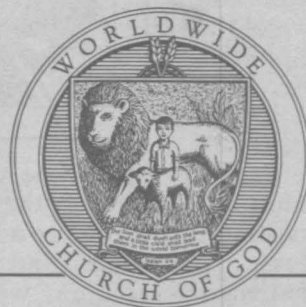


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The Worldwide News



VOL. XXI, NO. 20
NOVEMBER 16, 1993

Members give frontline help during LA firestorms

By Jeff Zhorne

Shirley Kale watched soberly as her husband, Jim, wielded a pitchfork through the rubble of what once had been their comfortable home on Meguiar Street in the foothills of Altadena, above Pasadena.

On the morning of Oct. 27 fire had raced down nearby Eaton Canyon, eventually destroying 115 homes in Altadena and neighboring Sierra Madre, and forcing the evacuation of more than 2,000 residents.

By 9 a.m. nothing was left standing but the Kales' fireplace chimney and portions of inner walls. Except for vital papers and clothing, these members in Pasadena lost everything—heirloom china, cherished photo albums and other valuables.

Later a work party of about 30 Church members helped the Kales probe the ashes for small treasures. They found singed family photos, Mr. Kale's birth certificate and his mother's wedding ring.

Mrs. Kale told the *Los Angeles Times*: "I don't know what we would have done without the Church. Having them here, the way they encourage us, it's just a big emotional lift." Jim Roberts, a member, was quoted saying, "When somebody's having trouble, you come to their aid."

Mr. Kale never thought the fire would reach his house. "I climbed on

the roof to get a better view of where the fire was. Then I felt the wind change direction, and smoke started to blow down off the mountain."

Because of her allergies and the smoke, Mrs. Kale went to work. Fortunately, she decided to stick tax records, passports and her sons' birth certificates in the back of her car. Mr. Kale, who works in the Church's computer department, remained to survey the fire's progress.

By 8 a.m. chaparral brush on his neighbor's property had caught fire. "I still didn't realize how fast the fire would move." About 10 minutes later, two neighbors' houses and a row of cypress trees were ablaze.

Mr. Kale quickly gathered up clothes and a couple of files, and drove to a safer location. An hour later he returned to discover his home in ruins.

At work, Mrs. Kale first saw her burned house on television. "You have this empty feeling. But, then, even if everything's gone, we're safe and the boys, Dave and Dan, are safe, and our

friends are safe, and we didn't hear about anyone who was injured. So we felt relieved that way.

"I wish I'd gotten out the kids' trophies and awards and photos that were packed away. I have been thinking about what I considered really precious and what I am grieving over, and can't think of anything else but those things."

Neither of the Kales thought the house was going to burn. "Even when we saw the flames nearby, we didn't think it would burn," said Mrs. Kale. "We prayed for protection. After all, we hear about how the wind suddenly veers and spares Church people's homes. We believed it would happen to us that way.

"I fully expected to go back there and have the house be fine. But I was shocked. I don't feel like God has let us down, but I feel like God has a different plan for us. I don't know what it is, at this point. Friends really make us feel blessed. People are very concerned about our well-being."

She added: "In one sense, there's some relief to all this. After you've lost everything, you realize you can live through it. Plus, we'll be able to

See FIRE, page 3



FAITH THROUGH FIRE—After the brushfire destroyed their Altadena home Oct. 27, Jim and Shirley Kale were interviewed by Duane Abler and a Church television crew. [Video photo by Gary Werings and Glenn Mitchell]



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

SACS visit positive; members, families help care for evacuees in LA fires

I have some good news. A committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) visited the Big Sandy campus Nov. 1 through 4. The team comprised nine representatives from member colleges and universities. Their findings will be summarized in a report to the SACS Commission on Colleges (COC) and will be the basis for a decision on AC's accreditation status next June.

In comments to college personnel Nov. 4, members of the committee congratulated AC on the progress achieved. They also read from their report some recommendations and suggestions for improvement, which the college will respond to by May 1994.

Dr. Jean Walker, associate executive director of the COC, encouraged faculty and staff to "keep the momentum going—don't rest on your laurels." Commenting on their report, Dean William McKee, who was also on the SACS team that visited AC in 1991, said: "Today ought to be a great day of rejoicing on this campus.... We hope that our contribution to Ambassador College will help it to be the place you want it to be and to be the place where young people in the future as well as in the present ... will come to become better men and women."

On another subject, many of you have expressed interest and excitement about the new Bible study course, *Exploring the Word of God*. I See Personal, page 3

YOU turns youths toward Church

By Paul Monteith

"Our children are the most fertile source of new members that we have. They are not peripheral but an integral part of the Church," said Bill Jacobs, YOU national coordinator.

"God can work in their lives as readily as he works in the lives of adults."

Mr. Jacobs was speaking at the regional YOU coordinators conference in Pasadena, Oct. 27 to 29.

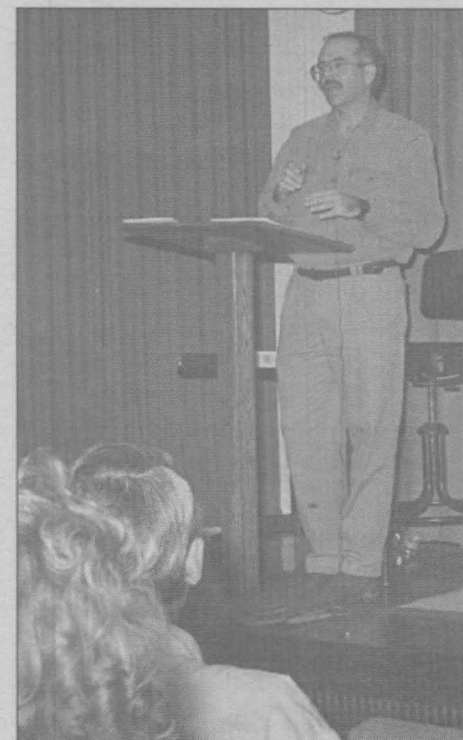
He told a story about a Church teenager who is facing a serious trial. Initially the teenager prayed that the trial would end but over time learned to pray for the strength to suffer the trial.

"That shows a remarkable degree of spiritual awareness on the part of our young people, an awareness that we adults don't often give them credit for. Do we understand that God can work with our children?"

With the aid of regional YOU coordinators, Mr. Jacobs wants to help ministers and members understand that YOU is more than a program of activities. The program should give young people an experience that nourishes their spiritual awareness and helps them see that God's way works, and that Church is where they should want to be.

"When our teens start comparing the things they see in the world with the things they see in the Church, what we want is for their YOU experience to tip the scale in God's and

See YOU, page 5



SPIRITUAL GOALS—"Teens are not spiritual inferiors," Bill Jacobs, YOU national coordinator, told regional coordinators. [Photo by Charles Feldbush]

The children of Abraham embark on a bold journey

From the moment Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin hesitatingly grasped the outstretched hand of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, in front of President Bill Clinton and 3,000 guests on the south lawn of the White House, Middle East politics would never be the same again.

Moments before on that bright Monday morning of Sept. 13, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his PLO counterpart, Mahmoud Abbas, had signed a Declaration of Principles on Palestinian self-rule.

The agreement permits Palestinians to run their own affairs as Israeli troops pull back from the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Palestinian control will gradually extend throughout the territories occupied by Israel since the June 1967 war, leading to some form of statehood.

The ceremony in Washington was filled with what President Clinton termed the "solemnity and spirituality of the moment." The President concluded his own remarks by saying: "The children of Abraham, the descendants of Isaac and Ishmael, have embarked together on a bold journey. Together, today, with all our hearts and all our souls, we bid them Shalom, Salaam, Peace."

According to *New York Times* writer Maureen Dowd, the President awoke at 3 a.m. the morning of the ceremony. Concerned about the



speech he would give, Mr. Clinton went to the White House study and picked up a Bible.

He read parts of the book of Joshua, wanting, she wrote, "to review the part about the trumpets in Jericho that toppled walls and making sure he put a reference in his speech contrasting the victory of war and the victory of peace."

The events of Sept. 13 generated a momentum of Middle East happenings. The following day, for example, Israel and Jordan signed an accord outlining issues to be deliberated in coming months.

With the euphoria of mid-September now over, the hard part begins, as the PLO starts to run its own affairs. Moreover, contentious issues, such as the ultimate status of about 100,000 Israelis who live in the West Bank, have been left for the future.

The most critical issue is the future of Jerusalem, not to be addressed until three years into the five-year

Palestinian autonomy period. Israelis consider the entire city, which was divided between Israel and Jordan from 1948 until 1967, to be their capital. Palestinians claim that Jerusalem, or at least former East Jerusalem, must be their capital, too.

The future of Jerusalem is more clouded than ever, given the results of Israel's municipal elections. On Nov. 2, 82-year-old Teddy Kollek, who had been Jerusalem's mayor for 28 years, failed to get reelected.

Mr. Kollek will be succeeded by Ehud Olmert. Like others in the opposition Likud Party, the mayor-elect is skeptical of the Labor Party-orchestrated Israeli-PLO accord. Mr. Olmert's election was secured through a deal with the ultra-Orthodox parties.

Mayor Kollek served his city with a passionate love. Restoring ramshackle old quarters with new housing, turning old battlegrounds into parks and museums, he was called

Jerusalem's greatest builder since Herod the Great.

More important than this, he was a bridge-builder between the city's Jewish and Arab communities. He fearlessly countered extremism wherever he found it.

Mr. Kollek admired and respected the activities of the Worldwide Church of God and the Ambassador Foundation in Jerusalem and the surrounding region. A good friend of Herbert W. Armstrong, he personally welcomed the late pastor general on his several trips to Jerusalem.

Ten years ago, my wife, Barbara, and I accompanied Mr. Armstrong on a trip to the Middle East. In Jerusalem we arrived near the end of another mayoral campaign.

On the morning after the election, those of us who had gathered in Mr. Armstrong's suite heard the doorbell ring. Opening the door, we saw a rather ruffled, unshaven Teddy Kollek, leaning on his walking stick.

The mayor had been up all night watching election returns. He had promised Mr. Armstrong he would personally deliver the good news of his reelection.

It will be hard to replace Mr. Kollek's remarkable skills at conciliation. The world will be watching both the words and actions of Jerusalem's new mayor and the progress of the Israeli-PLO accord.

The Worldwide News

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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.

Appreciates new direction

I'm glad we are beginning to have new understanding of God. He is showing us more about himself as time goes on. Our concepts of him are so limited because we think on a human plane. We have to change our concepts because we are human.

He doesn't have to change because he is already God. He knows himself. He created us—we did not create him—although in times past, many of us may have tried to put God on a level of our own and make him into the kind of God we wanted.

No man can create or recreate God. He always is. We must strive to reach his standards and not vice versa.

Grand Junction, Colorado

I am only 28 but I have attended Church since I was 2 and have been a baptized member for eight years. But growing up in the Church you find you don't understand everything all at once.

God will reveal things to my mind when I'm ready to understand it, not before. This more than anything else, which has helped me in the last two years or so, will help me when it comes to the deeper understandings that the Church has instituted.

I do not understand everything, but then again I'm not God. If I did understand everything, why would I need to change, grow in humility and develop a deeper understanding when it comes to God's Word?

I have not experienced the "first love" concept that many have experienced because there has been a gradual opening of my understanding to biblical teachings. Therefore when I come across something I don't understand, I know I will understand it when God opens my mind.

I feel that after people experience the "first love" concept they tend to feel that all experiences of deeper understanding should be so eye-opening. We shouldn't worry or doubt because we don't understand a new teaching.

Jennifer Schneggenburger
Fall River, Massachusetts

Feeling the joy of 'first love' again

Thank you for having the courage and humility to correct our image of God. I did indeed visualize two separate Gods—our Father and Jesus Christ.

I would read in the scripture that there is only one God, a fact that contradicted my belief. I am glad that God leads you to clarify these contradictions that most of us hold.

I can't claim to totally understand your latest personals, however, with God's help, I will grow to understand more as time goes on. I pray continually that the membership grows in patience. I study the Bible more fervently

than I have done in several years. I feel the joy of "first love" again. I hope all share my sentiments.

Providence, Rhode Island

Meeting needs of all

I would again like to thank Mr. Tkach and all those who support his plan of the new telecast format. Mr. Tkach has made a welcome effort to include our race as a part of God's Work.

Mr. Tkach's decision to add different cultures as well as women on the new telecast format is a tremendous effort to unite us and make us all one Church family.

Just as Mr. Tkach said: God is a God of diversity. Now we as a Church can better display our diverse talents to the world as we proclaim the gospel.

Michigan

"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.

Proving precious time

I really enjoy reading *The Plain Truth* since I started subscribing eight years ago back in the Philippines. It helped me a lot, especially in facing life's inevitable trials, and also in understanding the meaning and facts of life. I like your topics about teenagers, single persons and family life.

I want to thank and congratulate you for the eye-opening article "Our Endangered Children" in your August issue. I agree with you that parents must provide some of their precious time for their children, especially at one of the two most critical and important stages of life, the adolescent stage.

At this point they need more guidance and advice in order to live morally, and avoid lustful things or temptations. Parents should balance or manage their time wisely.

E.V.

Pointe-Claire, Quebec

Magazine shows way out

I am 18 years old and have fears about my and the whole human race's future. People kill one another in wars, but why? Do they know the reason for it?

I think they do not and I am really angry with them. Little children watch the news or just something on the television and what do

they see? Violence, guns, blood. I think it is desperate. For me, your magazine gives the true and only way out of this dreadful jam. I hope that more and more people will get and read it, and then maybe there will be a nicer and more peaceful world for our children.

R.M.

Budapest, Hungary

Prisoners have new hope

I had an excellent job as a creditor's clerk with a prominent company. I committed fraud, and the theft was discovered after I left the company. The humiliation and shame I felt was indescribable, and I lost the trust and friendship of most of my colleagues, family and friends. At first I felt totally numb and felt that God had deserted me and that all my prayers were in vain.

Then someone gave me *The Plain Truth*, dated February 1993, to read. I then came to the realization that God really loves us, whether we are sinners or not and that he's always with us although we do not realize it.

Z.A.

South Africa

I must admit I was a hard-headed person before reading your publications, but your material has softened this hard head and has transformed the old man, making him new. I was far away from the truth, but you brought me back to the road of life and peace. May you be blessed for that! I never fail to share *The Plain Truth* with some of my cell mates.

Lyon, France

Personal: Relief from members inspiring tribute

Continued from page 1

just wanted to update you on its progress. I have placed the publication of the course, in its current 80-page per lesson format, on hold while we explore new options for getting the same material into people's hands in a less expensive way. Our original plan, thirteen 80-page lessons covering the entire Bible, was conceived when budgets were not quite so tight as they are now.

This reevaluation should result in a more cost-effective method of providing the same material to as many as request it. Several options are on the table, and we expect to be moving forward again on the project in the near future.

Meanwhile, writing and editing continues. Much of the Old Testament material has been completed, and work is already in progress on the New Testament.

Members, youths provide relief

Below we are reprinting a letter concerning the volunteer service given by Pasadena-area members during the recent fires.

It will provide you with some behind-the-scenes information about what many people were facing because of the fires, and is an inspiring tribute to the presence of Jesus in his people.

Dear Mr. Tkach:

This past Wednesday, Oct. 27, what has come to be known as the Altadena Fire began to consume thousands of acres and over 100 residences.

In the path of this fire was the Park Marino Convalescent Center, which had 52 elderly, nonambulatory patients as residents. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department made

the decision to move the patients to safe facilities, so the Red Cross was notified to facilitate the move and provide the emergency location.

Eliot Middle School, at Lake Avenue and Calavaras Street, was a county-designated emergency facility and was closest to Park Marino, so the decision was made to evacuate the patients to Eliot. Unfortunately, the local Red Cross chapter's personnel was already being stretched to the limit by needs at other emergency locations, and there was only one staff member available to go to Eliot.

The press (KFWB-AM, KNX-AM, KHJ-TV and others) was somehow notified of Eliot's designation as an emergency facility and broadcast this over the air. This media announcement caused a flood of telephone calls to the school offices, overwhelming the one volunteer trying to receive 52 patients in a school auditorium and the school office staff, which already had its hands full getting the school's 1,000 students home due to a shortened school day.

After hearing the radio announcement and arriving on the scene, I met with the Red Cross staff member and the school principal and offered the assistance of our local Worldwide Church of God members. The immediate response was, "Yes, as soon as you can, as many as you can!" I put in a call to Mr. Brian Orchard [Pasadena West A.M. pastor], briefed him on the situation, got your approval and put the word out to our members via cc:Mail [electronic mail service used by the Work].

I called Joan Leeson, asked her to pull my son and daughter, Edward and Victoria, and Clara Rodriguez out of their schools to come help with the flood of telephone calls. I called my wife, Pat, who is a teacher at Loma Alta Elementary School just up Lake Avenue from Eliot, and found

that she was helping coordinate her own school's evacuation because it was directly in the fire's path!

In the meantime, we were getting quite a bit of smoke at the school, the students were becoming anxious, parents were calling in to get information on their children, and ambulances were arriving with elderly patients, all scared, some crying and wailing.

We were trying to locate beds, pillows, blankets and other equipment when I happened to look out the auditorium door. It was an unusual sight, but welcomed. Here was Bob Coté walking up the school driveway leading Imperial's senior students!

We took them inside and they began to help situate and comfort the patients as they arrived. Rita, the Red Cross staff member, was very relieved when I showed her all the student help we had. She began to coordinate their help.

A few minutes later, employees from various Church departments such as CIS, Mail Processing, Personal Correspondence and Television began to arrive.

Before I knew it, we had over 50 Church volunteers talking to and comforting the elderly patients, serving beverages and food, locating and moving equipment, providing student and grounds security, assisting county health officials and medical personnel, loading and unloading ambulances, transporting donated food to the site, assisting members of the media on-site, manning telephones, assisting school staff members with their responsibilities, gathering and organizing information and making calls.

As the day progressed, they all helped relocate the patients to other medical facilities. Our members helped prepare the school gym as the official Red Cross Emergency Center

for those whose homes were burned out or who were evacuated by the Sheriff's Department.

We assisted the school with staff support in releasing students to go home early and manning telephones and communications.

Throughout the day, Church members kept arriving. Tim Greenwood and his wife, Marsha, who assisted in a number of areas, kept us going by providing lunches for the volunteers until Red Cross foodstuffs arrived. Dan Reedy provided transportation for some of the donated food from other organizations.

Nancy Joseph and Jacki Cain helped coordinate medical services. Terry Burnett and Henry Ras provided security. Paul and Jane Coleman, whose own home was threatened by the fires, assisted with telephone calls. I saw Jim Peoples and others lifting patients on cots. Richard Ames talked with the elderly patients and encouraged all the volunteers.

Jason Nicholas, Steven Orchard, Jennifer Harris and Juanita Bonilla were some of the students working with the patients. Barbara Garms, Caroline Hagelie and Joan Leeson worked behind the scenes helping me coordinate communications and making calls to patients' relatives. Arryn Groom, Shirley Nesmith and Robert West assisted the Eliot school staff.

By 7 p.m., other Red Cross volunteers had arrived and most of our members were able to leave. Several of our members continued to man the telephones until 12:45 the next morning. But, by the end of a very hectic day, we had more of our members there than we could fully use.

Overwhelming response

The response of our people was overwhelming. They had brought comfort and care to 52 elderly

See Personal, page 5

Fire: Members lose possessions, but grateful for lives and assistance

Continued from page 1

rebuild, thanks to fire insurance."

Mr. Kale concluded: "My advice for others going through tough times is to continue to seek God always."

"Almost everything we owned was destroyed in a few hours," said Dave Kale. "But physical treasure is only temporary." Dan Kale said, "We're just thankful my parents are OK."

Others affected

Richard Dunlap, a member who works in the Church's Postal Center, lost his belongings and the guest house he rented, though later he found his dive watch, compass and passport.

Mr. Dunlap, who is staying in a Church-owned apartment until he finds other housing, commented: "The most valuable things I lost were photographs and books, including my Bible, and an extensive library on various topics."

The Oct. 28 *Star-News* ran a photo of Mr. Dunlap looking at what was left of his worldly goods. He told *The Worldwide News*: "It's just material, and Job said naked he came into the world and naked he went out. At least I had some clothes on my back."

Pete Arguien, a member who owns the last house up Fair Oaks Boulevard, evacuated with his family.

"It was quite an experience, the

winds kept changing and heading toward us, then backing off again," he said. "We cleared debris away from the house but didn't have to hose our roof down. You see a fire like that coming and say, What can I do with a garden hose?"

Sitting down to dinner Oct. 27, the Arguiens suddenly heard a loudspeaker blare: "Clear the area immediately! Take all vehicles that you can!" Vehicles not only block fire-fighting units, but can also explode.

"We got up and grabbed important papers and photos—things we knew we couldn't replace, but not bulky items. We took the things of value to us as a family," Mr. Arguien said.

"My wife and children went to my son's house. I was thinking, my house is next. It's hard to get mentally prepared and amazing to see nature unleashed. All that chaparral burns up. But the fire never touched our home. We are very thankful."

From his fourth-floor office at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, member Roger Gibbs didn't think the fire would attack his home in Altadena. He watched the fire sweep west across the foothills, then raced home to hose down his roof, wooden fence and trees. But his home was spared.

Other members and families in the Pasadena area evacuated their property as a precaution, stood evening

vigils or periodically checked how far the fires had swept down the foothills.

Member Jeff Henderson, who had assisted voluntary fire fighters in Atlanta, Georgia, helped the Pasadena police direct traffic and later helped dig firebreaks, roll out water hoses and knock down a garage wall to create a backfire.

"You have to be careful when you go into situations like that," he said. "Police are always looking for arsonists and you need previous experience in fighting fires."

Member Bruce Morrison offered



REMAINS OF THE DAY—Members and families sift through ashes for valuables at the burned home of Jim and Shirley Kale. [Photo by Hal Finch]

his West Altadena home so fire fighters could shower, use toilet facilities and eat food brought by neighbors.

"The firemen seemed to be really grateful," Mr. Morrison said, "but I said, I'm the one who should be thanking them. Even when I ran out of hot water, they kept lining up."

Total losses in Altadena, Laguna and other dry corners of the Los Angeles area climbed to at least 554 homes demolished or damaged and more than 137,000 acres burned. In Laguna one member was evacuated, but the fire did not reach the home, said Dennis Luker, Garden Grove pastor.

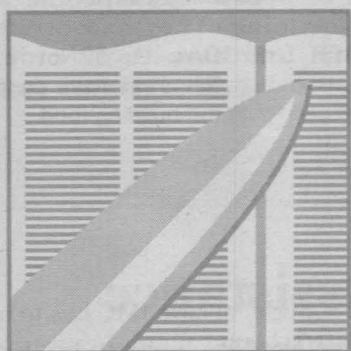
A later fire in Malibu killed three people, injured 150 others, destroyed more than 200 homes and blackened 35,000 acres. We have no reports of members affected.

A transient immigrant was accused of starting the Altadena fire when he had built a camp fire in the brush-covered hills because he was chilly. He got scared and fled when the flames began to spread.

The immigrant was arraigned on felony charges for recklessly starting a fire, but later the charges were reduced. A trial was set for Nov. 15.

Iron Sharpens Iron

Proverbs 27:17—As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.



It's easier to attract people with honey than vinegar

By George Hague

This past Feast of Tabernacles, my wife, Sandi, our three daughters and I went to Vail, Colorado. In my 18 years of attending Church, this was the first time that my mother, who is not a Church member, came to the Festival with us. I also have a sister, who is not a Church member and who lives near Vail. Since she was able to get away for the weekend, we invited her along too.

Sandi and I explained that we'd be attending services every day and we left the invitation open for them to come to church with us. They chose instead to stay at the condominium and babysit our 16-month-old twin daughters—an exciting adventure for them and a welcome relief for us.

The Festival was thoroughly enjoyable. My mother not only had a chance to see her children and grandchildren, she also saw a snapshot of our lives that she had never really seen before—namely how we observe the Holy Days and why they are so special to us.

Last winter at Christmastime, many members of my family had a reunion at my mother's house. Since my family is spread out over the country, a reunion is an infrequent occurrence. I made sure to telephone to say hello to everyone there.

Just as my mother and sister were not keeping the Feast of Tabernacles by visiting with us during the Festival, I was not keeping Christmas by telephoning my family on that day. Instead, we were showing mutual respect and love for each other.

Yet, this comfortable recognition of each other's beliefs was not always the case. We've had more than one argument about each other's days to observe. Sometimes it was a member of my family who started the argu-

ment. Frankly, however, it was often me. When I first came into the Church, instead of simply not observing Christmas, I was openly antagonistic and hostile toward it.

An appropriate message

About six years ago Pastor General Joseph Tkach explained the differences between these two positions and directed the Church's media area in how to address the holidays of Christmas and Easter.

Instead of being openly antagonistic to these holidays, Mr. Tkach told us to address the subjects that these days claim to represent. The motto that drives this approach was stated by Mr. Tkach: "It's easier to attract people with honey than vinegar."

The *World Tomorrow* telecast first used this approach in 1988 with Ron Kelly's "Christmas—the Untold Story." Instead of exploring the ancient origins of the Saturnalia festival, Mr. Kelly discussed the birth narratives in Matthew and Luke and showed the significance of Jesus Christ's first coming.

In the program, Mr. Kelly then offered our booklet *Christmas—the Untold Story*. In this booklet, we explain that Christmas is an inappropriate day for celebrating Christ's birth and further expound on the meaning of his birth. We also direct people toward observing the Holy Days of the Bible.

For the last two years in *The Plain Truth* we have addressed the themes of peace on earth and the incarnation of Jesus Christ—when God became flesh. These themes are directly relevant to people's general understanding of Christmas. Since our audience (more than 95 percent are non-Church members) will have these subjects on their minds, we believe these articles will be of direct interest to them.

Also, these themes are biblical and are directly related to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thus, these subjects are appropriate for us to discuss in depth, regardless of the season.

On the other hand, *The Plain Truth*

also has major articles scheduled for the spring and fall of 1994 to discuss the significance of the biblical Holy Days. These articles will explain the purpose of keeping these days and that they help Christians to more fully understand the saving work of Jesus Christ.

Addressing a changing world

About every two months, Greg Albrecht, editor of *The Plain Truth*, meets with those who work on the magazine to discuss the direction and tone of *The Plain Truth*.

At our November meeting, Mr. Albrecht brought up a concern that some members have: "It's not so much what we do say in *The Plain Truth*, it's what we don't say."

Previously, one of our main methods of arousing interest was to point out our differences with other Christians. Now we emphasize similarities, while still maintaining our differences.

Our point in common—the gospel of Jesus Christ—is now a bridge to reach our audience. Where we differ on a subject, we believe it is better to positively explain the Church's position rather than criticize others' beliefs.

At one time, provocatively challenging people's beliefs was an effective rhetorical technique. Now it is often seen as being needlessly confrontational and even charged with hostility. It does not matter that the hostility is unintended. The fact that our audience perceives hostility is what matters.

We must be willing to explore new approaches and experiment with new techniques to learn what are effective and appropriate styles of communication for preaching the gospel. The world is not static, and neither can we be in our methods of reaching it.

If in the Church's electronic and print media, we ignore changes and trends in society, we risk presenting the gospel in a way that people will not only reject, but may not even bother to read or watch.

You can find the power to weather life's storms and face heartaches

One spring day I was out with a friend for a ride in the foothills near our home. We came to a hill with a gradual climb.

My little pickup conked out less than a quarter of the way up. I tried again—twice. I even tried backing up, but it was no use.

My friend said to me as we sat there frustrated: "It's no good, Dex. Old Betsy's got the urge to do it, but she just hasn't got the power."

You can say that again. It is the story of many of our lives from time to time. God has given us the urge to live strong, purposeful and successful lives in service to him, but we just don't seem to have the power.

In my work through the years I have met many people who are struggling with problems that are spoiling their lives.

Marital problems, sex problems, alcohol, drugs, gambling and such things are a continual nightmare for them.

They yearn for a break with their problems and how they try but seem to fail to make it up the hill. They

just can't do it. Until, one day, the light shines and they see that it can't be done without God. Alone, they just don't have what it takes.

Power through faith

Well, God gives power to all his people through faith in Jesus Christ. We can have confidence in God to give both the peace and power and strength to weather life's storms. Jesus has won the victory.

David was encouraged by the great power of God. "The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever. The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace" (Psalm 29:10-11).

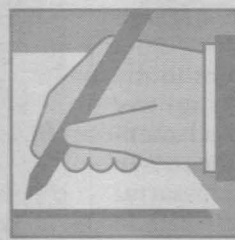
Throughout human history, our Creator has revealed his power for the salvation and deliverance of his people.

The apostle Paul urged us to understand how great God's power is: "I pray also that the eyes of your heart

may be enlightened in order that you may know the ... incomparable great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength" (Ephesians 1:18-19).

Our loving heavenly Father, who

that comes only through his Spirit. Remember, "he gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak" (Isaiah 40:29). God is our source of strength. He is never too tired or too busy to



Just One More Thing

DEXTER FAULKNER

by the Holy Spirit raised Christ from the dead, will help us with our daily difficulties large or small.

When you feel helpless and powerless, don't despair. Don't give up. Remember that almighty God can and will give you strength.

Call upon God's power

Ask God through Jesus Christ to give you the courage and strength

help and hear our prayers.

When you feel that the whole world is crushing down on you and you cannot go another single step, keep in mind that you can call upon God to renew your power.

Finally, Paul told us to "be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" (Ephesians 6:10). You can do everything through Jesus Christ who gives you strength.

Job opening at Ambassador

BIG SANDY—Ambassador College invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for the following staff job opening.

Food Services: A full-time position is available immediately for an experienced cook. Duties include, but are not limited to, preparation of breakfast and alternate daytime food bars.

Candidate must have a minimum of three years experience as a cook or salad maker, and have the ability to supervise the work of students.

Work may be required on weekends or other than 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The position is subject to rush-period pressure, some lifting and most working time spent on feet.

Applicants for this position must include a letter of application, a current resume, salary history and the names of three references with telephone numbers. Applications should be sent to Personnel Services, Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Texas, 75755. Applications must be submitted before Dec. 3.

YOU shows Church is for youths

Continued from page 1

the Church's favor. We want our young people to conclude, 'Church is for me, it's where I belong, it's where I'm loved.'

The conference explained the philosophy and direction of YOU, the responsibility of the regional YOU coordinators, the Personal Development for Teens program, and the YOU newsletter, *ARROWS in Flight*.

Mr. Jacobs also welcomed the six new regional YOU coordinators: Mark Cardona, Tom Melear, Dave Register, Leslie Schmedes, David Stone and Dave Treybig. They replace Steve Botha, Bob Dick, Doug Horchak, Fred Kellers, Dennis Luker and Jim Servidio, who were made U.S. regional pastors in June.

Behind the new YOU program is a spiritual goal: to show young people that God's way works and to demonstrate how it works.

Said Mr. Jacobs, "As youth workers, parents and ministers model and teach godly values through YOU activities, we will advance the spiritual condition of our young people."

The program is designed to demonstrate a loving, vibrant way of living that is attractive to young people; to help them develop talents so they can make a contribution and feel significant; and to make them feel secure.

Feeling secure comes from relationships with people—a feeling that you belong, that you are a valued person, that you are loved in spite of failings.

"Relationships, not activities, are what the program is about, and through relationships (between teens, between teens and parents, between teens and ministers) teens learn how to have a relationship with God."

Parents and adults (including ministers) can convey that caring message by showing unconditional love—teens must know someone cares in a non-condemning way—by giving teens

attention and by listening to them.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Jacobs said: "Teens are not spiritual inferiors, God can work with them just as he began working with the prophet Samuel when he was still a child."

"Our young people are an asset and are capable of a relationship with God. We should not let the world pull them away. We have to show our young people that God's way is the best way and that Church is for them. YOU is an invaluable tool through which we can help them see that reality."

Personal: Families reach out to help

Continued from page 3

patients, helped the Eliot school staff handle the entire emergency, handled over 350 telephone calls, assisted in relocating a nursing home, and helped set up an Emergency Evacuation Center.

Needless to say, the staff of Eliot Middle School, including the principal, Mr. Delano Yarbrough and Mrs. Barbara McCutchan (his assistant and a local Church member), asked me to thank every member for them. It was a most hectic day, and they were very relieved to have the members there.

Mr. Yarbrough mentioned several times that he couldn't believe how quickly our members arrived and served in such a professional, yet caring manner. He was quite impressed!

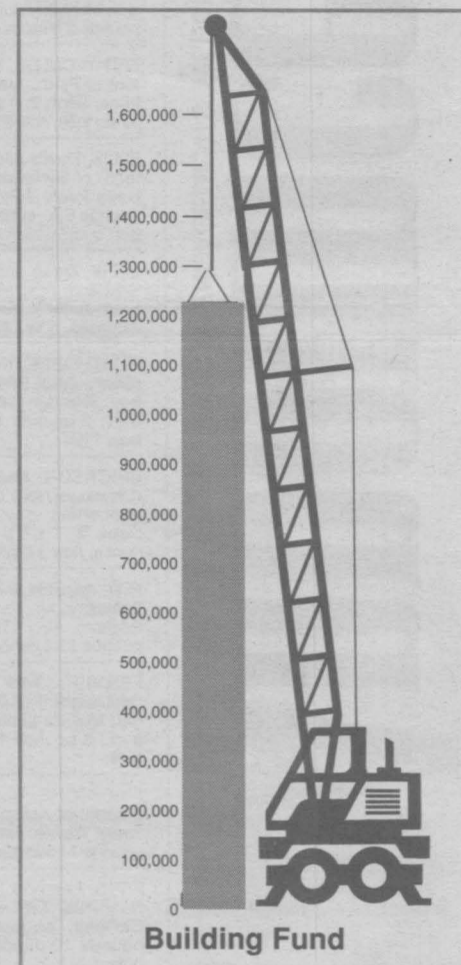
Mrs. Rita Chick, the Red Cross San Gabriel Chapter head of staffing, and Ms. Teresa Scrok, the Red Cross

Southern California Director of Resources Development, have asked me to tell you and all of our members who participated: "The Eliot Emergency Center would have been unable to function without them. Due to their unlimited love and concern for helping others, we were able to minimize the pain and suffering these fires have caused. We are most appreciative of the support and frontline help we received from these members of the Worldwide Church of God."

They also mentioned they would directly acknowledge thanks to you after the emergency situation has subsided.

Mr. Tkach, you and Jesus Christ have every reason to be proud of these members, and I feel they should be recognized as "Leaders By Example" for their good works in our headquarters congregations.

Most sincerely,
Walter M. Carter
(Member, Pasadena West P.M.)



NEARER THE GOAL—As of Nov. 8, individuals and church areas have donated \$1,236,434.37 to the building fund.



Dateline: Ambassador

AN UPDATE OF AMBASSADOR COLLEGE

Students serving on international projects

AC students serving on Ambassador Foundation projects in Jordan, Sri Lanka and Thailand and their mailing addresses are listed below if you would like to write them. Their hometowns appear in parentheses.

Those serving in Jordan are Cory and Colene Erickson (directors); Scott Bacher (Lakewood, Ohio); Sam Burnett (Sabina, Ohio); Darren Clayton (South Lyon, Michigan); Mark Friesen (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan); Deborah Harris (Pasadena); Kimberly Hemsley (Dayton, Ohio); Joanne Hutchison (Auckland, New Zealand); Hervé Irion (Nilvange, France); Vivienne Kiernander (Harpden, England); Melanie Mayer (Ottertail, Minnesota); Shari Miller (Appleton, Wisconsin); David Oliver (Aurora, Oregon); Kelly Regan (Union, Oregon); Thad Roemer (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma); Desiree Roland (Tyrone, Pennsylvania); Brenda Szymkowiak (Dover, Ohio); and Jason Yeats (Marina Bay, Gibraltar).

Address letters to IMC Jor-

dan Project, Pasadena, Calif., 91123. May 1 is the last date to mail letters since students return to the United States in early June 1994.

Those serving in Sri Lanka are Dan and Cindi Thompson (directors); Aldo Antolli (Canberra, Australia); Patrick Bryant (Stanford, Kentucky); Nerissa LeBlanc (Arnaudville, Louisiana); Steve Hunter (Winnipeg, Manitoba); Trisha Kaleho (Big Sandy); Alaric Kurzawa (Tampa, Florida); Amy Nelson (Monrovia, California); Rolan Puls (Frankston, Australia); and Yolanda Weather- spoon (Conley, Georgia).

Address letters to IMC Sri Lanka Project, Pasadena, Calif., 91123. Dec. 1, 1994, is the last date to mail letters since students return to the United States in January 1995.

Those serving in Thailand are Aaron and Rhonda Wiley (directors); Shelly Coffman (San Marino, California); Kenneth Danes (Coloma, Michigan); David Dickinson (Bellevue, Washington); Sandra Feltracco (Genissac, France); Brad Marshall (Brisbane, Australia); and Carmen Rabey (Sherwood Park, Alberta).

The Wileys began their service in November replacing Jonathan and Christy McNair, who are transferring to Port Elizabeth and East London, South Africa, and Mauritius.

Address letters to IMC Thailand Project, Pasadena, Calif., 91123. March 1, 1994, is the last date to mail letters since students return to the United States in April 1994.

If you wish to send mail to a student, please follow these guidelines:

1. We can send only letters and cards. Please do not try to send food, clothing or other items. Packages containing such items will be opened at the International Mail Center (IMC) in Pasadena and returned to the sender. If you feel you have special circumstances, please contact IMC.

2. New Church literature and bulletins are automatically sent to all students and project leaders.

3. Please do not send

money. Checks are also difficult to cash, and it is not recommended to send them.

4. Please do not send envelopes larger than 8½ by 11 inches. Anything bigger will have to be folded or repacked to fit IMC packages.

5. Please make sure that all mail includes a return ad-

dress, in case IMC has to contact you.

Faculty appointments

Four new AC faculty members are **Susan R. Blumel**, Ph.D., assistant professor of home economics; **Paula M. Johnson**, M.A., adjunct instructor in English; **Reginald V. Killingley**, M.A., adjunct instructor in history; and **James T. Worthen**, J.D., lecturer in business administration. Mrs. Johnson works in the English Department; Mr. Killingley works in Development & College Relations; and Mr. Worthen is a partner in a law firm in Tyler, Texas.

Homecoming reminder

Homecoming 1993, this year's AC alumni reunion, will take place on campus Dec. 23 through 26. All alumni from all years and all campuses are invited and reunions will take place for the classes of 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983 and 1988. Activities will include class receptions, an intercollegiate basketball game, an alumni seminar, a Texas-style barbecue and a family brunch.

Cost is \$30 a person for alumni association members, and \$40 a person for alumni and guests who are not members of the association. Visa and MasterCard may be used for reservations, and the deadline for receiving reservations in the Alumni Affairs Office is Dec. 10. For more information, please call 1-903-636-2023.

Update

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

South Africa TV covers ministers conference

CAPE TOWN, South Africa—The Africa conference of English-speaking ministers, conducted in early August, received unexpected television exposure.

The South African Broadcasting Corp. (SABC) Religious Affairs Department asked to cover the conference and interview visitors to South Africa.

A 15-minute segment was the basis for one edition of the religious program *Life 4 U* broadcast Sept. 5 from 8:15 to 8:45 p.m. This

was about a quarter of an hour later than scheduled because of an extended earlier program, and cut into the expected time for *America's Funniest Videos*. No doubt quite a few viewers received unexpected exposure to the Church.

The program began with an explanation, in Zulu, of part of the lecture on divorce and remarriage, given by **Randal Dick**, assistant director of Church Administration International.

Scans of the audience of ministers and their wives showed the multicultural setting. Two inspirational songs were inserted between interviews with **Joseph Tkach Jr.**, director of Church Administration; **Les McCullough**, regional director for East and West Africa in the British Office; and other ministers.

A wide variety of questions were covered, such as the mission of the Church, the

development of *The Plain Truth*, polygamy in Africa and the activities of the Worldwide Church of God in southern Africa. *Peter Hawkins*.

German Office staff relocates in August

BONN, Germany—Office employees who were located in the office on Poppelsdorfer Allee (the building rented since 1975) joined the rest of the staff in the new office facility (Am Propsthof) at the end of August.

Less space is needed because of consolidation and some staff reductions. Rental rates for Poppelsdorfer Allee had risen considerably, and simultaneously a half wing at the second office facility on Propsthof became available.

These considerations plus the disadvantages of being at two locations led to the decision to terminate the lease contract for Poppelsdorfer Allee and rent the additional half wing at Propsthof. *Frankie Weinberger*.

High school honorees



Katrina Root
Valedictorian
Imperial High School
Pasadena West A.M. church



Sarah Schnoebelen
Valedictorian
Dallas Center High School
Des Moines, Iowa, church

Bring your talent to San Jose singles weekend

SAN JOSE, California—The church's 10th annual singles weekend, Feb. 19 and 20, will feature singles-only Sabbath services conducted by a guest speaker from Pasade-

THE WORLD TOMORROW
TELEVISION PROGRAM

New Station

Station/Location	Air Time	Channel
KWGN Denver, Colorado	Monday 1 a.m.	2

Renewals

KAUZ Wichita Falls, Texas	Sunday 9 a.m.	6
KNOE Monroe, Louisiana	Sunday 9:30 a.m.	8
KOTV Tulsa, Oklahoma	Sunday 7 a.m.	6
KRDO Colorado Springs, Colorado	Sunday 7:30 a.m.	13
KRRT San Antonio, Texas	Monday 12:30 a.m.	35
KXLY Spokane, Washington	Sunday 9:30 a.m.	4
WEHT Evansville, Indiana	Sunday 10 a.m.	25
WGAL Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	Sunday 7:30 a.m.	8
WHAS Louisville, Kentucky	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	11
WJBK Detroit, Michigan	Sunday 7 a.m.	2
WTOL Toledo, Ohio	Sunday 7 a.m.	11
WTRF Wheeling, West Virginia	Sunday 11 a.m.	7
WVVA Bluefield, West Virginia	Sunday 9 a.m.	6
WWAY Wilmington, North Carolina	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	3

Cancellation

KIVI Boise, Idaho	Sunday 6:30 a.m.	6
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Renewal—Radio

KBOI Boise, Idaho	Sunday 6:30 a.m.	670 AM
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na, a full-course meal, talent show and dances on Saturday evening and Sunday.

Those who have performed special Sabbath music or have other experienced talent and would like to participate in the talent show should submit a videotape (or at least an audio tape) by Jan. 1 to **John Jester** at 6166 Cottle Rd., No. C-2, San Jose, California, 95123-5108.

The cost is \$22 if paid by Dec. 1; \$30 if paid by Dec. 31; and \$40 if paid by Jan. 15. The deadline for all payments is Jan. 15.

Checks should be made payable to **Bert Emata** and sent to him at 199 Brooklyn Ave., San Jose, California, 95128-1910. For further information call **Debbie Sanders** at 1-408-224-2458.



FROM OUR

Brethren Worldwide

As brethren mourn deaths of three members, funerals provide occasions to preach gospel

NASSAU, Bahamas—Three members—Lorenzo Sears, Arthur Pinder and Dina Russell—among a membership of just less than 300 in the Bahamas—died in June.

Pastor Kingsley Mather conducted funerals on the last three Sundays of the month. Although sad occasions, the funerals provided an opportunity for the gospel to be preached to an audience we may not have otherwise reached.

Lorenzo Sears, 90, of Williams Town, Exuma, died June 3. His funeral took place June 13.

Apparently some on the island had felt that, since Mr. Sears was the lone member there, no one from the Church in Nassau would attend his funeral. When 27 members showed up, including about 15 choir members, it was quite a surprise to the community. One person commented that in all his

years, he had never seen such a thing in Williams Town.

Upon returning to her place of employment in Nassau the next day, one member was confronted by numerous questions about the funeral. News had spread quickly back to Nassau.

A Baptist minister who brought condolences on behalf of his congregation and the community, mentioned that although "Cowboy," as Mr. Sears was also known, was "peculiar" in some ways, he firmly held to his beliefs, despite being a loner in Williams Town.

Several people in the community related how although they disagreed with most of Cowboy's religious beliefs, they admired his faithfulness to those beliefs and the many acts of kindness he extended to all.

Mr. Sears' dying message to his neighbors was inscribed on a ribbon at the funeral services that read: "Love one another."

Mr. Mather began his message by explaining some of the beliefs Mr. Sears held, and why he was the way he

was. He showed that although some of our beliefs are different, some things are similar as well.

Before the reality of the loss of Mr. Sears could set in, brethren were jolted by the death June 11 of Arthur Pinder, 39, of Moores Island, Abaco. More than 150 people attended funeral services

June 20 in Hard Bargain, a settlement with a population of about 500 inhabitants. Mr. Pinder settled there in 1987 and had earned a reputation as an honest, hard-working and dedicated man.

Several commented that the sermon given by Mr. Mather was excellent, and that they could relate to what he was saying.

One week after Mr. Pinder's death, Dina Russell, 39, of Freeport, Grand Bahama, died unexpectedly. Mrs. Russell, a native Filipino, moved to the Bahamas some years ago when she married

a Bahamian, Julian Russell.

More than 330 people, more than two thirds of them not Church members, attended Mrs. Russell's funeral.

As a travel agent, Mrs. Russell had saved the Church here thousands of dollars over the years. *Kayla Edwards and Robert McKinney*.

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LITTLE FLOCK—Members who met for the first Sabbath service in Culloden, Scotland, July 31 are, from left: Ralph Groat, Timothy Dix, Ann Cook, George Davidson, Valerie Dix, Alistair Dix, Laurie Henderson, Meryl Davidson, Kirsty Maxwell, Annalee Henderson, John MacDonald, Alex Maxwell, Nadia Henderson, Janet Maxwell, Don Henderson, Trevor Stewart, Amy Stewart and Julie Stewart. Their handlers are for more members in the area, a weekly service and their own pastor. [Photo by Alan Bolger]

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