



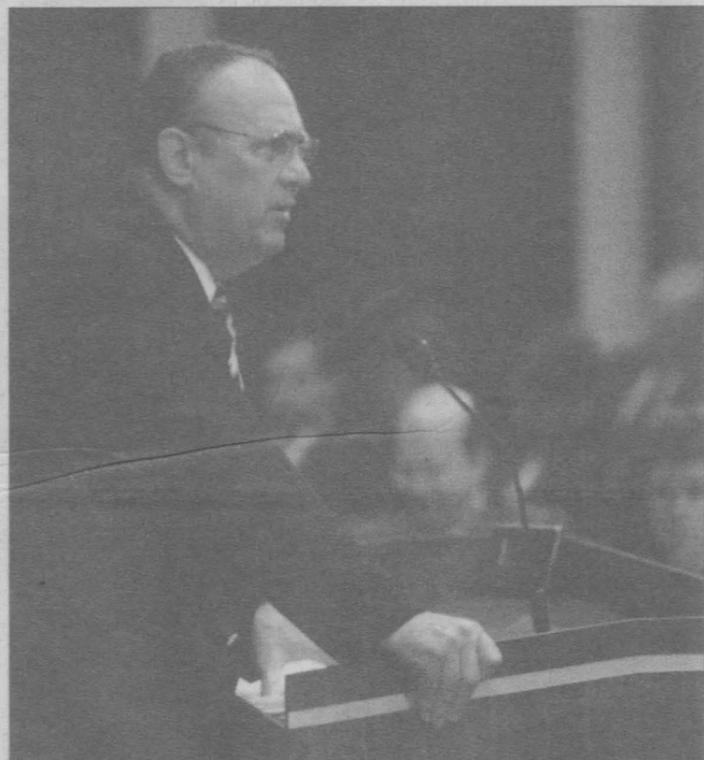
# The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 30, 1992



**GETTING INVOLVED**—"Christians have to get personally involved in the things of Christ. They have to become Christlike," said Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, discussing the Church's new programs at the regional directors conference in June. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

## Actively participate in bringing the good news, directors told

By Jeff E. Zhorne

Media philosophy, editorial content, television programs, subscriber development, worldwide information systems, income reporting and human resources.

These were but a few topics awaiting regional directors, business managers and their wives who assembled in Pasadena for the June 17 to 23 regional directors conference.

Setting the overall tone, Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach focused the directors on the Church's commission to make disciples (see "Personal").

### God's message is rewarding

He urged them to help people see that God's message is more than interesting. "It's rewarding."

The Church can't rely on just the impersonal contact of media. "We have to get personally involved," said Mr. Tkach, referring to the

new programs: the Member Visiting Program, Friends in Deed and the telecast's concluding segment (see June 16 WN).

"When someone comes into contact with media, that person should know we're a Church."

In all, the regional directors and business managers heard 25 presentations by the Pastor General's Office, Church Administration International, Financial Affairs, Media Operations and Computer Information Systems.

Excerpts from some of the presentations appear below and on page 4.

"I firmly believe the conference is an invaluable tool in promoting unity in our operations worldwide," said Bernie Schnippert, director of Media Operations and international media coordinator.

### 'Soaking up information'

Andre van Belkum, South

African regional director, said: "We've been sponges, soaking up information from operation managers and others."

"They gave us the reasons and the whys, which are so important. Now we know *why* the booklet master plan, *why* the literature is written the way it is and we are excited about the new correspondence course," Mr. van Belkum continued.

"We can go back to members and share with them what we learned here."

David Gunn, media manager for the British Office, called the conference one of the most comprehensive and well-planned conference he ever attended.

"It was an opportunity to focus on the Church's objectives, discuss international differences and a time for consideration of our resources, hopes, goals and realities."

### Pastoral, church administration

From June 19 a.m. workshop

"We are focusing our entire attention and resources on promoting top quality pastoral care to individual members and further equipping the ministry to fill those needs," said evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration International.

Regional directors discussed members' spiritual, family and economic needs, which differ from country to country.

The workshop clarified pastoral responsibilities, the YOU program and the effects of the worldwide recession.

Plans call for Mr. Salyer and Randal Dick, assistant director of Church Admini-

stration International, together with the regional directors, to use the coming year's ministerial conferences to accurately assess and strengthen the level of pastoral care given to people.



LARRY SALYER

### MO director: 'Media should expect success'

From June 17 a.m. lectures

The regional directors heard from evangelist Bernard Schnippert, Media Operations director, who explained how media is a window on the Work and that many business elements go into operating the Worldwide Church of God.

Building on Mr. Tkach's presentation, Mr. Schnippert explained that Matthew 28:19-20 guides our media philosophy.

"Media should expect success. If not, find a way of operating that does meet with success," he told the group.

We are not just warning people. We are not merely a source of values. We are

not just trying to improve people's finances. We're not trying to merely build the American dream.

But we can tell them about salvation, said Mr. Schnippert. "That's where we center our message."

The media should make it easy for qualified people to come to the door of the Church. The path must be easy. Don't hide the fact that we're a church.

"Media should lead to personal contact," he said. "One of the most important contacts is members with outsiders."

Mr. Schnippert said not all growth is good, only that which is congruent with Matthew 28:19-20.

He also discussed cul-

tural sensitivities and adapting writing style, spelling, graphics and photos to regional customs and topics of interest, all within the overall media philosophy.



BERNIE SCHNIPPERT

### College earns candidacy status from SACS committee

**BIG SANDY**—Ambassador College was granted candidacy status June 19 by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The College was notified by David Carter, associate executive director of SACS.

"This is indeed a momentous day in the history of Ambassador College," said Donald Ward, president. "It is a time for celebration. We are grateful for the efforts of everyone who has made this day possible."

The next step for Ambassador College is to prepare a progress report in the spring of 1993 in anticipation of another visit in the fall of 1993, with the hope of receiving accreditation in June 1994.

"In the meantime, the achievement of candidacy status provides the constituents of the College with many of the practical benefits of accreditation," said Dr. Ward.

Ambassador filed an application for accreditation in April 1990. Later that year the College embarked upon a self-study, which was completed in June 1991 and mailed to the Southern Association offices in Atlanta, Ga.

A committee of representatives from member institutions of the Southern Association visited the Ambassador campus in October 1991. The committee submitted a report to the College listing its recommendations and suggestions, and Ambassador responded in a report of its own in May.

### PERSONAL FROM

*Joseph W. Tkach*

Dear Brethren,

Wednesday, June 17, marked the opening day of a week-long regional directors conference.

About 80 representatives from the regional offices gathered in Pasadena for discussions regarding media strategy, communications, church administration and budgeting.

I opened the conference with an overview of the Church's goals and purposes in light of our biblical commission.

One of the topics I discussed was the need to understand that the gospel is more than just a warning message. I explained

that it is certainly a message of warning, but it is also much more.

Not only is the gospel a warning about the certainty of God's judgment on sinful humanity, it is also the *good news* about what God has done through his Son to enable people to escape that judgment.

Similarly, I discussed the need for us to understand that our *commission* is more than just to warn people about God's judgment on sinful humanity.

Our commission is to "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" (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus has commissioned us to *make disciples* of all nations. In making these disciples, we are to *baptize* them and *teach* them.

In other words, our message is not to simply warn people about God's judgment and then "leave it in God's hands." Our message is to be designed to lead people to Jesus Christ—to make disciples of them and to teach them his way.

The gospel, then, should be preached with a definite *goal* in mind—the goal Jesus gave us—to make disciples!

### God works through humans

John 6:44 tells us that no one can come to Jesus unless the Father who sent Jesus draws him. We have tended to view the fact that only the Father calls people as meaning that we should only put out the message, but go no further.

(See PERSONAL, page 6)

# The Church: many people one nation

"Ethnic and racial conflict, it seems evident, will now replace the conflict of ideologies as the explosive issue of our times." So writes historian Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. in his insightful new book, *The Disuniting of America*.

"On every side today ethnicity is the cause of the breaking of nations," Mr. Schlesinger continues in the foreword to his work.

"The Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, India, South Africa are all in crisis." He names more than a dozen other countries in Asia, the Middle East and Africa, all disrupted by ethnic tensions. But the list does not stop here.

"Even nations as stable and civilized as Britain and France, Belgium and Spain and Czechoslovakia, face growing ethnic and racial troubles. 'The virus of tribalism,' says the *Economist*, 'risks becoming the AIDS of international politics—lying dormant for years, then flaring up to destroy countries.'"

That this should be occurring should not surprise us. Jesus said that before his return to earth "nation will rise against nation"—*ethnos* in Greek—and kingdom against kingdom" (Matthew 24:7).

## Velvet divorce

Newspapers detail the impending "velvet divorce" of the two main peoples comprising Czecho-



## WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg

slovakia.

The velvet revolution that peacefully overthrew communism there in 1989 only served, it seems, to expose irreconcilable differences between Czechs and Slovaks.

While no one expects these two groups to go to war, as in the grisly partition of Yugoslavia, the last thing Europe needs is a proliferation of independent states.

National self-determination, history shows, can produce more problems than it solves. Often a new minority crisis emerges.

For example, Slovakia's 600,000 Hungarians, comfortable inside the larger Czechoslovak state, are understandably nervous over their future in an independent Slovakia.

Hungary ruled Slovakia, and not with the most velvet touch, for centuries. The Hungarian minority fears a settling of historic scores.

## Biggest worry: America

The biggest concern of historian Schlesinger, however, is what is happening to the United States.

As he explains in his excellent small book (only 160 pages), the historic bonds that have held America's unique multicultural society together are unraveling in the rush to emphasize ethnic differences.

Mr. Schlesinger points out that 19th-century European observers, such as Frenchman Alexis de Tocqueville and Englishman James Bryce, marveled at the success of early American society in molding a new national identity out of diverse ethnic strains and languages.

The answer, they concluded, lay in a commitment to commonly held ideals such as democracy, liberty, equality and self-government. And equally vital was insistence on one national language.

What struck Bryce was "the amazing power which American institutions, habits, and ideas exercise upon newcomers of all races ... quickly dissolving and assimilating the foreign bodies that are poured into her mass." Before

long, this process took on a name: the melting pot.

As in all human societies, imperfections in the American model were apparent, but ignored until crises later arose.

It was easier for immigrants from western and northern Europe, for example, to fuse into the cultural base laid down by Great Britain in the original 13 colonies.

Subsequent waves from eastern and southern Europe, Asia and Latin America had more unkind receptions until succeeding generations proved themselves equally capable of absorbing the American way.

And, writes Mr. Schlesinger, "America's most conspicuous failure ... [was that its] noble ideas had been pronounced as if for all Americans, yet in practice they applied only to white people."

The concerns of black and native Americans were not seriously addressed until after World War II.

## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



## Passengers on a journey

EN ROUTE FROM LONDON TO LOS ANGELES—It was going to be a long, arduous flight and I wanted to be as comfortable as possible. As I am tall, I booked a special leggy aisle seat many days in advance.

On my arrival at row 33, however, I found a middle-aged lady firmly ensconced in 33H, my seat!

The stewardess motioned me to the galley area. People further up the pecking order were consulted. This lady had a leg problem and needed an aisle seat.

The on-board flight personnel said they would see what they could do after the airplane doors closed.

Hastily a senior stewardess moved the woman in 33H to the next seat (highly uncomfortable with limited legroom). I mumbled an embarrassed "sorry" while putting my luggage in the overhead compartment.

Her response was icy! The tension uncomfortable. After five minutes I asked her if she would like to swap seats.

Her attitude melted! Ah, the sweet relief of reconciliation! We talked! As it turned out another comfortable seat was found for this engaging Californian woman and I didn't have to give up my precious seat after all.

We were thoroughly reconciled in spirit and attitude. Helping her move hand luggage was a pleasure indeed.

## Our true itinerary

Flying is painful business for me. My ears suffer enormously. Chewing gum, blowing the nose—all the familiar tricks don't work. I don't hear properly for three days after getting off an airplane.

Ten hours aboard a 747 in a pressurized cabin is no easy experience. Food and movies are supposed to help you pass the time. Trying to pray or read is not easy either.

I wondered about the passengers on board—all going to a common destination—together in

But now—and this is what most concerns this eminent historian—the pendulum has swung perilously in the opposite direction, toward national division.

In particular, Mr. Schlesinger points out, "a cult of ethnicity" is entrenching itself in public education.

Some pressure groups demand instruction in languages other than English, while others insist that history be taught only from the perspective of one group or race, bypassing the total American and Western experience. The latter is denounced as being a form of "cultural imperialism."

Such concepts are fraught with danger for the nation as a whole. This approach "nourishes prejudices, magnifies differences, and stirs antagonisms," Mr. Schlesinger insists.

"Watching ethnic conflict tear one nation after another apart, one cannot look with complacency at proposals to divide the United States into distinct and immutable ethnic and racial communities, each taught to cherish its own apartness."

It should be recalled that Jesus (See NATION, page 5)



## Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner

## All things for a purpose

Someone once said that a Christian is like a tea bag—not worth much until he or she has been through some hot water.

If there's one thing Christians can agree on it's that living a godly life isn't always easy. We've all faced trials of "hot water" since our calling.

We've been the target of snide remarks made by people at work, school or university and even from some in our family because we would not get involved in areas where Jesus Christ would not want us to be.

There are businessmen and women in the Church who could have made thousands on a deal if they had been prepared to cheat.

Some members are single, their chances of finding a suitable partner would seem greater had they not determined to marry someone of similar religious beliefs. They endure in faith, as we all do, having chosen to: "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

## The cost of Christianity

Along with trials, those who live godly lives will suffer persecution also. Christians don't have to look for it. It comes to those who choose to live and think by different rules or as American writer Henry David Thoreau put it, to "walk to the beat of a different drummer."

There is a cross to bear when we follow God's way. Christ forewarns us: "Anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38).

Jesus said those who follow him can expect times of rejection and oppression. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute

you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me" (Matthew 5:11).

To one degree or another, all in God's Church suffer persecution for Christ's sake. Yet even in the midst of it all we can be encouraged and "rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matthew 5:12).

In spite of trials, the prophets and faithful saints persevered and their endurance should encourage and strengthen us to endure our hardships as we race toward the heavenly prize (Hebrews 11; 12:1).

## Unfavorable things that strike into our lives—as they do all people—can make us bitter or better Christians according to our response.

Some Christians may feel they pay a high price for their beliefs, but it is indeed small compared to what God the Father and the Son will give each one of us—"an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:4).

With this in mind, we can learn to bear insults or suffer material loss.

## God's point of view

If we see our difficulties from a Christian perspective then we learn to look at life from God's viewpoint. A fascinating scripture in this regard is Colossians 1:9 "We are asking God that you may see things ... from his point of view by being given spiritual insight and understanding"

(Phillips translation).

If we could be transported to God's eternal throne and see the end from the beginning, we would look at our difficulties in a completely different light.

## Under pressure

Learning and growth come through experience—good and bad. The most important changes take place within the framework of struggle.

King David said: "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.... It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees" (Psalm 119:67, 71).

No doubt all with whom God works stumble over the fact that he allows trouble to invade our lives. But once we grasp that God permits pressure for a real purpose, then a new sense of understanding can flow into our minds. By overcoming (or at times "bearing under") with God's help the impediments of this life, we can become complete.

Unfavorable things that strike

into our lives—as they do all people—can make us bitter or better Christians according to our response.

Brethren, acquire the same attitude as the apostle Paul who, incarcerated for the gospel's sake and isolated from those he loved, was still able to write: "I now rejoice in my sufferings" (Colossians 1:24, New King James).

God allows us to experience setbacks and difficulties for a significant purpose. One of the great blessings of this human life is that we can develop the character of God.

Remember that "we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

# Dominion of Canada at 125: Its purpose is the Church's too

By Neil Earle

TORONTO, Ont.—“He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth” (Psalm 72:8, King James Version).

*Neil Earle pastors the Toronto, Ont., West church.*

These noble words helped the architects of the Canadian Confederation in 1867 coin the national motto: “From sea even unto sea.”

The Dominion of Canada, a bold and daring experiment in human government, was proclaimed 125 years ago by the British North America Act of July 1, 1867.

The 27 million Canadians scattered from St. John's, Nfld., to Victoria, B.C., constitute an incredibly complex nation. For example, there are more Jamaicans than Inuit (formerly Eskimo) scattered across the country's 3.8 million square miles.

At least three categories of blacks live in Canada—the descendants of blacks who sailed here with the first settlers; those who trace their ancestry from fleeing slaves taking the Underground Railway into Canada before the American Civil War (1861-1865); and emigrants from the Caribbean region.

Also, native people, at 4 percent

of Canada's population, make up a more influential pressure group than their American Indian brothers.

All of this makes for a country that has been forced, in the crunch, to live or die by the credo of multiculturalism.

Few understand what a difficult assignment this is.

There are bewildering chal-

Great Canadian Debate as Canada strives to preserve a workable collectivity of languages and races where civic peace and decency are preserved and democratic privileges enjoyed—a breathtaking agenda for any country.

It is a national assignment handed out by the stark facts of history and geography.

How ironic that it has fallen to the seemingly unglamorous, conservative Canadians—those patient, plodding, polite practitioners of the Middle Way—to set the world an example of multiculturalism that, for the most part, still works.

These are the spiritual issues involved in Canada's constitutional travails of the 1990s.

## Challenge to the Church

The challenge facing the congregations of the Worldwide Church of God in this land is to remember our calling as concerned, empathetic, spiritually accredited, yet politically detached, ambassadors for Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:20).

We sympathize with our native land and the trials and troubles our neighbors and kinsmen are facing. Like them, we too

seek a peaceable kingdom, a just society.

In the final analysis, Canada has always been an experiment, a community under threat, a nation burdened with the challenge of blending ancient hatreds, resentments and grudges.

We pray for that noble experiment to continue in a way to benefit God's Work in this country.

Jesus Christ's words say it best: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God” (Matthew 5:9).

There can be no better birthday wish for Canada than this.



LAKE MORAINES IN CANADA

lenges facing all Canadian governments. However, a consensus appears to be forming to address the concerns of the aboriginal peoples and to mollify the racism and intolerance that Canadian blacks, Japanese-Canadians and others have experienced over the centuries.

If this is true, so much the better.

Canadians, like most people caught in the uncertain times of the late 20th century, are experiencing a still-unarticulated spiritual crisis as the year 2000 draws near.

This is one reason the Canadian story is important. For not only has this land been a refuge for millions of emigrants, but the nation's search for definition and good government boils down to essentially spiritual questions:

Is it possible for diverse nations, religions and tongues to live together in peace? Are there, in fact, limits to what human governments and constitutions can achieve?

## A birthday wish for Canada

As one historian has framed the issue: “If Canada, with all its diversity and challenges, can survive and flourish, why not mankind?”

Thus Canada's longstanding constitutional struggles and frustrations test whether nations with even such immense natural advantages as Canada can provide the good life for its citizens.

“Mankind,” wrote Barbara Tuchman, “makes a poorer performance of government than of almost any other human activity.”

Thus, complex, multicultural Canada functions as somewhat of a model.

In the midst of intense national clamor and soul-searching, one encouraging fact stands supreme—unpretentious Canada has usually, in the crunch, resolved its most acute internal issues peacefully.

It is no accident that Canadians first proposed international peace-keeping forces under the auspices of the United Nations.

There is much at stake in the

## Seminar promotes success

The Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, Calif., congregations will again be hosts for a success seminar and extend an invitation to everyone 17 years old and older, single or married.

The 1992 Success Seminar will be conducted at the four-star Cliffs Hotel in Shell Beach, Calif., overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The seminar begins Dec. 25 and concludes after lunch Dec. 27.

Speakers include successful Church members, who will share their many years of expertise to show how godly principles bring true success in the areas of family, career and finances and how to avoid pitfalls.

Guest speakers include Lee Joyce, who will present guidelines on prudent investing and financial responsibility, and Ralph Helge, director of the Church's Legal Office, who will discuss legal matters and living wills.

The prices for the 1992 Success Seminar are for three days and two nights, all meals, 10 percent room tax, 23 percent food tax and gratuity. Two people, one room—\$175 for each person; married couple—\$350; one person, private room—\$250

For those who wish to arrive Dec. 24 and leave Dec. 28, discounted room rates can be arranged.

To register for the seminar send a \$75 deposit for each person and make the check payable to Church Seminar. Mail the check to Church Seminar, Box 12032, San Luis Obispo, Calif., 93406.

The deposit must be received by Aug. 15. The balance is due Nov. 15. If you need to be placed in a hotel room with someone please specify when you mail your deposit. If sharing a room with someone include their name with your deposit. Space is limited and reservations will be treated on a first come basis. If you have any further questions call Marc Courtney at 1-805 541 4655.

## “Into all the world...”

### Interesting program

Your program is informative, which is why I deem it so important. Although I don't always agree with how you interpret the Bible, I must still say that your program contributes to a strengthening of faith and a turning to the Bible.

In a time when humans are, as the Bible says, going from bad to worse and are lovers of pleasure more than of God, your program is like the light at the end of the tunnel.

What makes your program so interesting? What I enjoy is that it is presented factually and competently. It is well researched, and you don't shy away from consulting people from all branches of knowledge. That's why the quotes and interviews contribute to a better, more encompassing and deeper understanding.

W.S.  
Berlin

### Missing something spiritual

This past Sunday for the first time in a while I saw a good program on television. That was your program on Super Channel about the authenticity of the Bible.

I was not brought up as a Christian and the Bible has never meant that much to me. Your program captivated my attention and I'm starting to ask myself more and more often if my non-Christian upbringing has withheld something very essential.

I think I am missing something spiritual in my life. I am not claiming that I right away want to convert to a Christian belief, but maybe you could send me more information, especially related to the above-mentioned program.

M.M.  
Rotterdam, Netherlands

# Church keeping operating expenses under budget

By Steven D. Andrews

With the first quarter of the year and the first Holy Day season behind us, it is a good time to bring you up to date on the Work's financial position.

*Steven D. Andrews is director of Finance & Planning.*

As of this writing, the U.S. income year-to-date is running 3.1 percent behind last year and about 5.3 percent ahead of budget.

Operating expenses are about 8 percent under the amount budgeted.

In Canada, the Work's second-largest resource-generating country, income year-to-date is 0.7 percent ahead of last year and 1.7 percent behind budget; expenses are 7.0 percent below budget.

Australia, our third-largest resource-generating area, is reporting year-to-date income at 0.5 percent ahead of last year and

0.5 percent behind budget; expenses are 2.0 percent above budget.

While income is down from last year in some areas, it is running ahead of last year in others. Operating expenses are below budget and below last year's expenses in most areas.

In general, our income exceeds expenses, so cash flow has been positive.

Coopers & Lybrand completed their audit of our financial operations in May. Mr. Tkach conducted a board meeting at which the financial statements and results of the audit were reviewed.

Again we are pleased to report that we received an unqualified opinion, which means that Coopers & Lybrand thinks that our financial statements fairly present our financial position and that our accounting procedures are adequate.

We are grateful for the Work that God is doing in each of his people throughout the world.

Thank you for your continued generous support and your faithfulness in allowing God to work with you and through you to accomplish his Work.

## 1992 French Ministerial Transfers

Name	Transferred to
Daniel Bosch	Milan and Vincenza, Italy
Olivier Carion	Geneva and Neuchatel, Switzerland; and Lyons, France
Luciano Cozzi	Catania, Italy; and Valletta, Malta
Tony Gallagher	Brussels, Belgium (associate)
Cliff Veal	Rome, Italy

All positions are pastor unless noted.

## The Worldwide News

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# Summaries from the directors conference

## Understanding the Bible

From June 18 p.m. lecture

The new correspondence course, called *Understanding the Bible—A Survey of the Scriptures*, strives for the utmost accuracy in expounding the biblical text.

"The main commentary of each lesson focuses on the gospel of the kingdom of God by explaining biblical doctrines and their practical implications for Christian living," said Jim Herst, managing editor of the course.

Level one, which will lead people through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, presents Church doctrines as they spring from their natural biblical context. This first level will contain six lessons each on the Old and New Testaments.

Level one should take about two years for students to complete and is scheduled for release next spring.

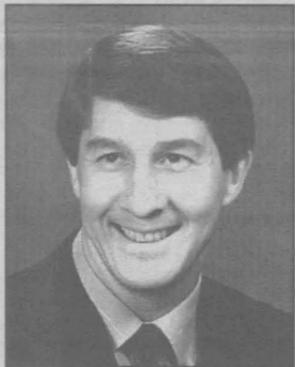
The regional directors saw slides of the first lesson, "The Five Books of Moses." Each 64-page lesson is to be accompanied by a 48-page study guide.

Level one will fill a pressing need to teach people about the Bible. For exam-

ple, according to Gallup polls, 93 percent of all U.S. households possess at least one Bible. Yet 58 percent of Americans don't read it.

The 12 lessons in level two will build on the biblical foundation laid in level one. Each lesson will be an exposition of a major Church doctrine, for example, the Holy Days.

"The text is fortified by the best up-to-date scholarship in biblical archaeology, history and literature," Mr. Herst said. "The impact of the course throughout is further heightened by a state-of-the-art, full-color graphic design."



JIM HERST



**DIRECTORS AND WIVES**—Front row (from left): Larry and Judy Salyer, Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach. Second row: Rod and Ruth Matthews, Andre and Elize van Belkum, Kristina and John Karlson, Marion and Les McCullough. Third row: Randal and Susie Dick, Carn and Joyce Catherwood, Paul and Monica Kieffer, Margaret and Colin Adair, Tom Lapacka. Back row: Reba and Leon Walker, Trudy and Bram de Bree, Frank and Sharon Brown, Arlene and Bernie Schnipert. (Not pictured, Linda Lapacka.) [Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.]

## Plain Truth magazine's people approach leads readers toward repentance

From June 18 p.m. lecture

Greg Albrecht, *Plain Truth* editor, talked about ways of thinking that need to be evaluated. Quoting the Oriental proverb, "If it isn't perfect, make it better," he explained how the magazine continually strives to improve its effectiveness as it proclaims the gospel.

The Manuscript Review Team, which analyzes Church literature, does not review *The Plain Truth* because it's a monthly publication with deadlines and would be over-

whelming for the team.

He said writers and editors are exhorted to incorporate into their articles what Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach writes in the "Personal" and his member letters.

Mr. Albrecht said: "We need to focus on people, believing that they can and do repent. We also need to focus on what we can do now, as Christians, to help them along."

"We need to help our readers understand why they need to repent and to desire reconciliation with God."



GREG ALBRECHT

## CIS speeds global communications to boost effectiveness

From June 18 a.m. lecture

Computer Information Systems (CIS) gave a number of presentations, incorporating Mr. Tkach's directive to develop a worldwide information system as an important tool in furthering the Work's mission.

"It's more than just worldwide computerization," said Jim Peoples, CIS director. "We are disseminating information, and we just happen to be using computers to do it."

CIS, in cooperation with Church Administration U.S., provides training for international areas, including hands-on classroom training, manuals, handbooks, user guides, a computer tips newsletter, videos and audio cassettes.

The role of CIS has been transformed by new technology such as personal computers, local area networks that link computers and the new AS/400 computer system, said Mr. Peoples.

One example he gave was of speeded up international electronic communications.

In the past, regional offices have sent printed copies of their general ledger reports to Pasadena.

"Working with Media Operations and Finance & Planning, we are automating this process so general ledger [records of financial transactions] can be transmitted electronically from the regional offices to headquarters," said Mr. Peoples.

"Our real future is people. All the best technology in

the world is nothing if we don't have cooperation and teamwork," he continued.

"With God's help, by working together on this worldwide information system, we can achieve great things in fulfilling the Church's mission."



JIM PEOPLES

## Review team speaks same thing

From June 17 p.m. lecture

In an address titled *Speaking the Same Thing*, evangelist J. Michael Fezell, executive assistant to Mr. Tkach, explained the role of the Manuscript Review Team (MRT) in writing and editing according to doctrinal clarifications and changes made in the past few years.

The MRT is composed of Mr. Fezell; Joseph Tkach Jr. and Victor Kubik from Church Administration U.S.; Larry Salyer and Randal Dick from Church Administration International; and Greg Albrecht, Ronald Kelly and Norman Shoaf from Editorial Services.

Under Mr. Tkach's guidance, they meet twice weekly to review new and

existing literature.

Mr. Fezell used slides to show the group, which included most of the Church's writers and editors, how issues, research and Scriptures need to be addressed responsibly, sensitively and accurately.



J. MICHAEL FEZELL

## Revisions to clarify doctrines

From June 18 a.m. lecture

Norman Shoaf, editor of nonserial literature (booklets, brochures, the correspondence courses, the "Pastor General's Report," *Reviews You Can Use* and *World News & Trends*), gave the background on booklets and brochure development.

He gave regional directors the master plan—a schedule of booklets and brochures in various stages of production, with priority codes indicating projected completion dates.

Booklets fall into two main categories: explaining Church doctrines and addressing social problems.

"Our goal is one primary subject per piece of litera-

ture," Mr. Shoaf explained.

Booklets are also edited to clarify Church doctrine, update language and reflect current knowledge.



NORMAN SHOAF



# IRON SHARPENS IRON

## Help! cries the single parent dealing with life's challenges

The trials, triumphs and defeats of a single parent are hard to understand unless one has been there. There's no school course to prepare a person for the road that lies ahead.

*This article was submitted by a Church member.*

My sons and I were suddenly alone. The next challenge was to get a job to support us. My parents were helpful through the first 2 1/2 years. My husband sent no support nor did he contact the boys very often before he died in June 1989.

I learned to use every government program for which I could qualify. I didn't like it that way, but it was the only way to survive.

My parents and friends were encouraging and supportive, but it always seemed that when problems and crises arose, no one was there to lean on. That's one of the hardest parts of being a single parent.

Unless you live next door to or with a relative, you endure alone against the trials. You can't weaken because the children need to draw their strength from you. Another lesson to be learned—to be the rock. The children lean on you for strength, you lean on God and then you lean on the cold wall and cry out of frustration when no one is around.

I didn't think about the amount of energy it would take to be two people. I was the man of the house for nine or 10 hours each day. Then when I came home from

work, I was the woman of the house.

Another thing I didn't realize was how soon the two darling little 9- and 10-year-old boys were going to become teenagers. This was a challenge I hadn't bargained for. Everything cost more, the disputes became bigger, they discovered girls and they liked cars!

Little did I know that the cars would be the biggest headache I would have. Accidents, wrecked cars, driving violations, court appearances and sibling rivalry have given me every gray hair I have.

I also hadn't thought about severe illness. One son had spinal meningitis when he was 16 years old. This was perhaps the scariest of all the things that have happened. But, by the grace of God, my son came out of it without any aftereffects. I remember one traumatic night especially well. What I wouldn't have given for a strong arm around me and some reassurance.

I never realized the tremendous responsibility of trying to shape two lives as a single parent. As hard as I tried, I couldn't be both mother and father to my sons. We were always together after work, but there were things that my boys really needed to learn from a man. Parts of this story could be told by any man who is a single parent.

It is at this point I would like to express the desperate need of a single parent to have help from brethren. Children need the posi-

tive influence of both males and females.

It would be so much appreciated if men would take time to talk to the boys without fathers and take them fishing, hunting, to ball games, work on a car or anything that a mother is not comfortable doing.

Likewise, girls need someone to teach them how to mend, bake, cook, be a good housekeeper or do "girl" things with women. Many don't understand the emptiness in a child's life when there is one parent absent. God designed the family with two parents for a reason. The single parent desperately needs help in this area.

Both of my sons have been in trouble with the law and have spent short periods of time in jail. My oldest son said he wondered if it would have made a difference if he had been able to have a man he could have talked to. Maybe he wouldn't have gotten in as much trouble as he did. Who knows?

While he must bear the responsibility of the consequences of his actions, he was expressing a void in his life that could have helped guide him.

I have weathered 10 years of being a single parent. I have been through the trials, triumphs and defeats that every two-parent family goes through. I have become stronger, more patient and I hope much wiser from those experiences.

That is the reason I have chosen to share this. The single parent can do anything that the two-par-

### Ways you can help the single parent

There are several ways members and their families can help the single parents.

**1** Most friends of single parents are couples who have children. Please don't forget single parents just because they are without a mate.

I remember one Feast of Tabernacles when I was standing with two couples, one on each side of me, who started planning where they were going to go out to dinner. Neither of them asked if I would like to join them.

My sons were then spending time with other teens, so I had free time away from them. Some families are good about including single parents and their children, but many are not.

**2** Most single mothers have their children all the time. Some have financial struggles, loneliness and a feeling of uselessness. An afternoon away from the children can be a breath of fresh air. Arrange to baby-sit for a few hours. This can be quite a lift to a mother.

**3** It means so much to have a friend who can come to the home to sit with other children if you need to run one of them to the hospital at 2:30 a.m. Make yourself available.

**4** Single parents try to fulfill two roles. But let's face it, they can't be good at everything. Not all women know how to fix a leaky faucet, and not all men know about proper diet. They may need a little help.

ent family can do, but they desperately need support from the brethren.

Comments like, "I'll bet it's tough raising kids alone" or "I can't imagine what it's like raising kids alone" are not helpful. Filling in for the absent parent is help. Including them in activities is help (see box).

Support them as individuals and recognize that their situation as a single parent brought many things that were not planned for. In many cases, it is extremely difficult to find the energy and the resources

to meet all the challenges. Pray for them.

It's double work for the parent, but divorce, death or separation from the father or mother is hardest on the children. "We are one family" should be more than a slogan. Please help the single parent and the children. They are a family—a family without one parent.

*Editor's note: If you have comments about this article or would like to see similar subjects covered in The Worldwide News, please write to us at 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129.*

## Gisborne: New light dawns in New Zealand's easternmost city

**By Neville Fraser**  
GISBORNE, New Zealand—Twenty-four brethren met May 16 for inaugural Sabbath services here. For years Gisborne has been an outlying Bible study cared for by Neville Fraser, Tauranga, Hamilton and Rotorua, New Zealand,

pastor, who would travel to Gisborne one Sunday a month.

The Gisborne congregation will now be served by Colin Kelly, who already pastors the Wellington and Nelson, New Zealand, churches and will fly to Gisborne once a month to con-

duct both a Bible study and Sabbath service.

*Neville Fraser pastors the Tauranga, Hamilton and Rotorua, New Zealand, congregations.*



**FIRST SABBATH SERVICE**—Brethren gather May 16 for the inaugural Sabbath service in Gisborne on the east coast of New Zealand. On the front row are Beverly and Colin Kelly, and Neville and Carol Fraser.

## Nation

(Continued from page 2)

warned that "every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined" (Matthew 12:25).

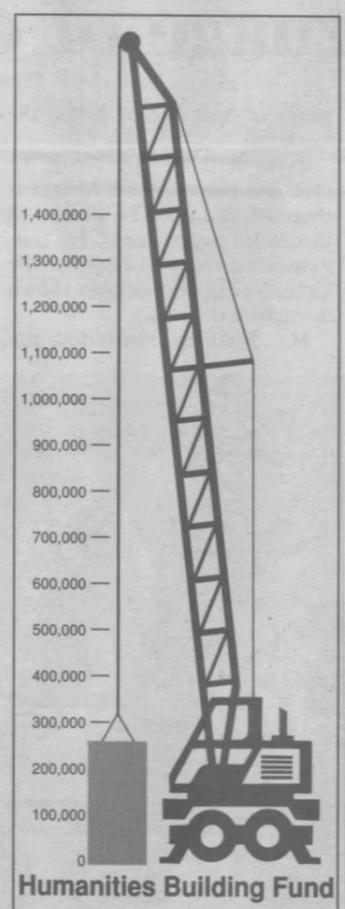
In viewing this disturbing "global fever" of ethnic unrest, as Mr. Schlesinger phrases it, we can better appreciate the admonitions of Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach to root out any remaining ungodly racial attitudes: "Rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander" (1 Peter 2:1) where it may apply in this regard.

The same chapter also tells us that from around the world God is assembling "a chosen people ... a holy nation, a people belonging to God" (verse 9).

Though now still separated by language, God's people everywhere must "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3). We are not divided, spiritually, being of "one body and one spirit" (verse 4).

The head of the Church, Jesus Christ, is joining and knitting together a whole and complete body, which grows continually, through mutual service, in love (verses 15-16).

The official motto of the United States, *E Pluribus Unum* (Out of Many, One) is under great strain in America. In God's Church it should still be strong and vibrant.



**FUND INCREASING**—As of June 19 individuals and church areas have donated \$255,681.15 for the construction of the Harold L. Jackson Hall of Humanities. [Artwork by Ken Tunell]

## PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

Since it is up to God to do the calling, we have tended to shy away from announcing that we have local congregations and from inviting interested listeners and readers to attend. We preferred to wait for God to draw listeners or readers to Christ as he wills.

But there is an aspect of how God works that we were not taking into account.

It is true, of course, that it is God who calls. But it is also true that God expects us, his people, to let him use us in doing his Work. Paul illustrated how God sends people, that is, he works through human beings to bring the gospel to others.

He wrote: "For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'" (Romans 10:12-15).

Paul explains that those who believe and call on God, those who are saved, are those who have been preached to. And it is God who sends those who preach.

The one who brings good news, then, brings that good news as a messenger sent by God, as God's agent or instrument, to do God's Work.

How does God bring people to Christ? Certainly, the spiritual

aspect of regeneration or conversion, God alone performs.

But, as Paul explained, the work of bringing the good news is something God does *through those he sends*, those to whom Jesus gave the commission—the Church!

The Church must do as Jesus said, "Make disciples of all nations," realizing, as they do their part, that they are merely tools in God's own work of bringing many sons to glory.

However, the fact that God is the one who is *actually* doing the work in no way means we are to go only part way with the gospel. We must not be satisfied with merely sounding the warning bell.

We must also actively participate in bringing the *good news* to those we warn—and bringing it in such a way as to *make disciples* of them.

The same God who uses us to warn people of his judgment also uses us to encourage, inspire and stimulate those people to repent and accept Jesus

Christ as their Savior. Then he uses us to nurture and strengthen one another in love as members of the Body.

### Inviting guests to services

For the same reason, you should also feel free, under the right circumstances, to invite interested relatives or interested friends to attend services with you as guests.

For instance, I'm sure we have all had the experience of having relatives stay with us over the Sabbath. We would give them the *TV Guide* or suggest that they tour nearby sites while we were at services.

In fact, they may have been familiar with *The World Tomorrow* and *The Plain Truth* and would have appreciated an invitation to attend Sabbath services as guests.

You should feel free to invite a truly interested friend or relative to attend with you as your guest.

You should, however, exercise wisdom and discretion as to

Our message is not to simply warn people about God's judgment and then "leave it in God's hands." Our message is to be designed to lead people to Jesus Christ—to make disciples of them and to teach them his way.

the timing, as not all are best served by attending without some basic understanding about the Church.

Of course you should contact your pastor in advance, so he can make your guest feel welcome.

In addition, you need to understand that as a guest, the friend or relative should contact the pastor directly if he or she wishes to begin regular attendance.

As I have said before, a

Christian should never be pushy or obnoxious, but neither should we shrink back from giving a gentle and respectful answer when asked about our faith or conduct in Christ.

The same is true of inviting a guest to attend a Sabbath ser-

vice. We should never try to "recruit" or pressure someone into attending just because we wish they would.

On the other hand, neither should we feel afraid or reluctant to invite a person who expresses a positive interest.

Some may feel that such an approach makes it "too easy" for a person to come to services. "Surely people should have to put forth more effort and study to prove things before attending," some may say.

But let's understand that this is the goal Jesus gave the Church—"make disciples." He did not say, "Warn and condemn, then do all you can to obscure the fact that you are my Church while you wait for me to bring them to you."

Shortly before his ascension, Jesus filled the disciples' net with fish, but Peter and the other disciples had to *obey Jesus'* instructions to cast in the net and draw it out (John 21:4-6).

Likewise, we must actively participate in the Work God does through us in calling people to Jesus.

When God begins to call people, is it wrong for them to attend services *while* they are studying his written Word and growing in understanding?

"But wouldn't such a person be offended or put off by what is said at services?" someone might ask.

That should not be the case unless one of two things is true: 1) The person is not being called (which can even be true of people who have studied for years), or 2) Something inappropriate is said or done at services, which should not be the case.

"But wouldn't it water down our congregation if people who are so new begin attending with us?" another might ask. There is always the chance that a person who has problems, perhaps even serious problems, may begin attending services.

On the other hand, many bap-

timized members also have problems. Some of them have serious problems.

Yet, the fact that some of the people who attend services may have problems or may never have come to repentance should not stop us from offering the personal motivation toward salvation that Church attendance and Christian fellowship provides.

Again, one of the purposes of the Church is to *make disciples*.

### What is 'making disciples'?

The commission Jesus gave his Church—to make disciples, to baptize and to teach—involves several elements. It involves warning people plainly about the coming judgment.

It involves teaching them that their sins can be forgiven by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ and that they can receive the Holy Spirit.

It involves teaching them that to receive these blessings they need to believe and repent and be baptized (Acts 2:38). And it involves *nurturing and serving them*, both before and after conversion.

All these elements of our commission work together for the increasing and strengthening of the entire Body. They are not performed by the publications, the telecast and the ordained ministry alone.

The work done through Church headquarters is essential, but to be *complete*, it must be supported and confirmed by the reality of "Christ in you, the hope of glory"—the true and abiding presence of Jesus Christ in each member of his Body (Colossians 1:27).

As we warn people of the sure fact of God's judgment on sin, we must just as surely show them, in *word and deed*, by *proclamation and example*, the only way to forgiveness of sins and entrance into the kingdom of God.

Let's move forward in God's service with the zeal and courage of the Holy Spirit as Jesus Christ leads the way. Pray always for God to lead his people, and for all of us to respond to him in faith and diligence.

P.S. I am happy to announce that late Friday afternoon, June 19, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools granted Ambassador College candidacy status for accreditation.

For practical purposes, Ambassador College and its students will have the benefits of accreditation as they interact with potential employers, graduate schools and governments. Let's rejoice with them in this good news.

## Ministerial Ordinations

Robert Ehlen	a deacon in the St. Louis, Mo., South church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> May 23.
Robert Gentry	a deacon in the Spokane, Wash., church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> June 7.
Stanley Haynes	a deacon in the St. Cloud, Minn., church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> June 7.
Lee Joyce	a deacon in the Santa Barbara, Calif., church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> June 7.
Kalengule Kaoma	Big Sandy P.M. assistant pastor, was ordained a <b>local elder</b> May 31.
Fred Lopez	Pasadena Norte associate pastor, was ordained a <b>preaching elder</b> June 7.
Donald Peiris	a deacon in the Colombo, Sri Lanka, church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> May 9.
Daniel Summers	a deacon in the Raleigh, N.C., church, was ordained a <b>local church elder</b> June 7.

## Bilingual club lets spokesmen speak language of choice

MONTREAL, Que.—The Montreal bilingual graduate Spokesman Club concluded its inaugural season May 31 with a ladies brunch meeting.

The club is made up of members from the three French-speaking and one English-speaking churches in Montreal.

Members are free to use the lan-

guage of their choice during the meetings.

Colin Wilkins, director of the club and pastor of the Montreal churches, described the club as "a successful experiment." He congratulated the members for the high level of cooperation shown throughout the year.

Mr. Wilkins reminded the

members about their destiny to teach all nations, which means being able to relate to people of different nationalities and cultures.

"While division, misunderstanding and resentment might exist in some places in the world around us, there is to be no division in the Church," he said.



INAUGURAL YEAR—French- and English-speaking Spokesman Club members in Montreal, Que., conclude their inaugural season May 31. Club director Colin Wilkins is seated second from right.



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

# UPDATE

### 750 pounds of food collected by YOU

FORT COLLINS, Colo.—A food drive coordinated by the YOU group here generated more than 750 pounds of nonperishable food as part of the group's annual community service project.

The food, donated to the Larimer County Food Distribution Center, will be given to needy people in the community as well as those who have lost homes in fires, floods and tornados.

Most of the food donated to the center comes in the late fall and early winter months, so spring donations are especially appreciated, a center spokesperson said.

YOU members asked Fort Collins brethren to each bring one or more food items to Sabbath services May 2 and 9. The food was collected at the door and boxed.

"I appreciate the attitude of service and help that was demonstrated," said **Hugh Wilson**, Fort Collins pastor.

"The teens will be blessed by their serving and giving as well as the labor of love for and toward others that need a helping hand."

Besides serving as a positive example of helping the community, the project also has the potential to help the Fort Collins church.

Groups that contribute food can obtain assistance from the center if future needs arise.

### Coal mine disaster 'emotional time for the community'; Canadian Office donates \$3,000

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The Canadian Office donated \$3,000 May 19 to the Westray Mine Disaster Fund on behalf of the Canadian churches.

Nova Scotia's Westray coal mine was rocked by a violent gas explosion at 5:18 a.m., May 9, rattling houses and leaving 26 men trapped 350 meters below the surface.

Rescue attempts to save any survivors were hampered by blocked tunnels, the possibility of tunnels collapsing and further danger of explosion.

Five days later, rescue attempts were called off, after 16 bodies were recovered and the remaining 10 miners presumed dead.

"It was an emotional time for the community because people kept hoping till the very end, but it also brought an intense outpouring of feeling and help from around the world," said **Gary Moore**, Halifax and Digby, N.S., pastor.

"This is a tragedy which will long affect all those involved," said evangelist **Frank Brown**, Canadian regional director.

"The donation is an opportunity to show our support and concern for the people in that community as they struggle through rebuild-

ing their lives," he said.

### Louisianan named 'Teacher of the Year'

MONROE, La.—The Jackson Parish School System named **Alice Clements** "Teacher of the Year." Mrs. Clements teaches at Jasper Henderson Elementary School in Chatham, La., and is a member who attends the Monroe church.

### Member honored for community service at concert park

Los Angeles councilwoman **Joy Picus** awarded a certificate of appreciation to **Frank Whitford**, a member who attends the Pasadena West A.M. congregation, May 31 in recognition of his community service.

For the past three years Mr. Whitford has been stage manager of Warner Center Concerts in the Park, volunteering at least 10 hours every Sunday during the summer months.

### Church youth named president of Future Homemakers in District of Columbia

WASHINGTON, D.C.—**Abigail Blanchfield**, 13, was installed Feb. 10 as the District of Columbia president of Future Homemakers of America in a ceremony at the Washington Convention Center. In addition, she was presented the Outstanding Prevocational Student award.

Future Homemakers of America is an organization promoting the development of young people, dealing with such issues as peer pressure and teen pregnancy.



**DREAM FLOWERS**—Petunias depicting the U.S. flag perk up the northwest corner of Church headquarters. The display, planted by the Landscape Department, fulfills Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's long-term dream of using flowers to display the flag. Facilities Services produced the design. [Photo by Hal Finch]

Abigail is a student at Thomas Jefferson Jr. High School where she has a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. She is the daughter of **Benton and Gloria Blanchfield**.

### Baltimore singles host to Harbor Attraction '92 on Labor Day

BALTIMORE, Md.—Singles from the Baltimore area will be hosts to "Harbor Attraction '92" during Labor Day weekend Sept. 4 to 7.

Activities will be a singles seminar, Sabbath luncheon, semiformal dinner dance at Martin's West and a pizza and dance party cruise. Cost is \$50 a person.

Housing is available at the Holiday Inn, Timonium Plaza, north of Baltimore.

For more information call

**Lloyd Garrett** at 1-410-720-0103 or write to him at 5675 Vantage Point Rd., Columbia, Md., 21044.

### Chattanooga church to mark 25th anniversary at Choo Choo hotel

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—The congregation here will commemorate its 25th anniversary July 25.

Services will begin at 2 p.m. at the Imperial Theater in the Holiday Inn Chattanooga Choo Choo, located at 1400 Market Street.

The sermon will be given by a guest speaker from Pasadena. Dancing and entertainment begins at 9 p.m. at Shuffler Hall on Highway 41 in Ringgold, Ga.

Members and their families who have attended the Chattanooga church are invited to attend.

anopolis and Brasilia.

### Woman baptized in Mediterranean waters north of Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Israel—Although Israel is famous for being the birthplace of three of the world's major religions, just six members of the Worldwide Church of God live in the country.

Because their numbers are few, no resident pastor lives in Israel. So when **Pedro Rufian**, pastor of the Madrid, Spain, church, visited Israel May 20 to 27, brethren there were eager to meet with him.

Mr. Rufian normally visits Israel twice a year to meet with them. The rest of the time they get by with phone calls, letters and taped sermons.

May 22, just before the Sabbath and after nearly two days of counseling, Mr. Rufian baptized the newest member in Israel, **Militza Cifuentes**, in the Mediterranean waters a few kilometers north of Tel Aviv.

"This was the highlight of my trip," Mr. Rufian said. "She came from Chile a year ago, where she was born, to work in Israel since she has some Jewish relatives living here."

Four out of the six members met on the Sabbath, May 23, in the home of **Jochanan Silbiger**, an Austrian member working at the Austrian Embassy in Tel Aviv. Mr. Silbiger and Miss Cifuentes are planning to be married this summer.

Also present for Sabbath services were **Kenneth Gulliver**, a member from the United States working at the American Embassy in Tel Aviv; and **Irene Francis**, a member from England serving on a work program at Jerusalem's Botanical Gardens.

Although the group was small, Mr. Rufian said because three

different languages were spoken (English, Hebrew and Spanish), many translations were needed.

"We enjoyed the Sabbath talking about our common hope in Jesus Christ," Mr. Rufian said. "I informed them about the European ministerial conference that took place a few days earlier in Pertisau, Austria. We talked about their plans and challenges of living in Israel."

The brethren in Israel have fewer concerns living in the country than if they were Israeli citizens. All Israeli citizens, men and women alike, are required to put in three years of mandatory military service.

Men must go to their military positions at least once a month until they are 50 years old. Only ultraorthodox religious Jews are exempt from military duty.

May 24 Mr. Rufian flew to Elat, a tourist resort town on the Gulf of Aqaba, home to the only complete church family in Israel: **David and Margarita Ikar** and their five children. Hagit, their oldest daughter, is planning to attend Ambassador College.

Mr. Rufian said: "They are a very united, loving and hospitable family. Each day I was invited to go to their home to have lunch."

"We spent the evenings talking about the coming Feast of Tabernacles and their projects. The entire family is working and saving to be able to travel together to Spain for the Feast this fall."

The entire family can afford to attend the Feast once every two years. During the other years only two members of the family attend the Feast.

Israeli authorities require each person traveling out of the country to pay a \$100 nonrefundable tax, which for the Ikar would mean \$700.

The Ikar came from Chile several years ago and got to know *La Pura Verdad* (the Spanish edition of *The Plain Truth*)

through Mr. Ikar's grandmother, a member who moved from Chile to Israel in 1974 and died last year in Israel. Mr. Ikar's parents, brothers and sister are members living in Canada.

The *World Tomorrow* program can be seen by satellite in most of Israel and outlying territories. More than 10 percent of Israeli households have satellite dishes or have access to cable programming.

The television guides classify *The World Tomorrow* as a religious program, but most people in Israel are generally not interested in religion.



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## FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

"That He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

### Seven members added to Church in Brazil in April

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil—On a trip to Brazil April 13 to 21, **Alberto Sousa**, Buenos Aires, Argentina, pastor, baptized seven new members, bringing the total Brazilian membership to 27.

Six of the newly baptized members range in age from 18 to 22.

"This is significant and encouraging to see youngsters with this type of dedication and faith in God's ways," Mr. Sousa said.

The seventh newly baptized member is from Sao Paulo, Brazil's most industrial city, and the second largest city in Latin America (only Mexico City is more populous).

On the Passover and first Day of Unleavened Bread, 16 members met at Rio de Janeiro's Sheraton Hotel.

"There was much to rejoice and celebrate about with the addition of the new members and the opportunity to fellowship with one another," Mr. Sousa said. "The Brazilian members are very happy to see the growth God is giving Brazil at this time."

**Graham Davies**, an employee of the Editorial Department in

Pasadena, translates the Church's booklets, articles and personal correspondence letters into Portuguese for the Brazilian brethren.

Mr. Sousa visits Brazil about twice a year. On most Sabbaths



brethren listen to sermons on cassette tapes sent from Argentina.

Nine members gather each Sabbath in a rented room in downtown Rio de Janeiro, and another seven meet in the cities of Janauba and Goiania.

Four others meet in Sao Paulo, and the rest are scattered throughout the cities of Saldanha Marinha, Flori-