCG's teachings. I do not believe in keeping the Jewish Saturday Sabbath.

Nevertheless, I do appreciate Joey and Mike Mitchell and the public stand they have taken for their religious beliefs. Very few teenage boys, especially those who happen to be good basketball players, seem willing to put their religious practices ahead of sports.

Many people have let sports get out of hand. They give sports more interest, time and money than they do the church. For many people, sports have virtually become a reli-

gion. Many "worship" in the presence of athletes more than they do in the presence of God.

We all need to remember that basketball (and football, baseball, etc.) is just a game. Athletics is a great form of entertainment, but it is only entertainment.

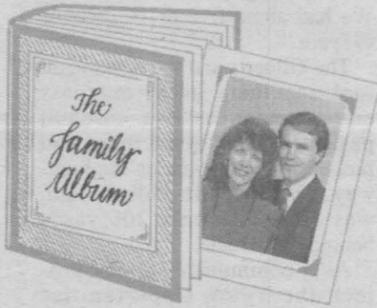
Some people really make idiots of themselves at games, yelling at officials, the other coach, the other team and the other fans. This is true, be it professional teams, college teams, high school teams or junior pro-little league.

Joey and Mike Mitchell have made a powerful statement. They have said that going to a regular weekly religious service is more important than trying to win a state basketball championship.

I think they have their priorities straight. Hats off to the Mitchells. In age, they may be boys, but in maturity, they are men all the way.

PAGES FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM

"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit everlasting life." (Matthew 19:29, New King James)



Charlottetown, P.E.I.

By Becky Sweat

On the southeastern tip of Canada, nine miles east of New Brunswick and 15 miles north of Nova Scotia, lies Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province.

PEI, as the locals call it, is a rural area, known for its serene harbors, green rolling hills, reddish-brown soil, peaceful farms and unspoiled surroundings. It has been nicknamed "The Million Acre Farm," "The Garden Province" and "The Kentucky of Canada."

The island is crescent-shaped, 140 miles (225 kilometers) long and up to 35 miles (56 kilometers) wide. The area is almost evenly settled, making it the most densely populated province of Canada.

Perhaps PEI is best known as the setting of the novel, *Anne of Green Gables*, the story of a red-haired orphan adopted by an elderly brother and sister and raised on PEI.

A musical version of this novel has been playing on the island every summer since 1965. Each year

tourists from around the world come to see the musical, as well as the Anne of Green Gables museum and the birthplace of Lucy Maud Montgomery, the story's author.

Of the island's population of 125,000, 35 attend God's Church at Charlottetown, PEI's capital.

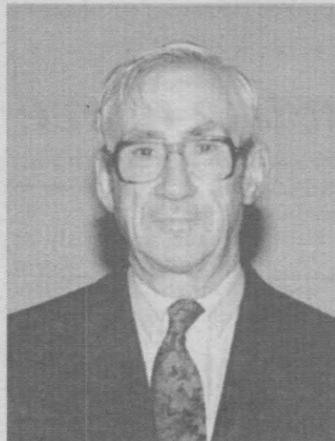
Bible studies in this area began in the mid-1980s, becoming monthly by 1986. The first church services in Charlottetown were conducted in January 1989. Of Canada's 10 provinces, PEI was the last to have a church.

Eric Warren is pastor of Charlottetown, in addition to pastoring the Moncton and Saint John, N.B., churches. Once a month he and his wife, Amy, meet with the members in Charlottetown for Sabbath services, and once a month for Bible study. Three Sabbaths out of each month, the Charlottetown members listen to tapes in their homes from the previous week's services in Moncton.

On Holy Days, Charlottetown members come to Moncton for services. "Some PEI members travel as many as four hours one way to get to Holy Day services, including time on the ferry, and most go back to PEI the same day," explained Mr. Warren.

Because PEI is only accessible by ferry (or plane), the members there

sometimes feel isolated from those in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The ferry trip between PEI and Nova Scotia lasts 75 minutes and is not provided in winter months. Icebreakers provide year-round service between PEI and New Brunswick, the trip lasting about 45 minutes.



BRUCE COULSON

The isolation felt by many of the residents of PEI, at the same time, has brought about a culture and way of life that islanders are proud of.

Bruce Coulson, 71, a member in Charlottetown, has lived in PEI much of his life. In 1951 Mr. Coulson moved off the island to work for the Canadian government in Ottawa,



CHARLOTTETOWN MEMBERS

Ont., where he was an employee for 30 years. Five years ago he returned to PEI, and says he enjoys the casual way of life found on the island.

"Here, the atmosphere is friendly. When you see people on the street, you stop and say hello," said Mr. Coulson. "When you go to a store, you discuss the weather for 15 minutes before getting down to business. In the big city, there is no time for small talk."

Mr. Coulson thinks PEI is a great place to bring up children. "On PEI they get a good education, but they are away from most of the temptations of drugs and other problems in the big city. Plus they get plenty of fresh air and have lots of space."

There are many challenges for the Church in PEI. According to Mr. Warren, the Maritime Provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island) make up the Bible Belt of Canada.

"Because it's a rural area, everyone knows everyone else's business, making it a challenge for people to leave traditional religions and become members of God's Church," Mr. Warren said. "Once in the Church, it gives members an opportunity to be a light to the community."

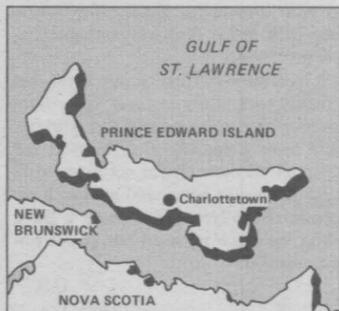
The main industries in PEI are tourism, agriculture, construction and

fishing, all of which slow down dramatically in the winter months. It is not uncommon for the unemployment rate to reach as high as 20 percent between November and February.

Although many of the Church members work in construction, unemployment has not been a serious problem until the current recession.

The island as a whole is losing a good deal of its younger residents. "As soon as they get their education, young people move off the island," said Mr. Coulson. "They know it's harder to get a steady job here. All that's available is carpentry and construction, and those are both seasonal jobs."

Wages in PEI tend to be lower than in the rest of Canada, although the members there do surprisingly well compared to local standards. Said Mr. Warren, "They probably have to be, or they couldn't afford all the trips on the ferries."



WE ARE ONE FAMILY

Charlottetown, P.E.I.	
Attendance	35
Local church elders	0
Deacons	0
Deaconesses	0
Teens	3
Children under 12	13
Singles	1
Over 60s	2
Spokesman Clubs	0
Graduate Clubs	0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

BLACK, Gary and Gale (Morrison) of Rockford, Ill., girl, Kristen Elizabeth, Feb. 1, 6:22 a.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

BLAKE, Wayne and Rosella (Au) of Genoa, Ill., boy, Caleb Patrick, March 19, 9:05 a.m., 7 pounds 6 ounces, now 3 boys.

BREIDENTHAL, George and Laurie (Fletcher) of Paramount, Calif., boy, Robert Donald, Feb. 27, 3 a.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

BYRNES, Peter and Susan (Ittensohn) of Brisbane, Qld., girl, Samantha Lee, Dec. 20, 2:14 p.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

CLOER, Daniel and Laura (Birdwell) of Visalia, Calif., girl, Samantha Allison, Dec. 24, 12:27 p.m., 9 pounds 1 1/2 ounces, now 2 girls.

CUENCO, Michael and Barbara (Powell) of Portland, Ore., girl, Michelle P., March 18, 3:32 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

DYCHES, Mark and Judy (Mello) of Westminster, Calif., boy, Jacob Wayne, March 6, 7:15 p.m., 6 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

EVANS, Wesley and Kathy (Swihart) of Dayton, Ohio, boy, Aaron Wesley, March 21, 11:50 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

FISKE, Roderick and Julie (Heine) of Columbus, Ind., girl, Grace Anne, Feb. 16, 7:35 p.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

FRICKE, Stuart and Ginger (Sweat) of Pasco, Wash., boy, Jacob Mitchell, Jan. 13, 6 pounds, first child.

GREENWOOD, Ian and Tracy (Moxham) of Nelson, New Zealand, girl, Loren Dawn, April 8, 6:43 a.m., 4 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 children.

HART, Jason and Rosie (Bean) of Miami, Fla., girl, Ashley Rose, Jan. 4, 11:29 a.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

HORNSBY, Donald and Christina (Randall) of Delaware, Ohio, girl, Candace Marie, April 5, 5:05 a.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 girl.

KANGETHE, James and Winnie (Kaiga) of Nairobi, Kenya, girl, Caroline Wambui, March 13, 9:45 a.m., 3.7 kilograms, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

KARUGA, Stephen and Elizabeth (Wairimu) of Nairobi, Kenya, girl, Rahab Sarah, March 28, 4 p.m., 3.7 kilograms, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

KENNEBECK, Tom and Sandy (Swisher) of Big Sandy, boy, Christopher William, March 20, 1:34 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

LUDY, Lorrel and Anna (Evans) of Soldotna, Alaska, girl, Elizabeth Ann, March 26, 5 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 girls.

MANDEVILL, Garry and Piper (Turner) of Tulsa, Okla., girl, Tia Marie, March 30, 6:56 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 5 children.

MAUGH, Steven and Rosalie (Langdon) of Eugene, Ore., boy, Lava Richard, Dec. 26, 2:20 p.m., 6 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

McDOWELL, Brad and Rhonda (Cosco) of Palmdale, Calif., girl, Laura Elizabeth, April 8, 4:52 a.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

METZ, Daniel and Debora (Newsome) of Whiting, Ind., boy, Samuel Aaron, March 6, 9:22 p.m., 7 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

MORGAN, Mathew and Pamela (Terry) of Pasadena, girl, Jessica Jo, March 14, 10:14 a.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

PARMLEY, Jason and Julie (Waddell) of Virginia Beach, Va., girl, Audra Madeleine, March 23, 5:49 p.m., 6 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 girls.

PASTUSAK, Arthur and Gail (Streeter) of Arcadia, Calif., boy, Alexander Nikolai, April 1, 8:35 a.m., 4 pounds 6 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

RAUM, Ron and Judy of Reno, Nev., boy, Cody David, adopted Feb. 7, born April 21, 1989.

REINHARDT, James and Martha (Cook) of Morristown, Tenn., girl, Sarah Angela, Feb. 18, 8:19 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 girls.

SANCHO, Raymond and Elaine (Eaves) of Detroit, Mich., boy, Jacob Stephan, Feb. 13, 12:17 a.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 2 boys.

SMITH, William and Connie (Hamlett) of Austin, Tex., girl, Rebecca Susanne, Feb. 27, 2:58 a.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 2 girls.

SNOW, Jim and Doris (Hoffman) of Rapid City, S.D., girl, Lisa Rochelle, Feb. 4, 7:22 p.m., 3 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 girls.

STRAUB, Stephen and Kathleen (Marino) of Vineland, N.J., boy, Nathan Albert, Feb. 17, 2:30 a.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 boys, 3 girls.

TARKINGTON, Beau and Anita (Wilson) of Sparta, Ill., boy, Sebastian Alexandr, March 28, 4 p.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 children.

THOMPSON, Terry and Nadine of Belle Vernon, Pa., boy, Derek Richard, Dec. 13, 1 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

TROUT, Richard and Edith of Kingwood, W.Va., adopted 1 boy and 1 girl, Sean and Trina.

TURKINGTON, Keith and Jacqueline (Kempston) of Belfast, Northern Ireland, girl, Hannah Louise, Dec. 22, 8 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

TURNER, Martin and Paula (Bifulco) of Melbourne, Vic., boy, Isaac Martin, Jan. 16, 1:33 p.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

WARDENBURG, Todd and Jane (Wiebold) of Iowa City, Iowa, boy, Zachary Martin, March 16, 10:42 p.m., 6 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 boys.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. James Beem of Hornick, Iowa, are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Lori Anne to Mark Andrew Sanders, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dwain Sanders of Tacoma, Wash. A July wedding in Iowa is planned.

Kay Fairrel of Weatherford, Tex., is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter Krista Ka to Scott Eric Talbott, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Talbott of Plano, Tex. A July wedding in Dallas, Tex., is planned.

Desseri Leigh Mary Ackerman and Roderick John Flavius Clowater of Vancouver, B.C., joyfully announce their engagement. A June 30 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Larry Burnett of Sabina, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. Greg Sargent of Union, N.J., are happy to announce the engagement of their children, Amy and Dean. A Sept. 15 wedding in Dayton, Ohio, is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. George Haith of Blackfoot, Idaho, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tina Lynn, to Chris Kevin Maningas, son of Jan Maningas of Lombard, Ill. A July 28 wedding in Blackfoot is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fraley are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Diana to Eric Elzroth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Elzroth of Dayton, Ohio. A July 14 wedding in Painted Post, N.Y., is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. David Prieskorn of Leslie, Mich., wish to announce the engagement of their daughter Michelle Theresa to Donovan Scott Barbara of Minneapolis, Minn., son of Johnny Barbara of Bonney Lake, Wash., and Sheridan Fenwick of Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif. An August wedding is planned.

WEDDINGS



MR. & MRS. BRAD MARSON

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Nicoletti of Noblesville, Ind., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Cyndi to Brad Marson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Marson of Anchorage, Alaska. The ceremony was performed Sept. 30 by James Servidio, Baltimore, Md., pastor. Tomas Whited was maid of honor, and Jon Cuccas was the best man. The couple live in Baltimore.



MR. & MRS. ROMEO C. RUSTIA

Maria Victoria C. Rodriguez, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edmundo S. Rodriguez of Zamboanga, Philippines, and Romeo C. Rustia, son of Estrella C. Rustia of Isabela, Philippines, were united in marriage Sept. 16 in Zamboanga. The ceremony was performed by Romeo C. Pusta, Zamboanga pastor. Rachel C. Rodriguez, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Jess P. Acebron was best man. The couple live in Taguig, Philippines.



MR. & MRS. MATT FOSTER

Mr. and Mrs. Dan McAulay are delighted to announce the marriage of their eldest daughter Yvonne to Matt Foster of New Zealand. The ceremony was performed Sept. 25 at Loch Lomond, Scotland, by James Henderson, Borehamwood and Watford, England, pastor. Esther McAulay, Lisa Luxton and Simone Henderson were bridesmaids, and Douglas MacDonald was best man. The couple live near Glasgow, Scotland.



MR. & MRS. MARK BUCHANAN

Sandra Sims of San Antonio, Tex., and

Mark Buchanan of Austin, Tex., were united in marriage July 1. Tom Kuver, a minister in the San Antonio East church, performed the ceremony. The couple live in San Diego, Calif.



MR. & MRS. JIM SMITHBURGER

Kimberly Lynn Sims, daughter of Sandra Buchanan and the late Ken Sims, and Jim Smithburger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Smithburger of Uniontown, Pa., were united in marriage Sept. 2. Steve Moody, San Antonio, Tex., East, pastor, performed the ceremony. The couple live in San Antonio.



MR. & MRS. DWAYNE BLEVINS

Tesha Rene Sims, daughter of Sandra Buchanan and the late Ken Sims, and Dwayne Blevins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Blevins of Knoxville, Tenn., were united in marriage Sept. 2. The groom's father, a minister in the Knoxville church, performed the wedding. The couple live in Chattanooga, Tenn.



MR. & MRS. HELMUT RUDAJAS

The parents of Carla Denise Kurck and Helmut Rudajs are pleased to announce the marriage of their children in Pasadena Dec. 16. The ceremony was performed by Gene Scarbrough, a minister in the Pasadena East A.M. church. The bride's sister, Felicia Brothers, was the matron of honor, and Bob Lessman was best man.



MR. & MRS. SCOTT HERRIDGE

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Woodall of Chesapeake, Va., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Shawna Le to Scott Alan Herridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Herridge of Dunlap, Ill. The wedding was performed Aug. 5 in Chesapeake by the groom's father, a minister in the Peoria, Ill., church, and the bride's father, a minister in the Norfolk, Va., church. Elaine Little was maid of honor, and Todd Herridge was best man. The couple live in Princeville, Ill.



MR. & MRS. JOHN LANUM IV

Lori Jean McNeely of Cape Girardeau, Mo., and John Henry Lanum IV of Roanoke, Va., were united in marriage Sept. 2. The ceremony was performed in Cape Girardeau by the bride's uncle, Darris McNeely, Indianapolis South and Columbus, Ind., pastor. Julie Rowland was matron of honor, and Joe Lanum,

brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Roanoke.



MR. & MRS. JOHN EUBANKS

Mr. and Mrs. John Eubanks of Southaven, Miss., and Mr. and Mrs. William Geary of Chicago, Ill., are happy to announce the marriage of their children, John Michael Eubanks and Sherry Lynn Geary. The ceremony was performed April 29 in Wheaton, Ill., by Timothy Snyder, Kalamazoo and Coldwater, Mich., pastor. Janice Fallon was matron of honor, and David Eubanks, brother of the groom, was the best man. The couple live in Lisle, Ill.



MR. & MRS. ANDREW ABDALLA

Hemma Shaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Shaw of London, England, and Andrew Abdalla, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Abdalla of Waverly, Pa., were united in marriage July 22. The ceremony was performed by James Rosenthal, Trenton and Brick, N.J., pastor. The couple live in Staten Island, N.Y.



MR. & MRS. DANIEL FRIZ

Tammy Sue Sutton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Sutton, and Daniel Peter Friz, son of Mrs. Walter Friz, were united in marriage Jan. 26. Enola Curtis was matron of honor, and John Friz, brother of the groom, was best man. The ceremony was performed by John Ogwyn, Baton Rouge and Lafayette, La., pastor. The groom is an Ambassador College graduate.



MR. & MRS. BRAD CAMPBELL

Patricia Coleman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. Coleman of Great Falls, Mont., and Brad Campbell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Joe Campbell of Florence, Ala., were united in marriage Dec. 29. The ceremony was performed by Otto Lochner, Huntsville and Florence, Ala., pastor. The couple live in Decatur, Ala.

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert and Rosemarie Morris of Minneapolis, Minn., celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Jan. 17. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have one son and daughter-in-law, Glenn and Bridgette; and one daughter and son-in-law, Paul and Lela Arnold.



MR. & MRS. LATEEF EDALERE

Leaford, Anthea, Alison, Peter and Paul are pleased to announce the 25th anniversary of their parents, Lateef and Yvonne Edalere of Big Sandy, March 5.

John and Audrey Reynolds of Las Cruces, N.M., celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary Feb. 11 in Guadalajara, Mexico. A church band played a program of South American songs. Snacks and cake were served.



MR. & MRS. NEAL HANSEN

Neal and Kim Hansen were honored by the Portland, Maine, church, on their 25th wedding anniversary. The Hansens have two children, Erich and Daniel.



MR. & MRS. JOHN LANUM

The children of John and Judith Lanum of Roanoke, Va., would like to congratulate their parents on their 25th wedding anniversary, April 6. The Lanums have two sons, John and Joe; two daughters, Julia and Helana; one daughter-in-law; and two grandsons.

Leonard and Marlene Marsden of Hull, England, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary March 19. They have three children, Michael, David and Michelle. The Hull church honored them with a reception after Sabbath services March 16.

ANNIVERSARIES MADE OF GOLD



MR. & MRS. SHERMAN MORRIS

Sherman and Eline Morris of Stockton, Calif., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 30. They were married in 1941 in Yuma, Ariz. The Morrises have four children, Douglas, Myrna, Donna and Joanie.



MR. & MRS. JAMES USREY

James and Ruth Usrey of Waco, Tex., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 15. Brethren honored the couple at a reception after Sabbath services March 9.

OBITUARIES

CAPO, Corali "Nan," 88, of Long Island, N.Y., died Dec. 7 after a lengthy illness. She is survived by her husband of 69 years and 10 months, Ralph. She is also survived by one daughter; one son, Charles, a deacon in the Suffolk, N.Y., church; 13 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.



JEREMY AND AMELIA ZHORNE

ZHORNE, Jeremy Winston, 4, and Amelia Louise, 1 1/2, of Pasadena were killed in an automobile accident March 15 outside Cheltenham, England. They are survived by their parents, Jeff and Wendy; grandparents, Larry and Carol Keller and Gene and Connie Zhorne; uncles, Jason and Garrett Keller and Scott and Matthew Zhorne; and aunts, Jillian and Sherry Zhorne.

GADSDON, Hilda Joyce, 59, of London, England, died March 13 of cancer. She is survived by her husband, Jim; one daughter and son-in-law, Jane and Ken Wallace; and two grandchildren.



GERVACIO VELASCO

VELASCO, Gervacio Manuel, 76, of Delano, Calif., died Nov. 8 of a heart attack. Mr. Velasco is survived by his wife, Urbana; one son, Eleazar; four daughters, Divina, Felicidad, Noemi and Grace; 22 grandchildren; and one sister, Felicidad. Mr. Velasco was preceded in death by his eldest son.



SALLY HOBZECK

HOBZECK, Sally, 77, of Albuquerque, N.M., died March 13. She is survived by two daughters, Charlotte Kotulik and Nancy Kelley, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



HELEN SCHMIDT

SCHMIDT, Helen, 77, of Tucson, Ariz., died March 4. Mrs. Schmidt, a deaconess, is survived by her husband, Ray, a deacon in the Tucson church.

SONNENBERG, Reinhold, 87, of Alberta Beach, Alta., died Jan. 7 after a short illness. Mr. Sonnenberg is survived by his wife, Maria; one brother; one sister; and three sons, Oswald, Edward and Fritz; and eight grandchildren.



HAROLD CABOS

CABOS, Harold L., 55, of Wailuku, Hawaii, died March 30 of cancer. Mr. Cabos is survived by three brothers, Herman, Joseph and Adelino; one sister, Alma Phelps; and nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

Announcement Reminders

- All announcements must have your pastor's signature.
- All announcements should be typed. If you do not have access to a typewriter, please print clearly.
- Please be sure all names are spelled correctly.
- In obituaries, please include the age at the time of death.
- In filling out the birth coupon, please count all children you now have, including the newborn. Also, under "Time of Day," put the time of birth and mark a.m. or p.m.
- If you would like your photos returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

We rejoice in God's love and mercy toward us as we keep the Feast of Pentecost, and we remember the work God has called us to do—to preach the good news of the kingdom to all nations!

Another power

Brethren, as God grants his Church unity and growth through the Holy Spirit, we need to be aware that there is another power, an evil and deceitful power, at work who wants to see the Work of the Church of God divided, thwarted and harmed!

The power of the evil dragon is, of course, no match for the infinite power of God. Yet, as God's army, we must fight, with God's help, against the powers of darkness led by our adversary, the devil.

We need to pray that God will strengthen us in the face of vicious attacks on the Church by false ministers who, for their own gain, are striving to gather a following after themselves.

One in particular has set himself up as the judge of all that God has done through his Church, accusing me of having "plunged right back into spiritual Babylon" because we include the message of salvation in the gospel.

This man claims we are now "one of the daughters of the Great Whore of Revelation 17." He ignores the message of the Bible so that he might deliver an emotional appeal to weaker members to transfer their loyalties away from the Church of God and toward him.

As the spiritual shepherd of God's people, I am grieved by the confusion and disorientation such "wolves" (Matthew 7:15, Acts 20:29) cause Christ's flock.

Though we do not forbid members to read dissident literature, I warn all of the danger of following after wolves in sheep's clothing, who distort and do violence to the truth of God, deceiving innocent and unsuspecting brethren. If we eat out of a garbage can we are bound to get sick.

There are at least two notable wolves (who are also at each other's throats) who claim that the Church of God no longer is preaching the true gospel of Jesus Christ. The primary message, or "gospel," of one of these is that he is the leader of the Philadelphia Church of Revelation 3.

His publications and sermons revolve around, not the gospel of the kingdom of God, but the gospel of who he is and why people should leave the Church of God to follow him.

The other claims to be a prophet. He, too, claims to be preaching the kingdom of God. His publication revolves around his prophecies and around what is "wrong" with the Church and why brethren should leave the Church to follow him.

In the light of various failed predictions, he now claims his predictions are "not 'prophecies,' in the strict sense of the term. They are what might be called 'probable scenarios,'" he says. However, we should have "faith" in his prophecies, he urges.

I do not like to write such things as this, brethren. But God's people do need to be protected and warned by the shepherds Christ has given them. These grievous wolves are spiritually dangerous to the flock,

stirring up controversy with false doctrines wherever they can to gain followers for themselves.

They pretend to be of Christ, yet their unceasing efforts to destroy, rather than to edify, belie their true motives. Like Paul said, they attack and tear at the Church because they want a following.

The Church of God is not out to get a following. It is out to obey the commands of its head, Jesus Christ. It is out to preach the gospel—the good news of the kingdom of God.

What is the kingdom of God? It is what Jesus Christ inaugurated at his first coming and what he said would grow like a grain of mustard seed till it fills the whole earth.

Kingdom—present and future

Mr. Armstrong often said that the Church of God is the kingdom of God in embryo. That is a

welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ" (New International Version throughout).

He quotes this passage, yet tries to pretend that the kingdom of God has nothing to do with salvation in Jesus Christ and proceeds to condemn the Church of God for obeying Jesus' commands.

It is also amazing what he does not quote. I hope you will take time to read all the following passages:

Mark 1:1: "The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

Mark 1:14-15: "After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe

The Church is only the firstfruits of God's creation in Jesus Christ. There yet remains the great future harvest to begin at Christ's return, pictured by the Feast of Tabernacles, and for which we pray daily!

fitting analogy, because the fullness of the kingdom will not be here until the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Yet, we must not think that the kingdom of God is something that is only in the future. That will lead us to not take seriously our present citizenship in heaven (Philippians 3:20), as children of God, as members of the household of God, as brethren of Jesus Christ and our obligation to live godly lives in obedience.

We are even now inducted into and ruled by the kingdom of God through the Holy Spirit as Christ lives in us.

Yes, the Church is, in a special sense, even now the kingdom of God. But the Church is certainly not now the fullness of the kingdom, and certainly not all that the kingdom will yet become in the future, when Jesus Christ returns.

We ought not think that the kingdom of God is something that is only for the present age. That would lead us to not take seriously the reality of the second coming of Jesus Christ when his millennial rule over all nations, assisted by the resurrected saints, will begin.

It would lead us to not focus on the fact of judgment and on the hope of the inheritance of the saints—the reality of who is the author of eternal salvation and what that salvation entails.

The kingdom of God is both present and future, and the gospel does not neglect either aspect.

I hope and pray that all converted brethren read, understand and believe what the Bible says the gospel is. This wolf I mentioned earlier wants to get people to follow him by saying that the gospel of the kingdom of God is not the gospel of the salvation of human beings through Jesus Christ!

He wants to confuse, disorient and hurt faithful Christians by telling them that the Church of God has become the "Great Whore of Revelation" by preaching exactly what it is commanded to preach—salvation through Jesus Christ!

It is amazing that he quotes Acts 28:30-31, which says: "For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and

the good news!"

Matthew 28:19-20: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age."

Luke 24:44-49: "He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.' Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'"

Acts 8:5: "Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there."

Acts 8:12: "But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women."

Acts 9:15: "But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.'"

Acts 9:20: "At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God."

Acts 13:38-39: "Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is justified from every-thing you could not be justified from by the law of Moses."

Acts 17:3: "Explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. 'This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ,' he said."

Acts 17:18: "A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to dispute with him. Some

of them asked, 'What is this babbler trying to say?' Others remarked, 'He seems to be advocating foreign gods.' They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection."

Acts 17:30-31: "In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

Acts 19:8: "Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God."

Acts 20:20-21: "You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. I have

declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus."

Acts 20:24-27: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God."

Acts 26:16-18: "Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

Acts 26:22-23: "But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles."

Acts 28:23: "They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the kingdom of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets."

Acts 28:31: "Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 1:1-4: "Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant

of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 1:9: "God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you."

I will not take space to write out Acts 2:14-39, 3:18-26, 4:8-12, 5:28-32 and 10:34-43. However, I urge you to rehearse these in your Bible. And these are, of course, not the only passages that illustrate what the gospel of the kingdom of God entails. But I'm sure you can see how deceitful this "prophet" is about the true gospel of the kingdom of God.

Remain faithful to Scriptures

The Church of God is not yet perfect. It will not become perfect until Jesus returns. Yet, as it waits in patient hope for the certain coming of that great day, the Church must and does grow in biblical and doctrinal understanding, in commitment to its great calling of God in Christ and in faith and in love for one another.

The changes God has led us to make have come about because the Holy Spirit convicts us to remain faithful to the teaching of the Bible.

We cannot ignore the word of God, any more than the early New Testament Church could. God did not give his Church all the truth at once. The book of Acts makes that fact plain in chapter 15.

However, I know very well that change can be difficult. After all, we thought we understood the Bible correctly before the change. But, brethren, let's understand something very important. The Bible has not changed. It is our understanding that was not complete. Our understanding is growing, and that as a result of the working of the Holy Spirit.

Some might be more comfortable if we never changed anything. But God has not called us to comfort. He has called us to follow Christ, wherever Christ may lead us.

He has given us the Scriptures to guide us. We must be faithful to the Scriptures—to what they actually teach, even when Christ leads us to see that we didn't understand something as well as we thought.

Again, I know that change has been hard for some. But I also know that the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth, and that, even though some may not fully understand a point at first, all who are one in Christ will in time come to praise God for his continual leadership and guidance of his Church.

As Mr. Armstrong said, this was not the Work of Herbert W. Armstrong. Likewise, it is also not the Work of Joseph W. Tkach. It will never be the Work of any human. It is the Work of God, of Jesus Christ. When God shows me I am wrong, I must change.

The Feast of Pentecost reminds us of the unity that is in Christ through the Holy Spirit, and of the work of the gospel that Jesus has laid before his Church.

Let's not allow the devil to get a foothold. Let's never cease to work together, and to labor together in prayer, that we might continue to boldly preach the kingdom of God and to teach about the Lord Jesus Christ!

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

UPDATE

MONROE, La.—Spring rains and the worst floods in years have covered roads and isolated some members here, according to **David Johnson**, Monroe pastor.

"Some have had several feet or more of water in their homes," Mr. Johnson said.

"Because it is a swampy area, animals often find their way into homes once the flooding starts. One member found five water moccasins [snakes] in his house."

However, most members have suffered no serious property damage.

The situation could become severe if the rains continue and if the levees don't hold up, according to Mr. Johnson.

Carolyn Clary, a deaconess here, was interviewed on Cable News Network (CNN) during a report on the flooding. The report showed Mrs. Clary and her husband, **Sam**, a deacon, working to keep the water out of their home.

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PASADENA—Church Administration announced the following ordinations.

Donald Hildebrand, associate pastor of the Calgary, Alta., North and South churches, was ordained a preaching elder Aug. 18.

Steve Gerrard, assistant pastor of the Frederick and Cumberland, Md., and Front Royal, Va., churches, was ordained a preaching elder March 30.

King Finlay, a deacon in the Bethlehem, Pa., church, was ordained a local church elder April 6.

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BIG SANDY—The Spanish Office made the following Festival announcements.

Humacao, Puerto Rico, will be a Feast site in 1991. The site is only open for transfers fluent in Spanish, since no English translations will be provided.

Services and lodging will be at the Palmas del Mar resort. Lodging costs are \$70 a day for a double room, \$165 a day for a two-bedroom villa and \$200 a day for a three-bedroom villa. Meals are \$40 a day for each person, including tips.

The Spanish Office announced that the Festival site in Mazatlan, Mexico, has reached capacity. No further transfer applications can be accepted.

Following are additional departure cities and rates for the Uruguay Festival package. Rates given are for each person, double occupancy. From Chicago, Ill., \$1,599; from Dallas, Tex., \$1,525; from Los Angeles, Calif., \$1,379; from Miami, Fla., \$1,199; from New York, \$1,344; and from Toronto, Ont., \$1,660. For single occupancy from any of the above cities, add \$310.

The package includes round-trip airfare to Montevideo, Uruguay, two nights in Montevideo, ground transportation to and from the site in Punta del Este and nine nights in Punta del Este in luxury apartments.

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PASADENA—Church employees **Jim Snook**, **Charles Vorhes**, and **Richard Wendling** received 25-year watches and plaques from Pastor General **Joseph W. Tkach** and evangelist **Joseph Tkach Jr.** May 4 at Sabbath services in the Ambassador Auditorium.

Mr. Snook is construction manager, Mr. Vorhes is a researcher in the Editorial Department and Mr. Wendling is a lead person in the Custodial Department.

BRANDON, Man.—The Brandon singles invite single members to their third annual Wheat City Weekend June 28 to July 1.

Activities will include Bible studies, Sabbath services, a picnic, car rally, barbecue, talent show and a Western-style dance with a live band.

For more information call **Heather Bowerman** at 1-204-726-1841.

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MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—The



WORLD CLASS PERFORMER—In this autographed picture given to the Ambassador Foundation, flutist James Galway wrote: "It's always a great pleasure to play on one of the world's greatest stages."

Twin Cities singles invite other singles to their Friendship Fest 91 weekend July 4 to 7.

The weekend will include a paddleboat cruise down the Mississippi River with deckside viewing of the July 4 fireworks; canoeing, volleyball and fellowship at the beach; a Hawaiian luau, Minnesota style; Bible studies; and Sabbath services.

Housing will be in the 4-H building at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

Costs for the weekend are \$37.50 if reservations are made by May 31, and \$42.50 for reservations received between June 1 and 20.

For reservations, make checks or money orders payable to Friendship Fest 91 and send them with your name, address and arrival time (plan to arrive by 3 p.m., July 4) to **Vania Seltzer**, 9630 37th Place North, No. 208, Plymouth, Minn., 55441.

For information, call 1-612-330-4904 in the daytime or 1-612-546-8293 in the evenings.

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PADUCAH, Ky.—The Paducah, Ky., and Cape Girardeau, Mo., singles invite all singles to attend their Summer Singles Costume Dinner Dance at Kentucky Dam State Park, in the Kentucky Lake area, June 22 and 23.

The weekend will include a special Sabbath service, a singles Bible study, buffet dinner and costume dance. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes. The weekend will conclude with a continental breakfast Sunday morning.

Activities will be at the Ken Bar Inn. Special motel rates are available by calling the motel at 1-800-626-3914 (in Kentucky call 1-800-592-3493). Camping is also available.

Cost for the dinner, dance and continental breakfast is \$15 for each



FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

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

PASADENA—Graham Davies, an editor in the Portuguese section of the Spanish Department, conducted Passover services in Sao Paulo, Brazil, for 17 Church members.

Mr. Davies also spoke to the brethren at services on the first day of Unleavened Bread.

Jair de Vasconcelos, a Church member from Brasilia, Brazil, and the main translator for the Church's Portuguese publications, accompanied Mr. Davies on visits to prospective members in the Brazilian cities of Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo, Janauba and Minas Gerais.

Mr. Davies said that members in Brazil are doing well despite high inflation and an unstable economy.

They look forward to visits from Alberto Sousa, pastor of the Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Salto, Uruguay, churches.

Evangelist Leon Walker, regional director for the Spanish-speaking areas, visits them about once a year.

Mr. Davies returned to Big Sandy after six weeks in Brazil.

Cholera epidemic

The cholera epidemic that began in Peru is now affecting Brazil's Amazon Indians in the remote western part of the country.

The epidemic has claimed lives in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Chile. The World Health Organization said that up to 120 million people on the South American

continent are at risk.

Plain Truth circulation

Worldwide subscriber circulation for the April *Plain Truth* was nearly 2.8 million. This represents one *Plain Truth* for each 1,900 people on earth.

Subscribers in 192 of the 204 commonly defined countries and territories receive *The Plain Truth*. Twelve countries have no subscribers. Albania, with a population of 3.3 million, now has a subscriber who receives the Italian *Plain Truth*.

North America has nearly two million subscribers, with 1.7 million in the United States. One in 149 Americans receive *The Plain Truth*.

Statistically, tiny Pitcairn Island has the highest *Plain Truth* penetration in the world, with one subscriber out of a population of 61.

Italian year-end review

Income from the Italian region was up 12.4 percent over 1989.

The mail processing staff, which consists of 13 Ambassador College students, handled more than a quarter of a million pieces of mail including donations, personal correspondence, literature requests and visit requests in 1990.

The Italian Office received more than 7,000 pieces of mail from viewers of *Il Mondo di Domani* (the Italian *World Tomorrow*) tele-

TELEVISION STATION		UPDATES	
New Stations			
Station/Location	Air Time	Contract Period	
WXIN Indianapolis, Ind.	Sunday, 8:30 a.m.	May 5, 1991 to April 26, 1992	
KTMF Missoula, Mont.	Sunday, 4 p.m.	May 5, 1991 to April 26, 1992	
WWCP Johnstown, Pa.	Wednesday, 10 a.m.	May 1, 1991 to April 22, 1992	
KTZZ Seattle, Wash.	Wednesday, 11 a.m.	May 1, 1991 to April 22, 1992	
Renewals			
WTVY Dothan, Ala.	Sunday, 7 a.m.	May 19, 1991 to May 10, 1992	
WGNO New Orleans, La.	Saturday, 7:30 a.m.	May 18, 1991 to May 9, 1992	
WJAC Johnstown, Pa.	Sunday, 11 a.m.	May 26, 1991 to May 17, 1992	
KSL Salt Lake City, Utah	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.	May 12, 1991 to May 3, 1992	
Time Change			
WTEN Albany, N.Y.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Effective May 5, 1991	

person. For application forms write to **Jack Kelley**, Box 145, Metropolis, Ill., 62960, or call **David Carroll** at 1-502-898-6861. The deadline for mailing applications is June 10.

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AUCKLAND, New Zealand—The New Zealand Office announced that the Feast site in Fiji will be Nadi instead of Pacific Harbour. Nadi is more easily accessible to international travelers.

Nadi is on the sunny side of Fiji's main island. In past years Pacific Harbour, on the east coast,

has experienced rain. The New Zealand Office has also secured a nicer hotel for overseas guests.

Housing for overseas guests has been arranged at the Fiji Mocambo Hotel, less than two miles from Nadi international airport.

This is one of Fiji's finest hotels, with first class service, spacious rooms and exotic views over distant hills with lush greenery.

All interested in applying for Fiji should see their pastor or Festival adviser for an international application form as soon as possible.

vision program airing on Rete Quattro. The program "Staying Sane" brought in the largest number of mail with 258 responses.

About 40,000 new subscribers were added to *La Pura Verita* (Italian *Plain Truth*) in 1990. Almost 20,000 of the new subscribers were from a *Pura Verita* advertising campaign. The remaining half came through the television program, stitch-in-cards and referrals. Circulation at the year's end reached about 90,000.

Membership was up 11 percent with 22 baptisms, bringing the number of baptized members to 123. The average Sabbath service attendance in Italy (which has three churches and two Bible studies) is about 200, including children and prospective members.

The Church received 122 visit requests last year. Twenty-five percent of those requests came from the Milan region and another 18.3 percent from the island of Sicily.

The *World Tomorrow* program generated the largest percentage of new visits with 33 percent, and 24.8 percent came from advertising.

Public Bible lectures were conducted in Rome and Vicenza in 1990 generating 13 new visit requests.

British Plain Truth lectures

Andrew Silcox, pastor of the Birmingham and Gloucester, England, and Llanelli, Wales, churches, conducted *Plain Truth* lectures March 17 and 24.

Invitations were mailed to 1,500 magazine subscribers in the Cardiff, Wales, area.

At each lecture Mr. Silcox showed a *World Tomorrow* program and gave a lecture.

Direct-mail campaign

Circulation of *The Plain Truth* in the United Kingdom and Ireland increased to more than 100,000 after a direct-mail cam-

paign in December. The campaign added 20,646 new subscribers, a response of 6.8 percent.

Income and inflation up

Mail income for January in the British Office increased 1.2 percent over the same month last year. It was the second highest amount received in any month.

In February, mail income increased 0.3 percent over last year, bringing the year-to-date income to 0.8 percent above the same period last year. Inflation is running at 9 percent.



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