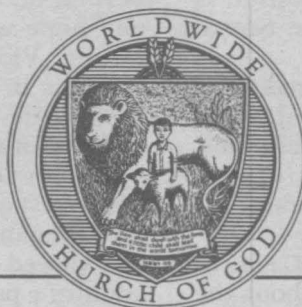


2 South Africa charts course for new beginning

4 Which church is God's true church?

5 Building at Ambassador College named after pioneer minister

The Worldwide News



VOL. XXII, NO. 12
JUNE 14, 1994

Mr. Tkach outlines vision for Church at conference

By Paul Monteith

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach shared his vision for the Church with regional directors and guests at the regional directors conference in Pasadena, May 25 to June 1.

"I want the Worldwide Church of God to fully live up to its name—the Church of God," he said.

The Church achieves this by focusing on the commission Jesus Christ gave his Church, which Mr. Tkach characterized with the words *upward, inward and outward*.

Our upward responsibility is to love God with all our heart, mind and soul. Our inward responsibility is to love one another and our outward responsibility is to love our neighbor as ourselves, doing good to others as opportunities arise.

Mr. Tkach concluded by saying, "What makes our testimony believable is our love for God, for each other, our concern for neighbor and by enduring trials cheerfully. Every Christ-led person whose light shines brings glory to God. This is my vision for the Church."

Church relations

Joseph Tkach Jr., director of Church Administration, discussed Church relations and how to deal with critics. He said a good example

can turn opponents into friends.

When misleading facts about the Church are published, a friendly letter pointing out the error is sent to the author with an invitation to discuss the points in question. Face-to-face meetings often yield friendlier relationships.

"We're not out to seek anybody's approval and we don't compromise our beliefs," he added. "We just have a pleasant conversation with some authors and some agree to correct errors."

Mr. Tkach Jr. also updated the regional directors about visits to the Church of God (Seventh Day). "They have expressed, as have we, a wish for friendlier relations with other Sabatarian groups. We are not trying to join them, nor they us," he said.

The inward and outward aspects of the commission are changing Media Operations as the Church moves away from being an almost solely media-driven Work, said Bernie Schnippert, Media Operations manager.

The Television Department stops producing *The World Tomorrow* in September but will, instead, produce six spot ads to advertise literature and build an awareness of the Church among television viewers.

Television will also update several *World Tomorrow* programs for broadcast as seasonal specials and produce instructional videos on subjects such as marriage, family relationships and doctrinal teachings.

Budget restructuring and new machinery, which increased automation and efficiency, have reduced the

number of employees throughout Media Operations, Mr. Schnippert commented.

Randal Dick, assistant director of Church Administration International, conducted sessions related to regional planning, budgeting and other regional business issues. In addition, Mr. Dick moderated sessions aimed at creating a program to sense and respond to the needs of brethren in distress situations.

Expenses within budget

Steven D. Andrews, director of Finance & Planning, discussed the Church's finances since 1982 and the financial position of each region. He noted that Church administration expenditures are increasing, the

See Conference, page 4

AC commencement: 'Act on what you know'

By Reginald Killingley

BIG SANDY—"Education radiates beauty only when it is applied," said Daniel Kale of Pasadena in his discourse as student body president at Ambassador College's 43rd commencement exercises May 20.

ment commencement exercises May 20.

"People shine brilliantly when they do what they know to do. We must act on what we know to do, for the purpose of inspiring and encouraging others," he told his fellow graduates.

More than 1,700 people attended the graduation ceremony in the college's field house auditorium. Another 126 viewed the event on closed-circuit television.

In his welcoming remarks, President Donald Ward pointed out that this year's graduating seniors were the first class to have begun and completed their AC careers at Big Sandy since the college's consolidation. "They have seen a lot of changes, and they have led us into the '90s," he said.

In the commencement address, Joseph W. Tkach, chairman of the board of regents, called on the gradu-

ates to put their knowledge to good use. "Life is in the doing," he said.

Mr. Tkach told the audience that the college motto "is not an empty platitude. We teach our students to recapture true values, which requires hard work and is a lifelong challenge."

"Ambassador College is an academy for world peace," he continued, "and peace is the way of life based on loving your neighbor as yourself. Mr. Armstrong used to say, 'It is the way of give vs. the way of get.'"

Fellow graduate Allan Hambleton from Bakersfield, California, who began his AC career in 1971 in Brick-et Wood, England, said he was "thrilled to come here and graduate and see how AC has grown."

"My daughter Susie has just completed her freshman year here, and I

See Commencement, page 5



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

The gospel: message of first importance

Christ holds me responsible for leading the Church to do his work—and that job has required a certain amount of re-educating ourselves about what Jesus Christ says that work is.

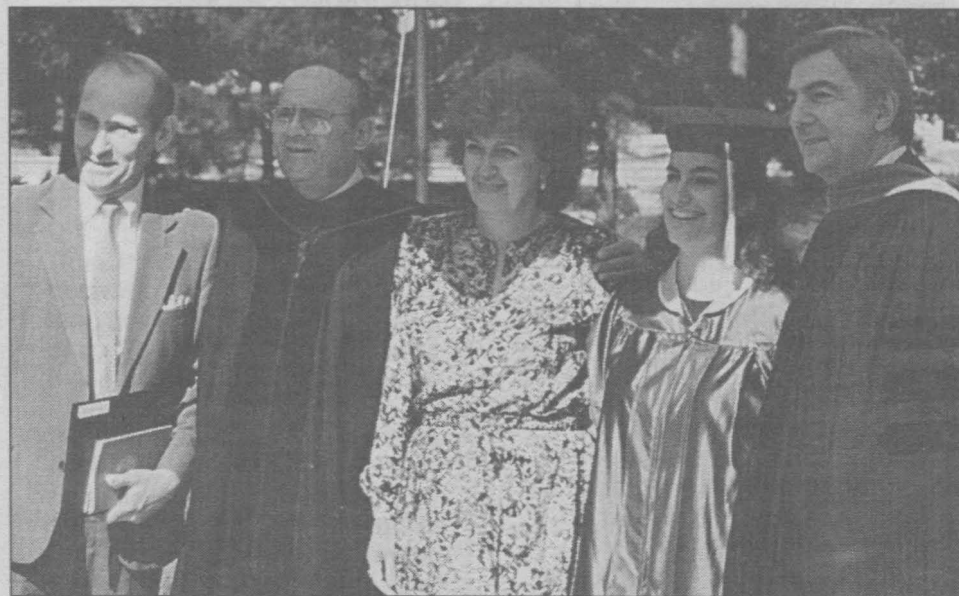
We have often called ourselves "the Work." What is "the Work"? Let's read Jesus Christ's definition: "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent" (John 6:29).

As the Church of God, we need to be about our Father's business, following the example set by Jesus. Therefore, our work is this: bringing people to Christ, leading them to believe in him. We need to encourage people to believe in Jesus Christ and, through him, be reconciled to God. This is an essential part of the gospel we are commissioned to preach.

Some people have unfortunately thought that the gospel of salvation and the gospel of the kingdom were two different gospels. Actually, those terms are two ways to describe the same message. Entering the kingdom is simply another way to describe receiving salvation through Jesus Christ. There are other ways to describe the gospel, too:

It's called the gospel of the kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15 and three or four other places).

See Personal, page 3



BY DEGREES—Shasta Kalin (second from right) after receiving her associate's degree with (from left) her father, Frank Kalin; college chairman Joseph W. Tkach; her mother, Pat Kalin; and college president Donald Ward. [Photo by Hal Finch]

South Africa charts new course after elections

By Peter Hawkins

CAPE TOWN, South Africa—The election has passed, a new government is installed and legislation is already shaping the new South Africa.

A tenuous atmosphere preceded the polling days. There were days of prayer by many church organizations. We had the reassurance of our brethren overseas who sent messages of encouragement.

Several times Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach phoned about the well-being of members during the violent bombings leading up to the elections.

Seshudu Phoshoko, a member who attends the Johannesburg East church, explained the wild emotional swings before the election, when thousands and thousands of people—mostly blacks—were killed.

"Negotiations and political reforms starting in 1990 generated hitherto unknown excitement. Hope, anticipation and great expectations for the future prevailed. When elec-

tion campaigns started, political intolerance also became manifest. This translated to violent conflict as a means of expressing opposition.

"The townships were traumatized beyond description. The excitement and hope waned and almost disappeared. Violence spread, becoming endemic in certain areas. This set a pessimistic mood about the election and the future."

Johann Grobler of the Johannesburg West church said: "I grew up in an Afrikaans home where apartheid was viewed as the only answer to the country's political problems. In our home, apartheid was synonymous to

separate development—not racial discrimination. I later concluded that if the idea of separate development was correct, it was not correctly implemented."

Some members were close to the bomb blast that ripped apart sections of the Jan Smuts international airport in Johannesburg, but somehow fear evaporated, and people shrugged off worry of intimidation.

Cor Beek, a Hollander who has lived in South Africa many years, reported: "The people fervently prayed for peace in our country. No doubt God has heard these prayers as it can only be called a miracle to

see the most violent community of the world from one day to the other, turning into a peaceful country where black and white, Indian and coloured, rich and poor, could stand joyfully in the same line for hours, eager to vote, eager to bring about a change.

"If the result is a government of unity that can stay together for the next five years and work out a final constitution, while uplifting the peoples of this beautiful country, we can thank only God."



Expanded coverage

With this issue we expand our coverage normally devoted to "European Diary" to include articles from other international areas. We have many talented writers around the world, and this will give exciting new opportunities to them.

John Ross Schroeder of the British Office, who wrote "European Diary" for 11 years, will continue to be a contributor to this section.

The main focus will be on people—people in the Worldwide Church of God—since that is the focus of the newspaper. Although the articles will not simply be news analyses (readers can get this type of information elsewhere) some of them will focus on how members, or the Church as a whole, are affected by events in the news.

In this section we hope to publish articles that show the characteristics of a region. Cultural differences can give readers better insight about what to pray for on their behalf.

We hope you are as excited about this as we are. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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.

Bringing chills

I read with excitement your March 1 "Personal" about French-speaking Africa. Randal Dick's article and the plea, "Please don't forget us," helped me realize again how wonderful that first love is. Those who've left fail to catch the vision of this great Work, it seems.

Wonderful things are being wrought through prayers and the service of so many. The issue was so full of inspiring articles. As you described the way the churches would be built, it brought chills and a warm feeling. Again, it's exciting! Even the letters to the editor were particularly inspiring in this issue.

I'm sorry when I hear of grumbling about changes or God's leadership. We need to pull together in unity. I look forward to your letters and "Personals."

Gloria Elam
Springtown, Texas

The truth in black and white

On the innovative changes taking place in

the Church today, it is certain that personal evangelism is the way forward. It is, however, a challenge, and I hope we all can face up to it.

I have felt compelled to write on the subject of South Africa. As a black Briton I feel, to some extent, the hurt of those millions of disenfranchised people.

I cannot help but feel excitement at the prospects of change, but more than anything I feel a sense of excitement about what the Church and individual members can do in that country.

I truly believe that our members, both black and white, are being challenged to shine their lights even more brightly in what is potentially a volatile situation. I feel it is an exciting time for them.

Margaret Chambers
Cambridge, England

"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.

Strength comes after world crumbled

I am a husband and father of a typical family—however, not so typical. You see, I suffer

Bringing warmth

I just wanted to let you know that the changes you've made are like opening the house windows after a long winter and getting the first whiffs of warm spring air and the promise of new growth and rejuvenation. I can hardly contain the deep secure happiness that comes from God through his leadership!

Russell Kokernak
Worcester, Massachusetts

Exploring new knowledge

I am requesting a copy of the brochure *Exploring the Word of God—the Law*. This is exciting, as is the way Mr. Tkach is leading the Church (as God guides him).

The new understanding on the nature of God has made me see more clearly God's greatness, and helped me appreciate things I could not understand before.

Although I cannot fully understand everything about the teaching, in no way should we leave the Church because of this. Life is worth living only if we live it God's way.

Willy Thomas
Cape Town, South Africa

from myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as chronic fatigue syndrome. Also I have a secondary condition called fibromyalgia, which affects my muscles.

I was once a strong healthy person. I was involved in sports. Now I can only reminisce of the things I once took for granted. I was only involved religiously at weddings and funerals. I had turned my attention and focus away from God and Christ our Savior because material values had my attention.

It seems it took this illness to redirect my attention back to our Lord's work. Your magazine has helped in that transition. Although my world has crumbled around me, left me unemployable, wondering how we will meet the next mortgage payment, we have found strength in each other and in our Lord.

The November-December *Plain Truth* had an article explaining the cost Christ paid for us. I don't feel alone knowing he feels my pain and suffering.

Victoria, British Columbia

A part of God's family

I strongly believe you are doing a great job, not only in my life, but in others as well. The thing I desire most in order to have abundant life is simply to serve God.

Reseda, California

Attention Church Youths

We would like to feature Church youths who are 1994 valedictorians and salutatorians. If you graduate first or second in your class, send us your name and a photo, the name of your high school, your church area and indicate your class ranking. Please have your pastor sign it. (We will return photos if you provide a self-addressed envelope.) Please mail to *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, California, 91129, by July 20.

Festival Update

The telephone number for Bill Samuelson, choir director in Eugene, Oregon, is 1-206-522-3563.

The Corpus Christi, Texas, Festival site will have an instrumental (especially brass) ensemble. Contact Brent Fiedler, 125 Cloudland Dr., Bristol, Tennessee, 37620, or telephone him at 1-615-968-5456.



Pastor General visits...

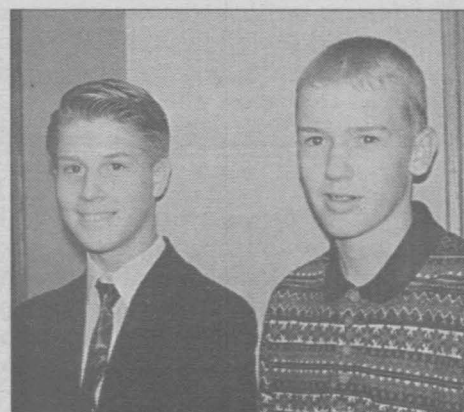
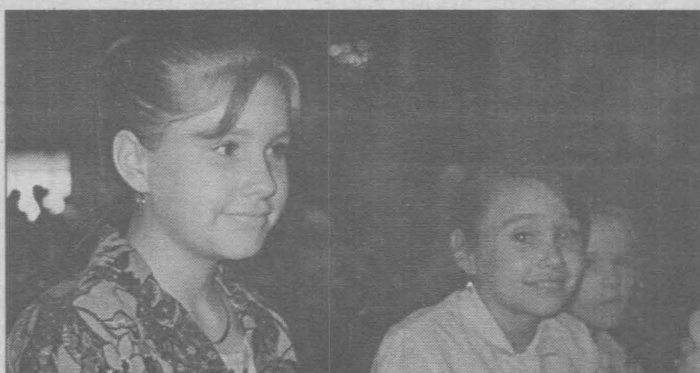
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI



Trip Overview

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach spoke to 1,172 brethren May 28 from Springfield, Columbia, Independence, Jefferson City, Joplin, Kirksville and Rolla, Missouri; and Batesville, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Jonesboro, Mountain Home and Poplar Bluff, Arkansas.

Hosts for the visit were Fred and Diane Bailey, Springfield and Rolla; Michael and Diane Kuykendall, Springfield and Rolla; Tom and Pat Blackwell, Jonesboro and Poplar Bluff; Karl and Gaylon Beyersdorfer, Joplin and Independence; Ozzie and Tina Engelbart, Fayetteville and Fort Smith; Pete and Eileen Kendall, Mountain Home and Batesville; Al and Suzanne Kersha, Jefferson City, Columbia and Kirksville; Art and Linda Dyer, Jefferson City, Columbia and Kirksville; Dan and Jackie King, Joplin and Independence; and Ed and Michelle Kopec, Fort Smith and Fayetteville. [Photos by Douglas Burton and Larry G. Harmon]



Personal: The most exciting message on earth

Continued from page 1

It's the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24).

It's the gospel of salvation (Ephesians 1:13).

It's the gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15).

It's the gospel of God (Romans 1:1 and eight other places).

It's the gospel of his Son (Romans 1:9).

It's the gospel of the glory of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4).

It's the gospel of Jesus Christ (Mark 1:1)—and it's called this more often than any other name—about 15 times.

But all these are the same gospel. The true gospel is the good news of human salvation and eternal life in the kingdom of God through the death, resurrection and return of Jesus Christ. The gospel doesn't just tell us about a future kingdom—it tells us how to *enter* the kingdom, and entering it involves something we need to do right now! We can enter it only through Christ, so he must be the center of our message.

Paul describes the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:3-5: "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scrip-

The gospel tells us how to enter the kingdom, and entering it involves something we need to do right now! We enter it only through Christ.

tures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve."

Paul calls this message of *first importance*. It should be of first importance to us, too. That's why we have shifted from a more secular *Plain Truth* to a magazine that is more religious, focused on what the Bible is focused on—Jesus Christ.

Some people think this message is

boring, but it's actually the most thrilling news that could be announced. Some people might prefer predictions of imminent tribulation, but I am convinced that Christ wants us to preach the New Testament message about salvation through Jesus Christ.

Paul was widely criticized for preaching the true gospel to both Jews and gentiles. He faced much opposition and he fought many battles. So I empathize with his plea for prayers in Ephesians 6:19: "Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel."

Paul needed prayers, not accusations. His opponents would have been much more useful to God if they had been praying for Paul instead of spreading slander about him.

I need prayers, too, just like Paul did. I need support, and Christ strengthens me, answering the prayers of our members and co-workers. Thanks be to God that *many* members—most members—have seen our need to become more

Christlike in our evangelism and in our lives.

The true gospel of Jesus Christ is the most exciting message on earth, and the work of spreading it is the most important job on earth—the job every Christian has been called to participate in!

Please pray for *The Plain Truth*, the booklets, the television program, spot ads and other methods the Church is using to help people become aware of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And please remember—members *are* the Church, so pray for one another, that your example might properly reflect the gospel of Jesus Christ, and pray for your local congregations, open houses and other activities.

The critics are vocal, but I know that most of you are praying for me and for the work of the Church. You are committed and devoted, and I receive constant encouragement and support from God's people all over the world, and I will continue to push ahead as Christ leads me. Thank you all for your prayers, your offerings and your many labors of love in Jesus Christ in support of the Church and of each other.

Which church is God's true Church?

The word *church* is misunderstood. To many, it means a building. To others, it's a place to go and socialize.

By Earl Williams

"We are God's true church!" Scores of denominations and sects boldly make this claim, proclaiming that God is working only through them and that salvation can be attained only by joining them.

Which church is God's? Is that the right question? Or should we be asking, What is the church?

The apostle Paul gives us the answer in Ephesians 1:22-23: "God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way."

Paul does not mention any denomination or human organization. The Church of God is therefore the Body of Christ.

The word church

Like the word *love*, *church* is a misunderstood word. To many, it means a building. To others, it's a place to go and socialize.

But what does this word mean? The Greek New Testament word is *ekklesia*. The *Expanded Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* says *ekklesia* "was used among the Greeks of a body of citizens gathered to discuss the affairs of state, Acts 19:39" (page 76). It simply means an assembly or gathering.

The derivation of the word indicates calling or summoning to a place of meeting. Some, therefore, use the concept of "called-out ones" to support their belief that they are the called-out ones, the only members of the true church of God.

Transcendent body

How did the idea begin of excluding from the true Church all who are not part of one's immediate fellowship? Perhaps it is a carryover from the Old Testament. God made a covenant with only one nation. He worked through that one nation. He gave redemption to others through one nation—and that nation was Israel.

In Christ's time, a Samaritan woman thought God was still working within one group. She wanted to know where the true church was.

She asked Jesus, "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus replied: "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth" (John 4:20-24).

Jesus announced a radically different concept. God transcends

groups, organizations and places because he is spirit. He had begun seeking people to worship him in spirit and truth, not in one nation or denomination. What is this spirit and truth?

The Samaritan woman began to perceive the answer. She pondered: "I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he" (John 4:25-26).

Jesus Christ is spirit and truth (John 14:16). He is the true Church. All those who are in him are in God's Church. And he is spirit, transcend-

The Christian identity is not found in any organizational or denominational affiliation, but it is in Jesus Christ.

ing all manmade boundaries and limitations.

The spiritual body

Paul explains it this way: "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but of many" (1 Corinthians 12:13-14).

This is not talking about water baptism, but the baptism of the Spirit. Water is not mentioned here, but Christ and the Holy Spirit are. The Holy Spirit acting as the agent of Christ baptizes (places) us into Christ.

This is why the apostle Peter said that Christians "are being built into a spiritual house" (1 Peter 2:5). Since the body is spiritual, it is not limited to one place or organization.

When does this occur? "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit" (Ephesians 1:13).

Paul used the analogy of the human body to demonstrate that the members of Christ are not the same nor in the same place. "Now the body is not made up of one part but of many" (1 Corinthians 12:14).

In addition to this, the members of the body may be part of different systems. There are the circulatory and respiratory systems, and the muscular and skeletal systems. These represent distinct functions and groupings in the body. And if there can be distinctions within the human body, then certainly within the spiritual Body of Christ.

Unity in Christ

Now some might say, "But a body is unified." True. And where does your body with all its distinct parts and systems find unity? In the head.

The unity of the distinctive parts of Christ's Body is not in their location or system. The unity is found in the head of the body—Jesus Christ. "And he is the head of the body, the church" (Colossians 1:18).

Just as one becomes part of the body through faith in Christ, one also finds his or her identity as a member of God's Church in Christ. The Christian identity is not found in any organizational or denominational affiliation, but it is in Jesus

Christ.

Think about this for a moment: Where does your hand get its identity? Does it come from itself, from the other hand that's just like it, or from your head?

Here is a way to illustrate it. Let's say you went into a bank and the teller watched as you wrote a check. Then the teller says, "Sorry, but I can't cash that." When you ask why, she says, "Because you didn't write it—your hand did."

That would be ridiculous! Your hand is identified by your head. All your parts receive their identity from your head. So also is the Body of Christ.

It is Christ dwelling in us through faith that makes us Christians (Romans 8:9; Ephesians 2:8). And it is by that same faith that all Christians dwell in Christ—the true Church.

A common truth

Some people search for a "true church" because they think there are hidden truths. They reason that whatever particular group has these truths must be the true Church of God. The gospel of Jesus Christ is just too common, they feel; there has to be more.

They may say, "Yes, we accept Jesus Christ but..." Or, "Yes, salvation is by grace through faith but..." The truth is that the gospel is Christ plus nothing. He is enough.

Hidden, mysterious "truths" become their foundation, and the gospel is pushed into the closet. These "truths" become the identity of

their church.

It is interesting that the apostles did not proclaim any of these hidden truths. It wasn't some mysterious knowledge that turned the Roman world upside down. It was a person; it was Jesus Christ. It was this common faith in the one who died, rose again, ascended into heaven and lived in them that made them Christians.

They gave their lives to preach this simple truth to all nations. Paul said, "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2).

Then why do "true" churches insist that they have special truths that make them authentic and all others frauds? Could it be they have deceived themselves by their desire for the wine of new "truth"?

The Bible makes it clear that it is not knowing "special truth" that makes one part of the Church, but knowing Christ by faith. After all, no one has perfect knowledge. Even Paul admitted, "Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known" (1 Corinthians 13:12).

When the apostles preached the gospel they made Christ the object, not themselves (1 Corinthians 1:11-23).

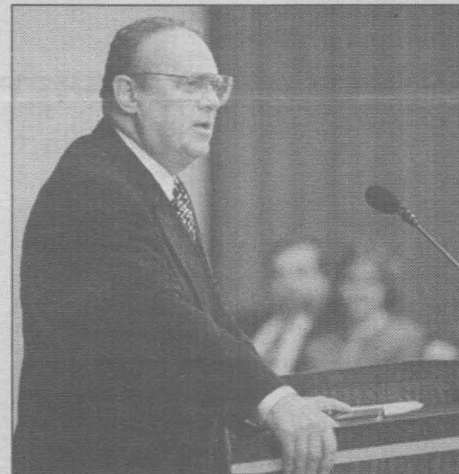
All Christians should allow the Father to use them to draw all people to Christ. For once you come to Christ through faith and receive the Holy Spirit, you are in the one and only true Church of God.

Conference: tools for the gospel

Continued from page 1

result of programs being developed for nurturing the Church.

Expenses have been kept within budget, said Mr. Andrews, and he thanked the regional directors for their diligence and stewardship.



Joseph W. Tkach

Victor Kubik, assistant director of Church Administration for the United States, gave an update on the Ukrainian Sabbatarians, their worship and prayer life, and how to give aid to people in different cultures.

He also discussed the U.S. regional pastor structure

Bill Jacobs, YOU national coordinator, discussed youths, parents and the ministry. "Our purpose is to help children develop a personal relationship with God," he said. Regional directors saw a video preview of the new youth Bible lessons.

PT's international focus, booklets

Ronald Kelly, Editorial Services

manager, explained the shift in emphasis of Church literature to a more religious format and how Editorial strives to keep an international focus even though the largest audience is in North America.

Greg Albrecht, *Plain Truth* editor, discussed circulation in international areas and how window articles give each region an opportunity to feature material specifically for them.

Also, once a year each international edition of *The Plain Truth* includes a window article that introduces the Church to its readers.

Norman Shoaf, editor of the Church's booklets and Bible guides, gave an update on nonserial literature, including *Exploring the Word of God*. "More than 30,800 readers requested copies within 13 days after Mr. Tkach offered it," Mr. Shoaf said. "This eclipsed a response record that had stood since the 1960s. Additional lessons in this series will be released as budget permits."

Concluding the conference, Mr. Tkach Jr. spoke about the evangelistic tools God has given for preaching the gospel; family ministry and Sabbath school curriculum; an update of Church literature and why dissident groups are not biblically viable alternatives to the Body of Christ.

"The commission to the Church is not a call to predict the dates of the tribulation or of Christ's return," he said.

"It is to preach the good news—the gospel. Unfortunately, an error was made in equating prediction of events and dates with the gospel. The only way to grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ is to

See Conference, page 7

College building named after pioneer minister

By Jonathan Stepp
Ambassador Portfolio

BIG SANDY—Twenty-nine years after his death, a pioneer minister and Ambassador College faculty member has been accorded a permanent honor on the Ambassador College campus.

A building housing the Church's foreign language offices was named the Benjamin L. Rea Hall in a ceremony conducted by college chairman Joseph W. Tkach before graduation May 20.

The late Dr. Rea, who was ordained a minister in 1958, helped begin the Church's Spanish Department and the former Ambassador College campus in Bricket Wood, England.

Dr. Rea began attending services in 1951. From 1953 until his death in 1965 he served on the Ambassador College faculty, first as an instructor in Spanish and international relations, later as dean of faculty at the college's campus in England.

In March 1956 Dr. Rea began to serve as, in effect, the first regional director of the Spanish-speaking areas. During the subsequent nine years Dr. Rea translated literature from English, acted as the presenter for the Spanish *El Mundo de Manana* (*The World Tomorrow* radio program in Spanish) and traveled on baptizing tours in the Spanish-speaking world.

In 1960 Dr. Rea moved to England to help begin Ambassador's second campus. From there he carried on the administration of the Church's work in Spanish-speaking countries while continuing to teach. He also acted as the first dean of faculty for

the Bricket Wood campus.

At the time of Dr. Rea's death, Herbert W. Armstrong said that he was, in effect, the founder of the Bricket Wood campus, since he had taken care of "a thousand and one of the details inherent in starting a new college," according to Mr. Rea's obituary in the March 1965 *Good News*.

Dr. Rea was born in Ruston, Louisiana, in 1922. He served in the Army, Navy and Marines during World War II as a medical corpsman. He saw action throughout the Pacific



DEDICATION—Joseph W. Tkach dedicates new building to Benjamin Rea, who served Spanish-speaking people until his death in 1965.

Theater but suffered a severe head wound during the battle for Iwo Jima.

Dr. Rea married Hazel Armstrong in 1957. Mrs. Rea, who now lives in Bremen, Georgia, said that Dr. Rea was so seriously injured that the military sent a telegram to his family telling them that he had been killed. In fact, he was recovering on a hospital ship bound for the States.

For his service in the war, Dr. Rea received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

On March 9, 1965, Dr. Rea was interviewed by a reporter from a London newspaper. According to Mrs. Rea, the reporter had printed some



MEMORIAL—This hall in Texas honors the late Benjamin Rea, who, said Herbert Armstrong, took care of "a thousand and one details inherent in starting a new college" in Bricket Wood, England, in 1960. [Photo by Lori Kuberski]

"very unfavorable things" about the Church. No one is sure what was said during the interview, but the reporter left angry and several minutes later Dr. Rea collapsed from a stroke. He died early the next morning.

Dr. Rea was buried next to the tomb of David Yule, the man who built the estate on which the campus was located. Dr. Rea had suffered from acute high blood pressure for several years, as well as occasional severe headaches that were the result of his war wounds.

Dr. and Mrs. Rea had one son, Raphael, who was 5 years old at the time of his father's death.

"Dr. Rea was very outgoing, congenial, jovial, well-liked and respected," said Leon Walker, regional director of the Spanish-speaking areas since 1979. Mr. Walker first worked with and studied under Dr. Rea while he was a sophomore at Ambassador College in 1956.

Dr. Rea "was very dedicated to his work and had an enthusiasm for the Spanish language and culture, as well as the Work in general, that was contagious," Mr. Walker said.

Rick van Pelt, director of facilities for the Church, said that, in dedicating a building that houses French, Italian and Spanish offices of the Church, "Mr. Tkach wanted to honor someone who has contributed heavily toward the international work. Dr. Benjamin Rea stood out as a strong pioneer minister who dedicated his life to bringing the message of salvation to the Spanish-speaking people."

"I'm really touched," said Mrs. Rea. "Mr. Tkach phoned me Tuesday [May 17] and told me about it. He said a picture of it will be in *The Worldwide News*, but he wanted to let me know ahead of time. I thought that was very nice of him. My husband would have been very honored and pleased. The Work was his life."

Commencement: grads lauded

Continued from page 1

believe the college is going to be one of the top educational institutions in the U.S. in the next 10 years," he said.

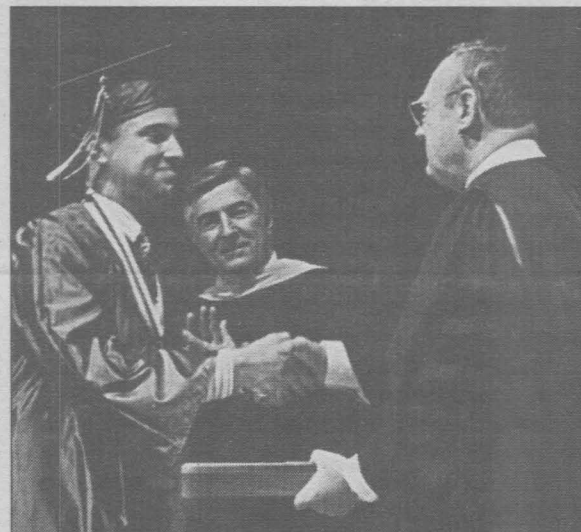
At the conclusion of his commencement address, Mr. Tkach presented awards to outstanding students in several categories. He and Dr. Ward then presented the graduates with their diplomas.

After the recessional concluding the indoor program, the audience gathered at the festively decorated plaza in front of the Hall of Administration to congratulate and photograph the Class of 1994.

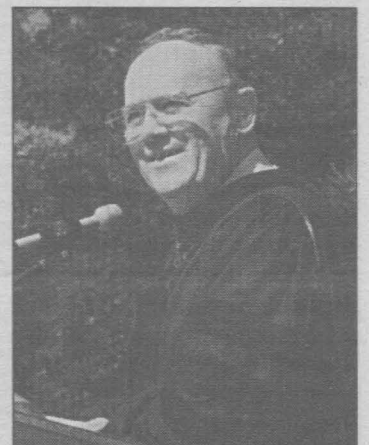
A clear sky and spring weather provided a fitting backdrop for photography and video recording. Many graduates, displaying their diplomas, lined up to have their pictures taken with Mr. Tkach and Dr. Ward.



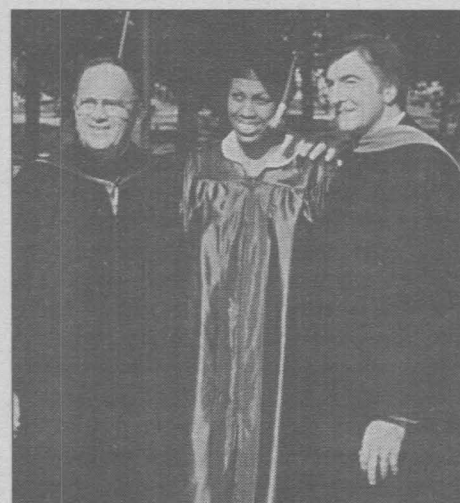
"YES!"—Jubilant after commencement are (from left) Sheleen Daly, Stacey Pittman, Jeremy Bushlack, Loretta Deraas, Karin Hegna and Brian McBride. [Photo by Hal Finch]



LEADING THE WAY—Daniel Kale, student body president, with college president Donald Ward and Joseph W. Tkach. [Photo by Elizabeth Miller]



URGING FORWARD—Chairman Tkach calls on the graduates to put their knowledge to good use. "Life is in the doing," he said. [Photo by Hal Finch]



FOR THE MEMORIES—Chairman Tkach and president Ward flank graduate Afrika Russell. [Photo by Hal Finch]



FAMILY AFFAIR—Senior Claudia Herrera from Zapopan, Mexico, her mother and sister share in Ambassador's 43th commencement exercises, in Texas May 20. [Photo by Reginald Killingley]



CARL & MARY KELLY

Carl and Mary Kelly of Cape Coral, Florida, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 10. Fort Myers, Florida, brethren honored them with a reception. The Kellys have three sons, two grandsons and one granddaughter.



JOE & EVIA LAVERGNE

Joe and Evia Lavergne of Houston, Texas, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Dec. 16. They have four children, Joe, Verna, Lionel and Margaret; 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Obituaries



KENNETH & LOIS STAPLES

Kenneth and Lois Staples of Pasadena celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 4. They have two children, Craig and Jane; one son-in-law, Paul Coleman; one daughter-in-law, Lonalee; and three grandchildren, Frank, Paul and Richard.

HOTCHKISS, Ruby, 78, of Modesto, California, died March 16. She is survived by five children, Jim Burchett, Doris Griffin, Vivian Lane, Judy Walker and Theodore Burchett; one sister, Cynthia Arnold; 14 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.



PHYLLIS SHREVES

SHREVES, Phyllis, 72, of Texarkana, Texas, died April 7 of cancer. She is survived by two sons, Jimmie and David Weeks; two grandchildren, James and Laura Weeks; and three sisters.



EDWIN & LEOTA KELLOGG

Edwin and Leota Kellogg of Black Canyon City, Arizona, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary April 19. They have three children.

WIEDERMANN, Joachim, 65, of Mendooran, Australia, died May 2 after a lengthy battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Maria; and six children, Peggy, Ingrid, Helga, Frank, Angela and David.



IVAN & FAITH STUBER

Ivan and Faith Stuber of Wichita, Kansas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary April 23. They have two children, Daniel and Louis; and four grandchildren.



ALAN BROOKS

BROOKS, Alan, 74, of Glasgow, Scotland, died April 23. He is survived by his wife, Pat; one son, Daniel; and one daughter, Vivienne. Mr. Brooks was a member of the board of trustees of the Church in the United Kingdom and a local

church elder in the Glasgow church.

JENNINGS, Leon, 85, of Oneonta, Alabama, died March 18. He is survived by three sons, Conray, Carl and Jerald; four daughters, Ann Butcher, Marie Mansanarez, Gayla Brockman and Bonita Ballew; four sisters; 17 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

HENRY, Nora, 89, of Marion, Illinois, died April 3. She is survived by two sons, Edward and Phil; four daughters, Lynn Lansangan, Betty Boester, Lee Koch and Mae Silkwood; 25 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, one daughter, three brothers, two sisters and one grandson.

HENDERSON, Henry and Clarissa, 66 and 62, of Somerville, Alabama, died in an automobile accident April 4. They are survived by two sons, Jeffery and Johnny; and one daughter, Virginia Johnson.

GASSLER, Bernhard Augustus, 72, of Erith, England, died April 23 after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Gwen; one son; one daughter-in-law; and two grandchildren.

HUGGER, Beatrice, 71, of Erie, Pennsylvania, died March 15. She is survived by her husband, Joseph; one daughter, Anita Lemmon; three sons, Robert, Gale and Dennis; 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



ALISON JULIANI

JULIANI, Alison Hope, 4 1/2, of Watertown, New York, died March 19 of a brain tumor. She is survived by her parents, Alan and Laurie; one sister, Amanda; her grandparents; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

STOKES, Sandra L., 48, of Rialto, California, died April 4. She is survived by her mother, Emma Gene Mullins; one son, Michael; two daughters, Kim and Beverly; one daughter-in-law, Robin; one son-in-law, Dave Neels; one granddaughter, Christy; and two brothers, Mike and Steven Mullins.

HUMPHREY, Ruth, 77, of Russell, Kansas, died March 20. She is survived by one sister, one son, two daughters, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Her husband, Kenneth, and one son preceded her in death.

SCHICK, Vonda Lee, 68, of Garden City, Kansas, died March 6. She is

survived by one sister and one son. Her husband, Alvin, and two brothers preceded her in death.



AGGIE SMITH

SMITH, Aggie Lee, 87, of Detroit, Michigan, died Dec. 26. She is survived by two daughters, three sons, one brother, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.



GEORGIA TODD

TODD, Georgia Helene, 40, of Brampton, Ontario, died Nov. 1 of cancer. She is survived by her husband, David; one daughter, Sarah; her father; three brothers; and six sisters.



MELTON ADAMS

ADAMS, Melton, 77, of Chicago, Illinois, died April 10. He is survived by his wife, Queen Esther; two brothers; eight children; three stepchildren; 13 grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

WARTON, Alic May, 81, of Watford, England, died May 12 of cancer. She is survived by one son, Bob; two daughters, Wendy and Patsy; two grandsons, Daoud and Yaseen; and one granddaughter, Tasneen.

YOUNG, Sina Hall, 76, of North Little Rock, Arkansas, died Feb. 22 after a long illness. She is survived by her

husband, Ralph; four children; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one brother.



OLWYN SMITH

SMITH, Olwyn, 52, of Hanley Swan, England, died May 15 of heart failure. She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Colin; her father, James Jones; and one sister, Eunice Flanagan.



LORA WYLES

WYLES, Lora E., 93, of McComb, Mississippi, died Nov. 29. She is survived by one son, four daughters, nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Her husband, John, and one son, William, preceded her in death.



MARVIN WERINGS

WERINGS, Marvin A., 84, of Portland, Oregon, died May 4. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Rosalie; three sons, David, Marvin and Gary; one brother, Charles; one sister, Elizabeth Landreth; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Joanne Anderson.

CHILDERS, Dorothy M., 78, of Lafayette, Indiana, died Dec. 10 of

cancer. She is survived by her husband, Raymond; and one brother. One daughter, one brother and three sisters preceded her in death.



EDWARD BUDHLALL

BUDHLALL, Edward, 93, of St. George's, Grenada, died April 16. He is survived by three children, Allan, Eric and Cynthia; four grandchildren, Mark, Carole, Ceri and Leslie; and one sister, Claudia Spencer.



JOSEPH PONECK

PONECK, Joseph, 78, of Panama City, Florida, died Dec. 26 of heart failure. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; one son; one daughter; one stepson; one grandson; four granddaughters; and two great-grandchildren.



RIANNA SAWYER

SAWYER, Rianna Eloisa, 9 months, of Middletown, Virginia, died April 27 of sudden infant death syndrome. She is survived by her parents, Edward and Ina; two sisters, Rachel, 12, and Elizabeth, 8; her grandparents, Rodney and Sylvia Erickson and Bill and Glenda Sawyer; three aunts; one uncle; her great-grandmothers, Faye Moore and Eloisa Valadez; and her great-grandfather, William Sawyer.

Conference: pioneers who seek the kingdom of God

Continued from page 4

acknowledge the error and move on."

Sadly, some have been unwilling to acknowledge it and have stopped growing, he continued. They are unwittingly frozen in time and mistakenly think they are holding onto faith.

"Herbert W. Armstrong used the metaphor of being a voice crying out in the wilderness," Mr. Tkach Jr. said. "We still live in the wilderness of this society.

"In the wilderness you find three kinds of people: 1) hermits—people who move in from the outside, settle in caves and stay in one place until they die; 2) nomads—people who are always moving but never going anywhere, because they move in circles and wind up where they began; 3) pilgrims—people who are not desert dwellers. They do not belong to the desert but are simply passing through from one place to another.

"God does not call us to be hermits or nomads, but rather to be pilgrims and pioneers who progress toward the kingdom of God," he continued.

This summer Paul and Monica Kieffer will move from the Philippines to Germany, where Mr. Kieffer will serve as regional director.

Bill and Daphne Sidney will remain in the Philippines, and Mr. Sidney will replace Mr. Kieffer as Philippine regional director.

John and Kristina Karlson will return to the United States from Germany, where Mr. Karlson will pastor the Columbus, Ohio, West congregation.



Monica and Paul Kieffer



Bill and Daphne Sidney



John and Kristina Karlson



DIRECTED—Regional directors and wives with headquarters administrators and Joseph W. Tkach (center). [Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.]

Update

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

Caring continues at age 100

ST. PAUL, Minnesota—**Frances Taylor Burger** celebrated her 100th birthday May 1. Mrs. Burger was baptized in



Frances Taylor Burger

1966, when she was part of the Wichita, Kansas, church.

Mrs. Burger was the first contact with the Church for a daughter, **Maryanna Burger**

Root, and son-in-law, **Marvin Root**. Now, her three grandchildren, **Maria Stahl**, **Aaron Root** and **Laura Cooley** are Church members as well, and her two great-grandchildren, **Britta** and **Kieffer Stahl**, are being brought to services with their parents, **Barry** and **Maria Stahl**. Thus, four generations benefit from Mrs. Burger's response to God's calling.

After Mrs. Burger graduated from nursing school in Kansas City, Missouri, she was a nurse until she moved to a rural area, where she had no transportation for getting to work.

Mrs. Burger lives in a nursing home in Roseville, Minnesota. A series of strokes left her increasingly debilitated. However, she continues to show concern for the comfort of other nursing home residents, as well as for family and friends. *Maryanna Burger Root.*

100-year-old member honored at services

CINCINNATI, Ohio—**Ethel Andrews** celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends.

Mrs. Andrews attended services March 5, where she was



Dora Lees and her mother, Ethel Andrews

given a cake from the Cincinnati East church. Mrs. Andrews has one daughter, three grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. *Sara Partin.*

Ministers participate in National Day of Prayer

A number of ministers participated in community observances of the National Day of Prayer U.S. President **Bill Clinton** called for May 5.

These opportunities are one way to fulfill the instructions that Paul gave in 1 Timothy 2:1-3: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior," according to evangelist **Joseph Tkach Jr.**, director of Church Administration.

In Pasadena, 10 ministers attended the mayor's prayer breakfast along with more than 500 community leaders. Among the speakers were the new mayor, **Katie Nack**, and the new president of Fuller Seminary, **Richard Mouw**. Others who addressed the group included community clergy and a rabbi.

College announces staff reduction

BIG SANDY—As part of Ambassador College's continuing effort to maintain efficiency in all areas of operation, 17 employees were terminated April 27, announced **Donald Ward**, college president. Included

were 13 full-time and four part-time employees.

The affected employees were offered a severance package and assistance from the Career Services and Placement Department.

Dr. Ward said the decision to terminate personnel was made in light of budgetary constraints, guided by a report put together by a task force on efficiency.

The task force, chaired by **Jeb Egbert**, dean of student affairs and assistant to the president, "carried out a comprehensive and intensive examination of our programs and operations and discovered ways to maximize the use of available resources," said Dr. Ward.

"It is always difficult to deal with this kind of situation," he said. "However, we believe that the severance package and career-service program we've offered will assist those who have been affected as they consider future options."

Longtime Church employees retire

BIG SANDY—**Lynn Torrance**, admissions director, and **Stan Bass**, instructor of



Lou and Lynn Torrance

English, retired after decades of service to the Church and Ambassador College.

Dr. Torrance, 76, began working at Imperial Schools in 1954, and in 1956 began working for the college, where he taught classes and served as chair of the English Department.

He began serving as registrar and director of admissions in Big Sandy in 1977. Dr. Torrance and his wife, **Lou**, plan to move to Arkansas.

Mr. Bass, 66, was ordained a local elder in 1963 and eventually served as regional director of the Church's Caribbean Office from 1974 to 1990. He was ordained an evangelist in January 1987. In 1990 he joined the AC faculty as an instructor in English, a position he held for four years. He and his wife,



Stan and Millie Bass

Millie, will live in Big Sandy. College faculty honored Dr. Torrance and Mr. Bass at a reception May 18.

Ada church to mark 25th anniversary

ADA, Oklahoma—The Ada church will celebrate its 25th anniversary Aug. 20.

Afternoon services will be followed by a dinner dance with a Western theme. A special speaker is planned as well as comments from ministers who have served in the area. A photo history of the congregation and entertainment will be presented that evening. For more information call **Steve** or **Mavis Kirk** at 1-405-436-3035.

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Ambassador College Class of 1994

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Julia Cecelia Adams
Jennifer Iva Aitchison *
Jesmina Allaoua
Frank Edward Peter Ancona *
Joddine Lynn Anderson
Gary G. Armfield
Lisa Michelle Arnold ***
David Ronald Bacon **
Anne-Louise Bagnall *
Nathania Lee Baker
Scott Allen Barlows
Rebeckah Lynn Barness
Amy Lynn Bauman
Michael Vincent Bell
Cristi E. Beyersdorfer
Nino Boezio
Joel Eugene Borton
Stephen B. Botha *
John Daniel Boyll ***
Tracy André Bradford
Jolene Renee Brazil *
Garrett Dean Bremer
James H. Browder
Kelli Beth Brunning *
David Emmett Bryce
Jeremy Jorge Bushlack ***
Colin Bryant Cameron
Andrea Leigh Cameron
Sarah Katharine Campbell
Amy Melissa Carroll **
Caroline C. Cathers
Elizabeth Marie Caylor *
Tess W. Ciesielka
Olivier Benjamin Claude
Robert Jeremy Coe
Shawn Michael Corteloyou
Paula Marie Craig
Aaron Anthony Czech
Sheleen Rae Daly ***
Charles Edward Daniel Jr.
Marcia Ailene David *
Amy Jacqlyn Decker
Rex Weylmer De La Peña
Michael Mitchell Delote
Loretta Louise Deraas *
John Anthony Dickerson
John Larkin Dudley III *
Sylvia Ruth Duke **
Adam James Dunlap
Alison Sarrat Olutayo Edalere
Juliana Egedus ***
Karen Marcelle E. Edwards
Karen Samantha Michèle Engelbart ***
Aaron Blake Evans
Debra Lynn Ferguson

Lydia Denise Ferguson ***
Sandra Lynn Finneran
Shari Lynn Franke
Johnathan Frankel
Joseph Frank Friddle
Nathalie Gagnon
Leslie Marie Galinat
Michele Lynn Gannon ***
Isaac Anthony Garcia
Aaron James Gayman *
Jenee Rebekah Geer
Vicki Renee Shaw Goodrow *
Kaye Lynn Goodyear **
Melody Lynn Gray
Rebecca Sue Graybeal
John Owen Gusner
Elizabeth Ann Haines-Peterson
Mark William Hall
Allan Francis Hambleton
Shaun D. Harr
Irene Elizabeth Hart *
Derek Blakely Haughton
Karin Michelle Hegna **
Christopher Lee Henson *
Claudia Herrera
Michelle Ann Hierman
Helen J. Homan
Beckie Kay Hoyt
Kai Bodo Hypko **
Tonya E. Hypko
Dale Robert Johnston
Nancy Elizabeth Jones ***
Daniel James Kale ***
Wendy S. Kaleho
Wendy Elise Kendall **
Robert K. Kendall
Jeffrey Lynn Klar
James Scott Kormos
Christeena Michele Lalum **
Eric B. Lang
Beth Anne Langenderfer **
Kym Lorraine LaVarra
Katherine Marie Lavaty **
Jeannie Juliet Lazar
Melissa Jean Lee *
Lynn L. Leiby
Antoine Troy Lightbourne
Lewanna Jean Locke
Jennifer Ann Loveall
Jeffery Charles Marion
Antonella Marsella **
David Jonathan Martin
Jonathan Paul Martinez
David John Mauzey
Brian R. McBride
Shawn Renée McConaughy

Kimberly Ann McCorkle *
Jason Jess McCoy
Kellie Jane McDonald ***
Rebekah Lynne McElroy
Lance Marlon McKinnon
Peter Joseph McLean
Andrew Brown McLelland
Eileen Rachele McNair
Joanne Barbara McNaughton
Kathleen Luz Melendez
John Lawrence Merritt II **
Jennifer Leigh Metz **
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Trevor Tshenolo Mokeyane
James Weston Moody
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Louis William Brunett Morton *
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Peter Allan Nomm
Casie Nootboom
Miwa Andrea Okano
Christopher James Oles
Deron Jerry Olson
Deborah Lynn Olson
Ronald L. Ongley, Jr.
Edwin N. Orogo
Jarrod Eric Orr
Carrie Sue Oswald
Michelle Deean Owens
Patricia L. Ozment
Alice Danella Parnell-Bell *
Susan Leah Parrish
George Kelly Patmor
Lisa Daneen Pelley *
Benjamin Arthur Neal Persky
Michael Ted Persky
Joel E. Peterson
Michelle Ruth Petranek
Penny Sue Pierce **
Stacey Lynn Pittman
Kathryn Ann-Marie Poland
Ann Elizabeth Polera
Antonio Polera *
Linda Carol Popp
Derek Don Ramsey
Jonathan Michael Reedy ***
Ronda Suzanne Reedy *
Daniel James Resler

Keith Richley
Michael Mark Richter **
Elsworth Darrio Rolle
Ulysses Raymond Ronquillo
Amberlee Elizabeth Ruggless ***
Jennifer Lynn Russell *
Caroline Elizabeth Sag
Kassandra Michelle Salter
Robert Eugene Salter Jr.
Steven Thomas Samuels
Ignacio Joseph Sanchez
Cheryl Ann Sanoy *
Audie Olvido Santibañez
Daniel Keith Saurbaugh
Mark David Schaffer
Crystal Michelle Schnippert
Kristy Mae Schnoor
Jennifer Renée Scott
Sarah Elizabeth Short *
Sameta Jane Shrauner **
David Craig Shrum **
Mara Elizabeth Shuta *
James Nelson Sloan *
Lisa Marie Soik *
Darrrel Bryan Solomon *
Kimberly Ann Sorrentino
Michael Douglas Spangler
Larissa Renee Spraker
Joseph D. St. Clair
Haley Kay Steele
Rachel Marie Thomas
Tasoni Valencia Tillotson
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Troy Orlando White
Lynda Suzanne White
Vicki Lynn Whitehead **
Sharon Rose Wiese *
Ruwani Inoka Wijesuriya
Rose Ann Williams
Larry Wong Yu Kiun *
Rachel Renee Yelk
Marcus Gene Yulfo
Stephen John Zavocki *
James Allen Zimmerman
Julie Joanne Zutz ***

***With highest distinction (grade point average [GPA] of 3.8 to 4.0) **With high distinction (GPA of 3.60 to 3.79) *With distinction (GPA of 3.40 to 3.59)