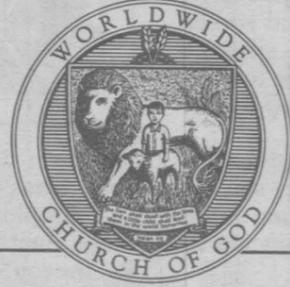


2 All can be winners in the real World Cup

3 Questions about Ambassador accreditation and name change

4 Lessons in unity learned in Hanoi's Wa-Lo prison

The Worldwide News



VOL. XXII, NO. 15
JULY 26, 1994

Benevolent ways found to feed urban hungry

By Nolee Feiock

ROCHESTER, New York—Brethren here have found a simple and meaningful way to express love for others through providing fresh produce directly to the poor each week.

As small mom and pop stores and chain markets have been moving out of the city, some elderly and disabled residents have suffered the loss of fresh produce. Now we can help provide food for those in need.

It started when Ken Williams, the pastor here, met Mike Melfi, a businessman and member of an area Catholic church. Each week for the past year, Mr. Melfi has been buying \$25 worth of produce and delivering it to an apartment building.

When Mr. Williams learned how to provide this service for another apartment building with similar needs, the Rochester congregation agreed to provide \$400 for a pilot program. Brethren started delivering fresh produce to the needy in mid-February.

On the average we deliver sacks of

fresh produce to 35 individuals each week at a cost of \$35 a week. Local businessmen appreciate what we are doing and have lowered prices to make these gifts possible.

"After arriving and unloading the produce, I started to observe the people around me who were patiently waiting. I was told that some of them arrive an hour or more before we get there," member Charles Brown recounted after his first visit to the apartment building.

Robert, a wheelchair-bound resident, who is in charge of keeping track of the distribution, makes sure everyone gets a sack.

Mr. Brown continued: "As I watched the widows, handicapped and single mothers picking up needed food from Robert, I was able to understand what Pastor General Joseph Tkach has been talking about.

"As these people went through the line, they saw God's love in us helping to provide their needs. Prior to this moment, my interest in the church project was minimal. I now want to stand up and be counted. I want to show God's love some more."

The pilot program has been a success. We believe we can keep it going
See Food, page 5

Nolee Feiock is a member who attends the Rochester, New York, church.



Honoring Ambassador

A Pasadena resident sent the following letter to the Ambassador Foundation and the Pasadena Star-News, which printed it July 16.

Three cheers for the red, white and blue! There it all is—a patriotic salute from the Ambassador Foundation blooming on the corner of Orange Grove Boulevard and Green Street—as Pasadena proceeds in its celebration of Independence Day and its welcome to the worldwide soccer teams.

Perhaps the time has come for a standing ovation honoring the Ambassador Foundation and the constant beauty and culture it has brought to our town. For many years the gardens surrounding the pristine buildings have presented a park-like picture.

The auditorium has held the best of all entertainment in the world today. The interior is a timeless frame for music, drama and many kinds of oratory. The outdoor fountain nearby adds a certain romance to it all.

In short, thank you Ambassador Foundation for all of your generous and unsung contributions to our town.

Dorothy Maclaren, Pasadena



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

Preaching, evangelizing continuing part of Church's work

The Worldwide Church of God is committed to preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. We understand evangelism to be part of our mission, and we frequently quote Matthew 28:19-20 as a description of our Christ-given responsibility.

However, a few people have claimed that our view of evangelism is based on a misunderstanding. "The New Testament apostles were commanded to preach the gospel," they say, "but that command applied only to them; it does not apply to the Church today. The Church is merely to be a good example, and God will motivate people to come to us and ask to be taught. The Bible does not command us to preach anything to the public."

This is an interesting argument, and I think it would be profitable to all of us to discuss the evidence. Jesus told the apostles to evangelize, but there is no command directed to the Church (in Acts or in the epistles, for example) requiring the Church to preach the gospel.

But, using a similar line of reasoning, we could also claim that there is no direct command for the Church to baptize converts. The apostles were commanded to baptize believers, and we are told that they did,

See Personal, page 5

Booklet staff keeps pace with updates

The ongoing needs of publishing the gospel keeps the booklet staff busy, according to editor Norman Shoaf.

Soon to be released is a rewrite of *Recapturing True Values*, retitled *Introducing ... The Worldwide Church of God*. The renaming of Ambassador College to Ambassador University means printed matter is obsolete, said Mr. Shoaf.

Other projects include updating the *Babylon: Past, Present, Future*

brochure to cover changes at the site of ancient Babylon since the Persian Gulf War of 1991.

Edits will also reflect growth in understanding of the characteristic language used by Old Testament prophets as well as a view of prophesied events.

Another brochure, *Groping in the Light: Science Confronts Religion on the Frontiers of Knowledge*, has had to be updated. The last chapter will

See Booklet, page 5

The real World Cup: Everyone a winner

The world of sport can be big news, and in international athletics little compares with the scope and drama of the World Cup soccer tournament.

Every four years this competition pits the world's best national soccer teams. For the first time since it began in 1930, the monthlong tournament took place in the United States, beginning June 17.

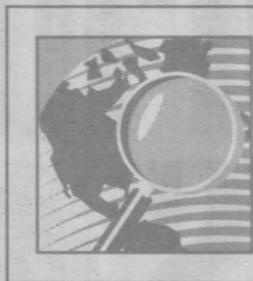
The 3.5 million spectators who filled stadiums in nine cities staging the 52 contests were a million more than attended World Cup matches in Italy in 1990.

Thanks to satellite television transmission, about two billion people—close to 40 percent of the world's population—watched the final game July 17, staged close to our offices in Pasadena's Rose Bowl.

I attended one game at the Rose Bowl. My son, Neal, and I witnessed the semifinal showdown between Brazil and Sweden, won by Brazil, 1-0. Soccer had been my father's game in his native Sweden. He later played it in the amateur leagues in Chicago, where I was born. He often spoke of the skill of the Brazilians.

In the final game, Brazil defeated Italy, but in an unsatisfying manner—a penalty-kick shootout after the game had ended in a scoreless tie.

As television cameras showed the players near exhaustion from the



Worldwatch

GENE H. HOGBERG

Southern California heat, I wished both teams could have been declared co-champions. But the rules dictate there must be a winner. Soccer has no mercy, lamented one coach, whose own team suffered a razor-thin loss earlier in the tournament.

Only one wins the prize

The apostle Paul drew a comparison between athletic endeavor and the Christian life. In 1 Corinthians 9:24 he noted the winner-take-all nature of sport: "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize?"

This prize, moreover, is a perishable one, such as the crown of pine needles issued in the Isthmian Games the Corinthians were familiar with. Even the gold, silver and bronze medals of today are perishable (1 Peter 1:7).

Unlike the sole winner in an athletic event, all who "press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call

of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14, New King James) can obtain the incorruptible crown of eternal life. But it takes discipline, Paul added, much in the manner of an athlete in training.

It entails a serious approach to one's calling and self-control (Galatians 5:22). "Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly," Paul said further. He kept his body and mind in subjection to the will of God, "so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize" (1 Corinthians 9:26-27).

At the same time, we need to view ourselves as being part of one unified team. A World Cup coach carefully selects players of different talents, strengths and temperaments to fill various positions on his squad.

Similarly, the analogy in 1 Corinthians 12 concerning the Body of Christ shows "God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be" (verse

18). Some parts are more visible, but "those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable" (verse 22).

Not every one can be up front superstars like Brazil's forward scoring duo of Romario and Bebeto. There must be the equivalent of the relatively unheralded but indispensable defenders—backed up by plenty of strength on the bench.

Not only our own interests

In his book, *In the Arena*, the late President Richard Nixon revealed that while he loved sports and went out for intercollegiate teams in four sports, he was not gifted athletically. He rarely got in a game, but was known for inspiring his fellow teammates from the bench.

He learned a valuable lesson from this experience. "Because I worked hard, I was better than average in academic subjects," he wrote. "The fact that I was lower than average in sports reminded me that no one should get a swelled head because of what he has achieved in his field, since there are always others who are far better than he is in their fields."

Let each of us, in humility, consider others better than ourselves and look out for the interests of others (Philippians 2:3-4). In this way we inspire one and all to seek for the imperishable crown of eternal life.

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Letters to the Editor

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

Recognizing our women

I have just read the article on women of the Bible in the July *Plain Truth*. It was wonderful! Much needed, not only by our wives, grandmothers and all women, but by husbands, grandfathers and all men in God's Church! My wife, Iris, suffered through the trauma of D-Day and the months that followed. The recent awesome 50th anniversary revived that massive liberating thrust into Hitler-held Europe.

She was not there herself, but like with so many other thousands of women with loved ones in the military then, the Second World War was a traumatizing mental and emotional challenge on them as well as on the men in their lives. Without their steadfast concern and encouraging efforts for us, many of us might not have made it through that greatest endurance test of our lives. We were a family of three—mother, daughter and husband—at the time I was ordered to report for duty, although mother, sisters, grandmother and aunts also shared in the stress of it all.

The war in the Pacific made it a global war, truly a world war. Millions of the women of the world became heroically involved, but far too little has been recorded and credited to them. Thousands directly supported the war effort on the home front in ways many of us on the battlefields never learned about until the war ended in 1945. They worked in such jobs as nurses, military aides, pilots and drivers, with some seeing action alongside the men in dangerous combat zones.

Then there was the inspiration of those who had to wait it out on the home front with their families to support, under stress of making do with as little as possible so more supplies could be spared for troops overseas.

These women have remarkable accounts of the trials of those troublesome weeks and years and how they coped, which they could relate to any who would ask. These were the experiences of our women, as well as of the women, friend or foe, in all nations then engaged in that massive war. Letters of inspiring impact, written to those on war fronts—land, sea and air—steadied those about to collapse from exhaustion, stress and horrifying fear in the unreal arenas of combat.

My loving wife was forced to move about

between parents and sisters with our infant daughter, and still she managed to write to me an informative and inspiring letter a day for the nearly two years of my time in blacked-out England and Europe.

These were frighteningly long days and nights, from the violent action of Omaha Beach, up those terrifying bluffs through the hedgerows of Normandy and on through Europe, in the mind-shattering confusion that always abounds in military assaults.

Those letters saved my life! They brought me back to the realization there actually was such a place called home, that I had a loving, supportive family, reminding me again why we were engaged in that hideously violent life-threatening action, day after day!

Those letters revived in me the drive to get

the war over, as well as encouraging those men in my outfit who never received such inspiring missives from their families. Those letters gave me the strength to motivate those men with the reason we were slogging through the madness we were immersed in.

Without those letters (that I frankly believed God inspired her to write) I would have become a casualty to battle fatigue. My unit also would not have received encouragement to face up to the many men we were losing, and the war in our sector might have been lost!

This was all brought to mind because the article on women came up for highly commendatory comments by the women in our San Francisco Church C.A.R.E. group. They and others of us were greatly encouraged by the recognition of women and their role in God's Church today. All of us wish to thank you for that insight into women's part in God's great work!

Selmer Hegvold
San Francisco, California

"Into All the World..."

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

Making necessary adjustments

I am so glad to receive your free magazine *The Plain Truth* every month. I read it from cover to cover usually the first day it arrives. I am also thankful for the other free literature you offer that specializes in certain aspects of the Christian faith. This literature helps me to adjust my life accordingly.

Even with all this help, I still feel lost in a land where so many people are plagued with sorrow and strife, yet will not accept the Word of God to help change their lives. As I go on in life, I encounter people who want to change but can't or won't. This is distressful for me because everyone I have known for years thinks I am nuts! This makes me hide behind a cloak of silence and despair to avoid these sentiments.

I am hoping and praying that you can guide me to an extension of the Worldwide Church of God congregation in my area. I have attended churches in my area and some nondenominational congregations, and I am not satisfied because it seems there is no real consolidation of group members. What is professed and believed is not practiced outside church doors.

At times I feel like a lonely petunia in an onion patch. I have a need to use my talents in a way to help others, and this need has drawn me to pursue a degree in human services and community mental health. My studies have led me to believe that through our present system of social welfare, there is no room for God and the love of his Son, Christ Jesus. With this thought in mind, I am hoping I may meet people who really believe. I know I am not alone in this sinful world that surrounds us all.

Buffalo, New York

God knows the blessings

Thank you most sincerely for sending your magazine, and thanks to all the faithful Christians who help finance it so you can send "this gospel of the kingdom into all the world." You are certainly doing that.

It is my favorite religious publication because it leaves you to ponder all those wonderful articles and not be embarrassed by people wanting you to join their church.

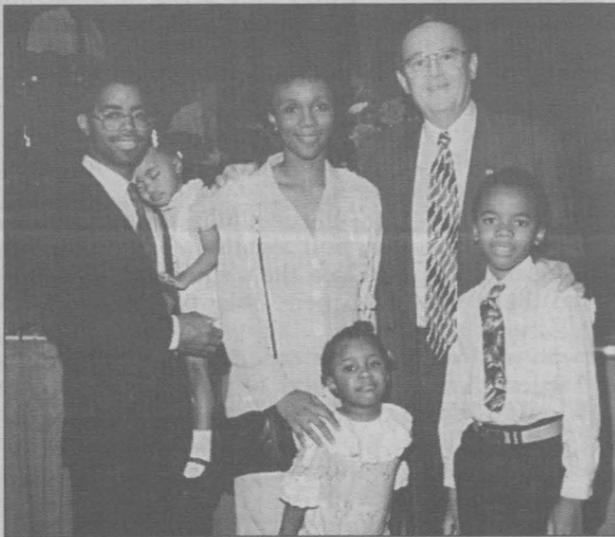
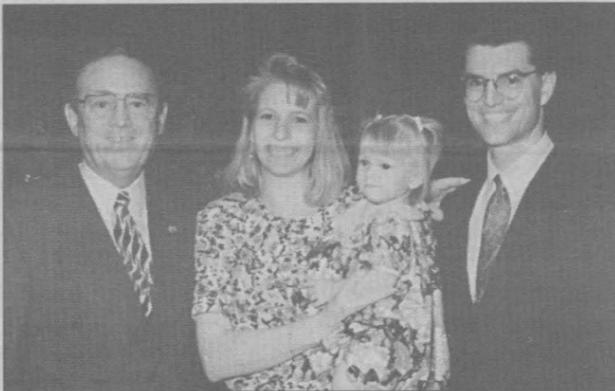
I am an elderly widow living alone and not able to get around much any more, so I get a special blessing from the radio and *The Plain Truth*. This is the most unselfish and loving gift I know of. The faithful who make it possible don't even know who it goes to, and the blessings it brings, but God does.

Christchurch, New Zealand



Pastor General visits...

New York



Trip Overview

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach spoke to 3,742 brethren July 2 from Suffolk, Westchester, Manhattan, Nassau, Queens, New York City Spanish, Middletown and Brooklyn, New York; and Union North and South, Brick, Jersey City and Montvale, New Jersey.

Hosts for the visit were Jeffrey and Geneva Barnes, Suffolk; Steven and Harlean Botha, Westchester and Manhattan; John and Ann Adams, Union South and Brick; Dan and Alice Bierer, Union North and Jersey City; Don and Carol Contardi, Union North and Jersey City; Stanley and Jean Marie De Veaux, Nassau; Stephen and Linda Elliott, Queens and New York City Spanish; Cecil and Ruth Green, Queens and New York City Spanish; Marc and Carolyn Masterson, Montvale and Middletown; Thomas and Bettye Oakley, Brooklyn; Jeff and Karen Broadnax, Westchester and Manhattan; Al and Cheryl Ebeling, Brooklyn; Lincoln and Elizabeth Jailal, Westchester and Manhattan; and Coty and Michaelle Myrtill, Union South and Brick. [Photos by Albert Crino and John S. Fackre]

Ambassador University and accreditation update

Answering some questions regarding Ambassador's accreditation and name change.

During the period of the college's candidacy for accreditation, it was often said that those who graduate before accreditation would gain some legitimacy of their degrees based on accreditation. Will graduates before the Class of 1995 gain any retroactive benefit from accreditation?

Technically, accreditation is not retroactive to past graduates. (It is officially retroactive to Jan. 1, 1994.) But with most universities and employers, most graduates will fall under the accreditation umbrella.

Now that we are accredited, Ambassador University will be listed in various directories of higher education. The two most important of these are *Transfer Credit Practices*, published by the American Association

of College Registrars and Admissions Officers, and the *Higher Education Directory*.

As Ambassador University gains a reputation as an accredited institution, the date of accreditation and the name will cease to be issues. (When graduates apply to graduate schools or for jobs, they should use the name Ambassador University.

Accreditation should not be raised unless others raise it. Then merely state that Ambassador University is accredited, not when it was accredited.)

Can graduates before the class of 1995 list Ambassador University as their place of graduation?

The following listing would be appropriate: John Smith, B.A. (1984), Ambassador University. In the long run it will not make much difference (nobody cares today what Harvard University used to be called). If asked, explain that Ambassador University was formerly Ambassador College.

Is the university a separate entity from the former college?

Ambassador College is not a defunct institution, and the university is not a separate entity from the college. Ambassador University is the same institution as Ambassador College, only now under a new name.

It is much like the University of Texas at Tyler, which used to be called Texas Eastern University, or the Worldwide Church of God, which used to be called the Radio Church of God.

What school would be listed if a replacement diploma was needed?

Replacement diplomas would read Ambassador University and have Mr. Tkach's signature. Only someone who has actually lost the original diploma and really needs a replacement should request one, however.

For graduate admission, employment and most other purposes, it is the official transcript, not the diploma that counts. (Questions about replacement diplomas should be directed to the Registrar. The cost is about \$25.)

Many graduates who have started over in graduate or undergrad-

uate programs have not been able to gain recognition for classes applicable to their current field of study that they took at Ambassador. Do you recommend any strategies for gaining credit for classes taken at Ambassador prior to 1994-95?

During much of its history, Ambassador had no status with an accrediting association.

Even so, hundreds of Ambassador graduates successfully gained admission to various graduate schools and had their degrees and credits recognized. The simplest strategy is to apply and let the process unfold.

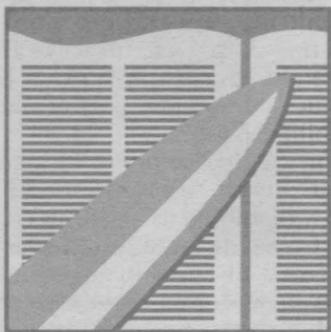
Our advice, then, is apply as if Ambassador University has always been accredited. Do not draw attention to when Ambassador became accredited, and do not make an issue out of the name change.

If you run into any difficulties, refer the person you are dealing with back to Ambassador University (either Academic Affairs or the Registrar's Office) for additional information about accreditation and transfer credits.

IRON SHARPENS IRON

so one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17—As iron sharpens iron,



Tapping in to God's unifying power

By Ted Johnston

From deep inside the infamous Wa-Lo prison of downtown Hanoi, North Vietnam, came a faint tapping noise. There was a distinct pattern to it: tap-tap, tap-tap, tap. It was an American prisoner of war using a system of communication called tap code.

His tapping spelled out the letters G and B—meaning "God-bless"—an expression of camaraderie and affection that helped dozens of American prisoners survive years of captivity during the Vietnam War.

One of those prisoners of war was a Navy pilot, Captain Gerald Coffee. He describes his ordeal in the moving book *Beyond Survival*.

Coffee was shot down Feb. 3, 1966, while flying a bombing mission over North Vietnam. He spent seven years as a prisoner of war. But he was not alone.

Though most American POWs in Wa-Lo prison were kept in solitary confinement, most survived because they found a way to take care of each other.

A vital part of that care was tap code. They developed the communication system by placing 25 letters of the alphabet in a matrix of five rows and five columns (K was omitted). You would tap for the row, then the column. For example, M = tap-tap-tap, tap-tap.

As new prisoners came into Wa-Lo, they learned the code from a prisoner in an adjoining cell. In this way a new prisoner, though often in a cell by himself, was not alone.

He could communicate with his countrymen. Through tap code he had access to the encouragement and support of the others. In the heart of enemy territory these men developed into a close-knit community.

They even used tap code to confess to one another. At times the horrors of the torture chambers would break them. Out of human weakness they

would divulge more information than they were authorized by the U.S. military code of conduct to give.

Dejected and demoralized in spirit while suffering the extreme physical pain of the torture, they would return to their cells. But they were not abandoned.

They would confess their weaknesses and disappointments to each other in tap code. And the others would respond in the same code with "God-bless," their short-hand way of saying, "Hang in there, we're with you."

Unity of spirit and purpose

By communicating in tap code through the thick walls of Wa-Lo prison, they developed a powerful motto: "Unity over self!" This motto

Prisoners used tap code to confess to one another. At times the horrors of the torture chambers would break them. But they were not abandoned.

expressed an attitude that was instrumental in their survival.

It motivated them to help, support and encourage one another. It gave them unity of spirit and purpose. They became a community of brothers.

On Feb. 12, 1973, because of the Paris peace talks, the Vietcong began to release the American POWs. But they weren't released all at once. The ones who had been there the longest left first.

According to Coffee, who was one of the first to go, the hardest thing he ever did was to walk out of Wa-Lo.

He agonized knowing he was leaving many compatriots behind. Though he had never laid eyes on some of them, they were part of him now—brothers in captivity who had learned to care for one

another ahead of themselves.

Our greatest asset

We're not so different from the POWs of Wa-Lo. We are soldiers living in enemy territory. And here with us are a few other Christians.

Though often separated, we are united by the most powerful means of communication there is—the Holy Spirit. And that Spirit leads us to live the motto of Wa-Lo prison: "Unity over self." This unity is the greatest asset we have.

It's so important that one of Christ's last prayers before he died for us included these words: "My prayer is not for them [the original disciples] alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

"May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (John 17:20-23).

The apostle Paul fought "to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:1-3).

Unity is a prize of inestimable value, powerful enough to conquer all that might divide us. Through the unity developed by tap code, the prisoners of Wa-Lo overcame differences of family background, race, religion, political persuasion and military rank.

Only one thing mattered to them—to pull together. That commitment helped them survive. A similar commitment helps us do the work of God.

The experience of the American prisoners of war in Wa-Lo prison is testimony to the indomitable human spirit. The strength, even humanly, that comes through unity is extraordinary.

But think of the strength to endure, to go forward toward the kingdom of God together, that comes from the unity supplied by God.

Ted Johnston pastors the Grand Junction and Craig, Colorado, churches.

Faith an anchor for life's uncertainties

A friend sent me a quote by author G. Hofstede that illustrates a thought many of us have about the future.

It's a simple idea, but it says something important: "Uncertainty about the future is a basic fact of human life with which we try to cope."

Who isn't anxious about the future?

People today are trying to cope with diminishing job opportunities, a sluggish economy and the fear of violent crime. And when they look to the future, things don't look as if they will improve anytime soon.

No one likes uncertainty, and we all try to find ways of coping. No matter where you go, people face uncertainty—even the children of God.

Yet, we need to remind ourselves that faith helps us cope with uncertainty. It is an anchor we can hold onto when our lives are stormy.

Have you wondered why we worry? Underlying our anxieties is uncertainty of what the future holds. In every area of our lives we seek assurance that our circumstances

will work out well in the end.

As someone wrote: "Everyone knows how to be resigned amid the joys and happiness of prosperity, but to be so amid storms and tempests is peculiar to the children of God."

We might like to think that life will be smooth sailing because God is looking out for our welfare—and he is—but that doesn't mean we will be spared from every accident, that we will always be employed, or that we will always have our health.

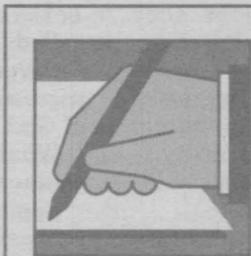
God doesn't promise us total certainty in this life. What he does promise is salvation through Jesus Christ and the strength to cope with life's uncertainties through faith in him.

The last two verses in the book of Jude give us this confidence. They promise us that God can see us through life's crises.

Jude refers to God as he "who is able to keep you from falling and to

present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy" (verse 24).

Jude encouraged believers to remain firm in their faith and trust God's promises for the future. This



Just One More Thing

DEXTER FAULKNER

was all the more important because they were living in a time of increased uncertainty.

We too live in an age of uncertainty. But we don't have to live with anxiety. God promised to never leave us nor forsake us. He is with us throughout life's journey and knowing this, "that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his pur-

pose," we can be conquerors (Romans 8:28).

God's promises guarantee that if we are faithful he will bring us into his presence and give us great joy.

Yes, we will encounter obstacles,

and many uncertainties, but God will be with us through them all.

As David said: "My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber" (Psalm 121:2-3).

The future may look uncertain but remember, God promises to keep you and be your anchor in the midst of a stormy world.

Personal: Commission not just to apostles

Continued from page 1

and we are told that baptism is symbolically meaningful, but there is no specific command telling the Church to continue this practice.

If we wish to understand the will of God regarding baptism, we need a more comprehensive understanding of the Scriptures, and the preponderance of the evidence is that baptism should continue to be observed in the Church today.

Or we might look at the argument about evangelism from an opposite perspective: Suppose we found a verse in Ephesians, for example, that said, "Preach the gospel, make disciples, baptize believers and teach them to obey Christ." The critics might then say that the command applied only to the first-generation church in Ephesus!

There's something faulty about this way of handling Scripture. One verse at a time, maybe we could

Throughout the book of Acts, we see the apostles carrying out Jesus' commission. They preached that Jesus is the Christ, that he was crucified and raised from the dead, and that salvation is available through him. It was a Christ-centered message, an evangelistic message.

claim that the entire Bible applied only to the specific person(s) to whom it was written. Indeed, some theologians partition off large chunks of Scripture as not relevant to the Church today.

Let's go back to Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus told his apostles to teach people to obey everything he had commanded them. And one of his commands to them was to preach, and as a result, the apostles also taught people to obey Jesus' command to preach the gospel.

In effect, Jesus instructed his apostles to perpetuate, to carry on, the commission. Indeed, that is why we find it recorded for us today. If the command were only for the apostles, it isn't likely that Matthew would have ended his book with commands that had no bearing on his readers.

Moreover, verse 20 tells us that Jesus promised, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Jesus did not promise merely to be with the apostles, but with the Church throughout the centuries.

The commission is likewise applicable to all whom Christ is with, from the earliest apostles even to the end of the age. The New Testament records the results of Christ being with and motivating both apostles and other believers to preach the gospel.

Throughout the book of Acts, we see the apostles carrying out Jesus' commission. They preached that Jesus is the Christ, that he was crucified and raised from the dead, and that salvation is available through him. It was a Christ-centered message, an evangelistic message.

But was the gospel preached by the apostles alone? Certainly not! Stephen did great signs and wonders, presumably in the name of Christ. He also argued with the Jews, and the primary argument he had with the Jews was that Jesus is the Christ (Acts 6:8-10).

Before the Sanhedrin, he forcefully argued that Jesus was the Righteous One, the Messiah, predicted in the Scriptures (Acts 7:51-52). And his dying words were an eloquent testimony to the forgiveness possible in Jesus Christ (verse 60). It was a divinely sanctioned public proclamation of the gospel.

"On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.... Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went" (Acts 8:1, 4). Even at risk of their lives, these lay Christians preached the word—they preached the gospel.

Was it all based on a misunderstanding? Were they usurping the responsibility of the apostles? Or were they simply doing what Christians do naturally?

Did they feel compelled—led by the Holy Spirit—to tell others the good news with which God had blessed them? Luke doesn't directly tell us, but he presents the story as a good example for Theophilus and his other readers.

Next, Luke tells us that Philip, another nonapostle, "went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there" (verse 5). This was public preaching, and God gave it a stamp of approval by converting some of the Samaritans.

"Those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord" (Acts 11:19-21).

Again, God inspired his people to tell the good news about the Lord Jesus, and the Lord's hand was with them. This is public evangelism, giving

us an example of what Christ leads his Church to do.

Saul of Tarsus, as we know, was given a special commission as an apostle to the gentiles, so it is no surprise that he preached the gospel of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

His entire ministry is further evidence that the evangelistic commission of Matthew 28 was not exclusively for the original apostles.

Clearly, Luke does not think that the commission applied only to the apostles. His book serves as an example of what future generations of the Church could and would do. Christ's commission to preach clearly applies to more than the apostles—it is a continuing part of the Church's work.

The church in Antioch was inspired to send Barnabas and Saul on an evangelistic journey (Acts 13:1-4). Later, they returned to Antioch, "where they had been committed to the grace of God" (Acts 14:26). When Paul began his next journey, he was again "commended ... to the grace of the Lord" (Acts 15:40).

In these verses, commitment to "the grace of God" is synonymous with being commissioned to preach the gospel. When Paul spoke to the Ephesian elders, he committed them "to God and to the word of his grace" (Acts 20:32).

The phrasing in these verses indicates that Paul gave the elders a commission to preach the gospel, just as had been done for him.

And Luke again tells us that Paul was not the only one who preached

the gospel: "Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, where they and many others taught and preached the word of the Lord" (Acts 15:35).

Clearly, Luke does not think that the commission applied only to the apostles. His book serves as an example of what future generations of the Church could and would do.

Also in the book of Acts, we might also note the example of Apollos, who "vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ" (Acts 18:28).

We might also note that Paul was not troubled by another preacher on his turf. Even though some of the Corinthian Christians preferred Apollos over Paul, Paul was not jealous—he considered Apollos a fellow worker who helped in the overall commission of the Church (1 Corinthians 3:5-9).

Elsewhere, he rejoiced that others were preaching Christ, too (Philippians 1:15-18). He did not perceive his commission to be exclusive to himself or to his generation.

Paul told Timothy to do the work of an evangelist (2 Timothy 4:5). Paul didn't explain what that was, but it is apparent that an evangelist preached the *euangelion*, the gospel of Jesus Christ. That's what Philip the evangelist (Acts 21:8) had done.

One of the spiritual gifts that God gives is that of the position of an evangelist (Ephesians 4:11). This verse shows that evangelists were distinct from apostles. All apostles were to preach the gospel, but some gospel-preachers were not apostles.

Christ's commission to preach clearly applies to more than the apostles—it is a continuing part of the Church's work. That is why we are committed to the work of evangelism—this is one of the ways in which we obey Jesus Christ. This is part of our commission, part of our responsibility.

Pray for me, fellow brethren, and for all our headquarters personnel, that God will enable us to speak the word of God with boldness. I pray that you will abound in love and faith, prayer and study and service to our brothers and sisters in Christ!

Food funding from several sources

Continued from page 1

all year. All that's required is two to three hours of service for one morning every six weeks for most of our 20 volunteers. We are funding this project without taking from our normal operating expenses.

One member, who started a bottle and can redemption program, reminds other members and families to donate their redemption money to the produce fund with regular

announcements at services.

Some members are contributing money from their garage sales. In a major flea market May 29 and 30, the Rochester congregation raised \$4,000 for this and other worthy projects.

We keep everyone mindful of the project with a calendar on the bulletin board showing how many weeks we can continue to provide for the people in the apartment building.

Booklet area never stays static

Continued from page 1

now focus on John 1 and Jesus Christ as the one who holds all things together (Colossians 1:17).

Another new booklet is *Science and Religion: Bridging the Gap*, and the popular *Answers to Genesis* is

being updated and expanded.

"Mr. [Joseph] Tkach assigned us the task of reviewing all our literature on an ongoing basis," Mr. Shoaf commented. "Economic factors, growth in understanding and changing audiences mean that our literature collection will never stay static."

Statistics at a Glance

	U.S.	International	Total
Members	66,625	30,248	96,873
Congregations	467	373	840
Full-time ministers	455	273	728
Local church elders	817	287	1,104

Postal Customer Council meets in Pasadena

By Eric Shaw

Last March, Terry Smirl was asked if the Church would be willing to sponsor a meeting of the general membership of the Postal Customer Council (PCC).

The PCC, a professional group of major mailers, meets regularly to discuss developments in the mailing industry. Educational workshops and seminars are conducted on a regular basis.

Meetings are co-chaired by a representative from industry and one from the United States Postal Service (USPS). Our PCC group is one of hundreds across the nation.

Eric Shaw is mail administration supervisor.

In the 1970s and '80s the Church was host at many such meetings both for the executive planning group and for the general membership.

With reorganization of the USPS, the PCCs have changed in scope to cover larger geographic areas. The Pasadena PCC merged with the group in the San Fernando Valley. We are still active in the organization along with companies such as Pacific Bell, Sunkist Growers and Disney Productions.

After the meeting in the lower lobby of the Auditorium and lunch, the group of about 100 toured the Postal Center and Master File Services in Mail Processing.

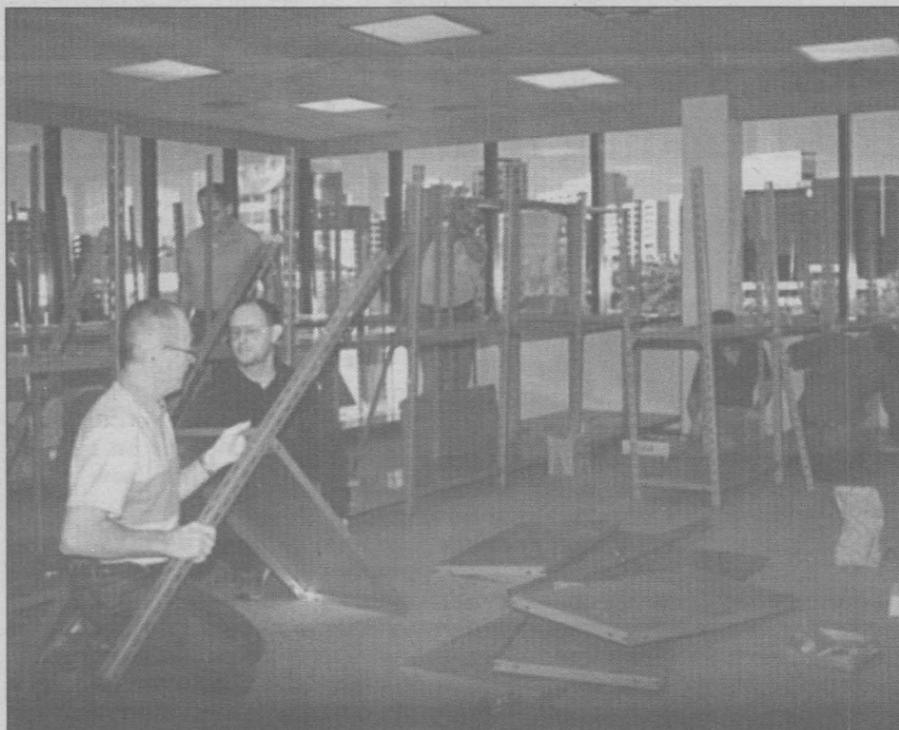
Although many had been in the Ambassador Auditorium, this was the first time they became aware of the Church's headquarter's operations.



TOUR OF DUTY—Charles Singleton of the Mail Processing Center explains mailing operations to members of the Postal Customer Council. [Photo by Barry Stahl]



OFFICE RELOCATES—The regional office in Southern Africa, which has rented space just outside Cape Town for the past 10 years, moved to a Church-owned building in Welgemoed, a suburb of Bellville, 20 kilometers from Cape Town. The building, nestled among trees and shrubs, features panoramic mountain views from office windows. Welgemoed is an Afrikaans word meaning peace of mind. [Photo by Kevin Taylor]



AUCKLAND STAFF MOVE—The New Zealand Office, located in a leased building in the Mount Eden area of Auckland since 1974, relocated to two purchased floors of a 17-story office tower on the edge of the central business district in Auckland. Bill Hutchison, office manager, said, "The layout is fresh, modern and very suited to our needs, the views of the city are superb and I believe the property is an excellent investment that will appreciate in the years ahead." Evangelist Joseph Tkach Jr. from Pasadena, accompanied by his wife, Tammy, cut a ribbon to officially open the new office May 16. [Photo by John Warman]

Festival Updates

Lake of the Ozarks golf tourney

A best ball golf tournament is planned for 1:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 26, at North Point National Golf Club. The price is \$34.19 per person and that includes the price of a golf cart. Clubs can be rented for \$18 a set.

If you would like to play or have any questions, call Ken Kerr at 1-217-773-2888 before Aug. 25. There is room for only 72 players.

Pensacola golf scramble

This Florida site will once again be host to a golf scramble. Those interested should mail a \$48 entry fee by Sept. 10 to Bob Albarado, 106 Teakwood Dr., Youngsville, Louisiana, 70592, or phone him at 1-318-837-2112.

Indicate average score or handicap with entry fee and also note if you need to rent clubs. Bring your own clubs if possible as rentals are limited.

Lake of the Ozarks bow shoot

A three-dimensional indoor bow shoot is planned for 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 25. If you would like to enter, bring your own bow and target arrows. The cost is \$10 per person. Trophies will be given for various categories.

If you would like to enter or have questions, call Ken Kerr at 1-217-773-2888.

Headquarters music opportunities

If you will be attending the Pasadena site and would like to participate in the Festival choir or instrumental ensemble, contact Roger Smith at 1-818-798-2060, or Hernan Herrera at 1-818-799-7807. Also needed are organ and piano accompanists.

Address change for Chattanooga choir director

Please note the following address change for Robert Vitale, music and choir director for Chattanooga, Tennessee: 721 N. Fairview, Bloomington, Indiana, 47404; 1-812-332-5278.

For the record

The following is a correction to the July 12 article on the telephone fund-raiser. Rates for intrastate calls (calls within one state) are established through the Public Utilities Commission for each state.

U.S. Holy Day Offering Envelopes

Holy Day offering envelopes for the fall Festival season have been mailed to U.S. members. If you have not received your supply by Aug. 22, please call the toll-free number at 1-800-423-4444 no later than Aug. 26.

This is the last date the Mail Processing Center can mail personalized envelopes with the assurance that they will reach you by the Feast of Trumpets, Sept. 6.

These envelopes should be used only for Holy Day offerings. Please handle changes of address and literature requests through other correspondence.

Announcements

BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS, ANNIVERSARIES AND OBITUARIES

girl, Heather Leanne, May 30, 3:56 p.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 3 girls.

GOETHALS, Ronald and Shelley (Kampfer) of Sumner, Washington, boy, Jeremy Matthew, Dec. 3, 8:50 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

HAINES, Russell and Jill (Casady) of Kalamazoo, Michigan, girl, Kelcee Anne LaVelle, June 28, 2:31 a.m., 7 pounds 9 1/2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

HAHN, William and DaAnn (Rogers) of Big Sandy, twin boys, Payton Logan and Zachary Jordan, June 22, 3:58 p.m. and 4:06 p.m., now 3 boys (1 is deceased).

HARMON, George and Deborah (Cottrill) of Lexington, Kentucky, girl, Jennica Alexis, May 30, 7:10 a.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

HULL, Cordell and Linda (Bakken) of Fargo, North Dakota, girl, Lydia Marie, June 24, 6:30 p.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

HUNTER, Neil and Wendy (Love) of Vancouver, British Columbia, boy, Derek Benjamin, June 10, 12:38 p.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

JENSEN, Keith and Wendy (Hemel) of Buffalo, New York, boy, Adam Taylor, April 23, 12:40 p.m., 9 pounds 2 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

KALU, Emele and Anthonia (Ejiogu) of Lagos, Nigeria, girl, Bessie Jane, Jan. 8, 7:21 a.m., 3.7 kilograms, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

LEVY, Duke and Jan (Holladay) of Picayune, Mississippi, girl, Chae Miranda, June 21, 9:09 a.m., 8 pounds 7 1/4 ounces, now 2 girls.

LLEWELLYN, Melvin and Diana (Kling) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, boy, Troy Robert, June 8, 2:55 a.m., 8 pounds 3 1/2 ounces, now 2 boys.

McHALE, Bruce and Anita (Neal) of Salt Lake City, Utah, boy, Zachary Dillon Ian, June 15, 10:28 a.m., 10 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 4 girls.

PELLEGRINO, Domenic and Brooke (Griffiths) of Wollongong, Australia, girl, Sarah Jade, May 25, 7:40 p.m., 6 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

ROFF, Doug and Vicky (Jacobs) of San Diego, California, boy, Austin Cody, June 26, 3:43 p.m., 6 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

STOCKTON, James and Teresa (Hager) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, girl, Julie Janae, June 22, 10:23 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

THROCKMORTON, David and Shelly (Hoselton) of Kansas City, Missouri, girl, Victoria "Tori" Nicole, May 8, 11:30 a.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 2 girls.

Engagements

Bessie M. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Young are happy to announce the engagement of their children, Dorothy Merrie Johnson and R. Anthony Emerson. A Sept. 3 wedding in Poolesville, Maryland, is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Sampson of Pasadena are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sandra Elaine to David Browne Jr. of Honolulu, Hawaii. An August wedding is planned.

Ina Meyers of Ponchatoula, Louisiana, and Xavier Meyers of Kenner, Louisiana, are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Amanda Evelyn to Arthur Emile Baudoin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baudoin of Slidell, Louisiana. A Sept. 4 wedding in Tickfaw, Louisiana, is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Bowles of Llanelli, South Wales, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Estelle Joy to Andrew Campbell Munro, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ian Munro of Llanelli. A Sept. 4 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Gil Norman of Big Sandy are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rochelle Lea to Dave Capo, son of Norma Capo of Hauppauge, New York, and the late Charles Capo. A Spring 1995 wedding is planned.

Weddings



DANIEL & ANNE-LISE STEIN

Anne-Lise Marie Sylie, daughter of Paul and Sandy Sylie, and Daniel Brian Stein, son of Dee Stein, were united in marriage Dec. 19. The ceremony was performed by Cliff Parks, San Antonio West and Uvalde, Texas, associate pastor. Stephanie

Sylie, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Steve Stein, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Austin, Texas.



DAVID & ROSELIND CROW

Roselind Evans and David Crow were united in marriage April 24. The ceremony was performed by Russ Couston, London, England, associate pastor. The couple live in Stambridge, England.



ROLAND & CLAIRE LECOCC

Claire Yourassoff and Roland Lecocq were united in marriage June 10 in Geneva, Switzerland. The ceremony was performed by Donat Picard, Marseille and Narbonne, France, pastor. Katia Schlatter and Laurent Yourassoff, sister and brother of the bride, were witnesses. The couple live in Toulouse, France.



DAVID & PAMELA DRANSFIELD

Pamela Dawn Kleinhuis-Merkley and David Michael Dransfield were united in marriage June 5. The ceremony was performed by Bill Rabey, Ottawa, Ontario, pastor. Heather Bye was maid of honor, and Didier Richoux was best man. The couple live in Ottawa.



GARY & SYLVIA RAUM

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Caldera are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter Sylvia to Gary Raun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Raun. Blanca Gonzales was maid of honor. Jim Chapman, Redding and Chico, California, pastor, performed the ceremony and was best man. The couple live in Reno, Nevada.



STEPHEN & DARLINE SWEEN

Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Siedschlag of Moorhead, Minnesota, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Darline Ann to Stephen Terry Sween, son of Mr. and Mrs. Adrian P. Sween of Stillwater, Minnesota. The ceremony was performed Aug. 1 by Eugene Kubik, Fargo and Grand Forks, North Dakota, pastor. Carolyn Sigurdson and Paulette Wolbeck, sisters of the bride, were matrons of honor, and Adrian Sween, father of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Moorhead.



ANTONIO & PORZIA ESPOSITO

Porzia De Bellis of Acquaviva, Italy, and Antonio Esposito of Bari, Italy, were united in marriage May 23. The ceremony was performed by Cliff Veal, Rome, Italy, pastor.



MICHAEL & MARGARET MCKINNEY

Margaret A. Walter, daughter of Ruth Myrick of Big Sandy and Eugene Walter of Dallas, Texas, and Michael D. McKinney, son of Mr. and Mrs.

Jack D. McKinney of Sierra Madre, California, were united in marriage Sept. 12. The ceremony was performed by Brian Orchard, Pasadena West A.M. pastor. Debra Walter and Anne Fraund attended the bride, and Douglas McKinney and Mike Seaver attended the groom. The couple live in Pasadena.



MARK & JANETTA MacARTHUR

Janetta Moxley, daughter of Ethel Moxley of Guion, Arkansas, and Mark MacArthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar MacArthur of Garnett, Kansas, were united in marriage July 25. The ceremony was performed by Robert Kendall, Batesville, Arkansas, pastor. Lisa Moxley, niece of the bride, was maid of honor, and Steve Smith was best man. The couple live in Garnett.

Anniversaries



MIKE & SHEILA STOCKWELL

Mike and Sheila Stockwell of Olney, Maryland, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary May 30. They have five children, Meredith, Leslie, Nathan, Heather and Ashlee.

Mark and Jana Cardona of Arlington, Tennessee, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 9. They have one son, Chris; and one daughter, Courtney. Mr. Cardona is pastor of the Memphis and Jackson, Tennessee, churches.



GENE & JOANN PORTER

Gene and Joann Porter of Carson City, Nevada, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary July 24. They have three daughters, Mona, Jeanie and Hallie; two sons-in-law, Ryan and Wyatt; and two grandsons, Evan and Ted.



GERHARD & DIANA MARX

Gerhard and Diana Marx of Dunstable, England, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary July 12. Mr. Marx is a local church elder in the Dunstable church and a former lecturer at Ambassador College.



RON & PATTY LOHR

Ron and Patty Lohr of Tulsa, Oklahoma, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 8. Tulsa East brethren surprised them with a party June 4. The Lohrs have two daughters, Rhonda Wiley and Jennifer; and one son-in-law, Aaron Wiley. Mr. Lohr is pastor of the Tulsa East church.



WILLIAM & KAY HADLEY

William and Kay Hadley of St. Clairsville, Ohio, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary June 27. They have two sons, Paul and Kevin; and one daughter-in-law, Karen. Mr. and Mrs. Hadley serve as deacon and deaconess in the Wheeling, West Virginia, church.



BOB & SHIRLEY SMITH

Bob and Shirley Smith of Big Sandy celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary June 25. They have five children, Jeff, Debra, Greg, Scott and Kevin; and eight grandchildren, Marisa, Brittany, Blake, Cody, Ashley, Gregory Jr., Zachary and Chaz. Mr. Smith is associate pastor of the Big Sandy P.M. church.



JERRY & CAROL THULL

Jerry and Carol Thull of Sauk Centre, Minnesota, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary June 9. They have one son, Steve; two daughters, Pam and Nancy; one daughter-in-law, Kim; one son-in-law, John Linke; and four grandchildren.

Anniversaries Made of Gold



EDGAR & ARLENE GRANDQUIST

Edgar and Arlene Grandquist of Redding, California, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary June 23. They have three children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



BIENVENIDO & DOLORES MACARAEG

Bienvenido and Dolores Macaraeg of Mindanao, Philippines, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 8. They have 14 surviving children and 21 surviving grandchildren.

Obituaries



VIVIAN HENDERSON

HENDERSON, Vivian, 84, of Washington, Pennsylvania, died June 5. She is survived by three daughters, Audrey Plants, Nancy Grandon and Kathleen Alderson; one son, Ken; three sons-in-law, Ray Plants, Don Grandon and Ken Alderson; one daughter-in-law, Dorothy; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Her husband, Clarence, died in 1990.



JANE BAILEY

BAILEY, Jane, 59, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, died April 14 of heart failure. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Phillip; one son, Timothy; one daughter, Terri; five

sisters, Jackie, Betty, Edith, Gladdis and Hazel; and two brothers, Howard and Dave.

PELFREY, Myrtle, 87, of Cincinnati, Ohio, died June 16. She is survived by two daughters, Shirley Brown and Georgia, four grandchildren, David Butz, Timothy Butz, Rebecca Hollon and Kimberly Rosenzweig; and nine great-grandchildren.

NIERSTE, Margaret "Billie Sue," 79, of Terre Haute, Indiana, died May 23 after suffering with pancreatic cancer. She is survived by one son, Richard; one daughter-in-law; and several grandchildren.

FLINT, Mildred Rose, 72, of Terre Haute, Indiana, died June 6 after a long illness. She is survived by her mother, Olive; one brother, Jim Osborn; one son; one daughter; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

BAILEY, Vance, 73, of Big Sandy, died June 26. He is survived by his wife, Lillie; one son, Leo; one daughter, Teresa Anderson; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

HOTZ, Earl F., 78, of Castle Valley, Utah, died June 26 of heart failure. He is survived by his wife, Nettie; one son; three daughters; three sons-in-law; three grandsons; and eight granddaughters.



JEFFREY SMITH

SMITH, Jeffrey L., 42, of Big Sandy, died June 26. He is survived by his wife, Rhonda; one son, Cody; one daughter, Ashley; his parents, Bob and Shirley; three brothers, Gregory, Scott and Kevin; and one sister, Debra Kruger.



JOSEPH BRUNS

BRUNS, Joseph A., 65, died June 28 of lung and liver cancer. He is survived by his wife, Mariela; one brother; one sister; two daughters; two sons-in-law; and seven grandchildren.

RANSOM, Nora, 70, of Boissevain, Manitoba, died June 18 of a massive heart attack. She is survived by seven children, eight grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren and her father.

LUND, Fred E., 64, of Willow, Alaska, died March 28 of leukemia. He is survived by his wife, Fay; two brothers; and two sisters.



HOYLAND HOGARTH

HOGARTH, Hoyland Opal, 89, of Blind Bay, British Columbia, died April 11. She is survived by two daughters, Emerald Cook and Iris Williams; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Her husband, Stanley, died in 1989.

BENN, Donald Macfarlane, 85, of Bourke, Australia, died June 28. He is survived by his wife, Joan, children and grandchildren.

KUHL, Gordon W., 81, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, died April 4 of kidney failure after a lengthy illness. He was survived by his wife, Louise, and two grandchildren, Lance Johnson and Lisa Johnson. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Linda Johnson.

KUHL, Louise B., 81, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, died June 22 of heart failure. She was preceded in death by her daughter Linda, and her husband, Gordon, and she is survived by two grandchildren, Lance Johnson and Lisa Johnson.

Births

ACHANZAR, Gil and Yolanda (Alvarado) of San Jose, California, boy, Justin Ryan, May 19, 8:45 a.m., 6 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

ACOSTA, Edder and Patria (Aristy) of West Hartford, Connecticut, girl, Nasya Aristy, June 25, 8:31 a.m., 8 pounds 14 1/2 ounces, first child.

AGUIRRE, Michael and Leigh Ann (Cox) of Everett, Washington, girl, Lauren Camille, June 15, 9 pounds, first child.

BAKER, Jeff and Nancy (Dickinson) of Asheville, North Carolina, girl, Jennifer Susan, April 9, 3:45 a.m., 8 pounds, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

BENNETT, Charles and Roberta (Carpenter) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, girl, Hannah Lorraine, May 18, 1:48 p.m., 6 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

BRACH, David and Susan (Myers) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, boy, Cody Robert, June 13, 1:39 a.m., 9 pounds 6 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CHILDERS, Gary and Elizabeth (Zlab) of Pasadena, girl, Vivian Michelle, May 31, 11:15 a.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CURTIS, Stephen and Rebecca (Hopper) of Tipp City, Ohio, boy, Trevor Lee, May 25, 4 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

DeFORGE, Dan and Carrie (Docken) of Fairfield, California, girl, Emily Dale, June 6, 3:35 p.m., 7 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 girls (1 is deceased).

DRAWBAUGH, Todd and Floy (Bonner) of Mount Airy, Maryland, girl, Annelise May, May 23, 1:12 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

EDDINGTON, Peter and Terri (Butterbaugh) of Pasadena, boy, Marc Bradford, June 17, 9:15 p.m., 8 pounds 14 1/2 ounces, now 3 boys.

ELLIOTT, Gary and Cindy (Lacina) of Phoenix, Arizona, boy, Bradley James, May 12, 2:45 a.m., 8 pounds 1 1/2 ounces, now 3 boys.

FISCHELS, Roger and Lisa (Lawless) of Waterloo, Iowa, girl, Jasmine Taylor, May 23, 6 pounds 4 1/2 ounces, first child.

FORTNER, Rod and Joanne (Woelfle) of Quincy, Illinois, girl, Andrea Michelle, June 11, 3:52 p.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 girls.

FOTHERINGHAM, Ian and Valerie (Leathem) of Nottingham, England,

Update

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

Congregation hears from Church of God (Seventh Day) pastor

ATLANTA, Georgia—The combined Atlanta East and Northeast congregations were hosts to **Dale Lawson**, pastor of the Church of God (Seventh Day) in Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 11.

Mr. Lawson's sermon, titled "Jesus Christ: The Bible's Theme," emphasized that Jesus Christ is the reason and meaning behind a Christian's life.

Mr. Lawson's brother, **Don Lawson**, pastors the Worldwide Church of God congregation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Accompanying Dale Lawson was a chorus of students from Springvale Academy in Owosso, Michigan, founded by the Church of God (Seventh Day).

The singers' 40-minute pro-

gram, titled "Light Your World," had inspirational songs aimed at renewing our zeal to touch others' lives with the light of God's love. Congregational songs were also part of the program. *Betsy Bauman.*

Big Mac project raises the roof

PORTLAND, Maine—Members who have been volunteering for the Ronald McDonald House fund-raising program participated in a "house raising" in March. They prepared 208 collection boxes, decorated as small houses, for the Scott Product UPC symbol program. The houses are made from creamer boxes.

Pastor **John Kennedy's** wife, **Anne-Marie**, and son, **Paul**, were featured in the summer edition of *Stand by Me*, a newsletter produced by the Ronald McDonald House.

SEP office relocates

SEP administrative offices moved from Pasadena to Big Sandy. The move will help in the selection of university students to serve the SEP camps, as **Kermit Nelson**, SEP director, and his wife, **Leila**, will be in daily contact with them.

With electronic mail and intracampus dialing, the office will be able to maintain its daily contact with Church Administration in Pasadena.

Pastoral moves

Victor Simpson, the pastor in Barbados, will be

returning to Trinidad and Tobago to pastor churches there. Mr. Simpson was there some years ago and knows the people well.

Clifton Charles will be moving from Trinidad to Barbados to take Mr. Simpson's place.

Singles to dance to musical mix

ATLANTA, Georgia—Singles in the Northwest congregation here are sponsoring a dance Aug. 27. Activities start with a service for singles at 3 p.m. and an evening casual dance. Disc jockey **Dwight Allen** will mix a musical blend of pop, country-and-western and R&B.

The price of \$12 includes dance admission and hors d'oeuvres. Checks postmarked by Aug. 15 will entitle participants to \$2 worth of coupons for nonalcoholic drinks.

Maps will be sent with tickets by mail. Make checks payable to Atlanta NW Church Activity Fund and mail to **Mark Tabladillo**, 29802 Georgia Tech Station, Atlanta, Georgia, 30332. Walk-ins are welcome, subject to the 300-person limit.

Baltimore singles will be cookin'

BALTIMORE, Maryland—Singles are invited to the church's biannual Labor Day weekend, Sept. 3 to 5. Activities include a reception, a Sabbath Bible study, lunch, services and a dinner-dance. Guest speaker will be **John Halford**, a

Plain Truth senior editor.

Sunday will feature a cookout accompanied by dancing, volleyball, tennis, basketball, softball, horse shoes and leisure walks on paved trails.

The cost for the weekend is \$50, which includes the Sabbath luncheon, dinner-dance and cookout. Call the Columbia, Maryland, Hilton at 1-800-Hiltons by Aug. 9 for room rates of \$67 a night (maximum four per room). To receive this rate, indicate that you are with the Worldwide Church of God.

For further information and registration, call **Charles Bell** at 1-410-944-7416. Make checks payable to B.C.A.F.

Writer's part in turning the tide back home

CARBONEAR, Newfoundland—While visiting home these past two summers, **Neil Earle**, international editor for *The Plain Truth*, has been touched by the plight of his home province: the closing of the east coast cod fishery, which has caused a dilemma for people in Atlantic Canada and northeastern United States.

He wanted to express solidarity with the people in these trying times, as 30,000 jobs and a whole way of life built around the fishing resource are at stake. The fisheries moratorium is roughly the equivalent of Kansas farmers not being able to grow wheat or British Columbian foresters being asked not to cut logs.

"So I asked myself, what can I do?" Mr. Earle said. And then, remembering that the pen was mightier than

the sword, he took his sister's advice and drafted an article for *The Carbonear Compass* that would be hopeful, encouraging and play to the people's traditional faith and resilience.

"One of the area's finest scholars and teachers [David Pitt] has written well of our keynote themes of unremitting, almost relentless struggle, of a people accustomed to hardship and hazard, to whom physical stamina, endurance and prodigious patience meant more than comfort or leisure or polish," Mr. Earle wrote.

"It is time for some serious planning. And plans need careful promotion and publicizing to stabilize a people even as steady and resilient as those who cling to these harsh, pure hills of home. The Newfoundland character has survived the first wave but the storm still gathers, the real crisis looms. Our prayers we raise to heaven above. God guard thee, Newfoundland."

Mr. Earle said that personal evangelism comes in many forms. "We can't do everything, but we can do something."

Unwrapping cans for vans

Volunteers processed 1.65 million Campbell's soup labels this year at Imperial Schools. The school will receive two vans as well as having some labels left over to put toward next year's purchases.

Thanks to members and families who contributed to the Imperial program.



FROM OUR

Brethren Worldwide

Path of Four Square group leads to Church

By **Bermie Dizon**

DAVAO, Philippines—Felipe Casing (another minister) and I, with our wives, visited eight interested farmers Jan. 16 in Dujali, Panabo, Davao del Norte.

They had been with the Four Square Church (a pentecostal evangelical group). Their pastor, Antonio Caserial, a *Plain Truth* subscriber, resigned from his job because he could not teach what he did not believe, and a number followed him.

But he would not pastor them because he felt that he was not a minister. In the meantime, he shared his beliefs with his former members in an informal way.

Two of our ministers, Vic

Lim and Eriz Dizon, visited them a few years ago. But those visited didn't want to put any action to their newfound belief. A few years passed, and they continued reading our literature.

A few of them attended *Plain Truth* Bible lectures. A few have started to attend our services regularly. Originally 40 people joined their group, but they were dismayed when their pastor declined to continue teaching them.

The Caserials and about eight others in the group have regularly been attending Sabbath services in Tagum.

Prison ministry brings happy response

By **Hazel Schlitt**

OCALA, Florida—My husband, Joe, and I began writ-

ing to two prisoners in our area, both Church members, after they asked our congregation to help them feel more a part of services.

As we got to know each other better, we asked people at the correctional facility if we could visit the two inmates. We were only able to visit with one of them, however, because only one person or couple can be on one inmate's list.

Fortunately, the inmate we could not see was later transferred to another facility, where we were able to visit him.

Another Church couple had to help us out when a third inmate at this facility, also interested in the Church, asked for a visit. All three are visited once every four to six weeks, and we write to them about once a week.

From our members in prison we have learned that

inmates suffer much guilt because of their actions. They feel disappointment, emptiness and loneliness, but often don't know where to turn for help.

We teach them about a fulfilling, rewarding and happy way of life through knowing God and following his ways. They are thankful for Jesus Christ's sacrifice and forgiveness.

After our visits we often receive letters expressing joy and happiness for the fellowship. They appreciate personal contact because they cannot attend services. Sending a card or note between visits and a letter with an envelope, paper and stamps, seems to make them happy and they do respond.

After my husband was ordained a local church elder, we were able to get into any of the correctional facilities where we had people wanting visits. One of the first things we were able to do was baptize the third inmate who had requested a visit. Now we visit three members and five other men interested in the Church.

Members who have time to help others in this way should check with their pastor to see

if a need exists. To help just one person strengthen his or her relationship with God is satisfying, fulfilling and well worth the effort.

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