

The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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OCT. 10, 1989

New season for telecast meets concerns of television viewers

By Paul Monteith

PASADENA—The new *World Tomorrow* season began Oct. 7 with "The Prophecy Puzzle" presented by evangelist David Albert.

The *World Tomorrow* audience "will see an improvement in delivery, in the overall style and the approach," said Herbert Vierra, operation manager of Television and Radio Production.

"Instead of saying 'God says'—which can be interpreted by the audience as our opinion of what God says—we will direct the audience to the Bible and what Scripture says. It's a subtle difference but it has a more effective approach," Mr. Vierra said.

The *World Tomorrow* will continue its news-information style by including interviews with experts and more on-location reporting.

The goal set by Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach is to make the program effective, insightful and show how God and the Bible are relevant in today's modern society, according to producer Larry Omasta.

All four presenters will appear Jan. 6 and 7 for a telecast about the decade of the '90s. They will discuss what is ahead for the world as it enters the next decade.

Meeting viewers needs

Being relevant and meeting the concerns of viewers are primary considerations for those who produce *The World Tomorrow*, according to Bernard Schnippert, director of Media Operations.

"Over the past nine years polls and studies have shown a decline in public opinion of television evangelists and a dwindling number of viewers who watch religious programs," commented Mr. Omasta.

However, "*The World Tomorrow* is becoming more popular and getting high Arbitron ratings," Mr. Vierra said. He attributes the success to changes Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach made in 1986, such as having more than one presenter and a set that gives the telecast a news-information style.

Mr. Omasta commented: "Arbitron and Neilson studies show that the viewership of news-information programming is now two to three times that of religious programming."

Program integrity

Those working with *The World Tomorrow* agree that the use of in-

terviews gives the program greater integrity.

"Just to have a presenter sit behind a desk in a studio doesn't mean that what he says is true," Mr. Vierra said.

World Tomorrow presenter David Hulme added that "research by itself would not be enough, you need to have both. Interviews create additional credibility... and to have experts, deeply involved in a particular field, give you their comments allows the program to be seen as news-informational—which is where people's attention is these days."

Mr. Hulme traveled to Washington, D.C., and several European cities and interviewed five experts on Soviet affairs—among them Professor Karl Carstens, a former president of West Germany, and Otto von Habsburg, a member of the European Parliament.

These interviews will be part of the telecast "The New Soviet Offensive," which explains why outsiders have difficulty understanding the Soviet Union.

Teen discussion

"One of the programs we have coming up is not really an interview per se, but a group discussion with teens," Mr. Vierra said.

The program will be presented by Dr. Albert. "The teens answered questions about life," said Dr. Albert. "They discussed how early in life they are confronted with drugs, the pressure to abuse drugs and alcohol and to engage in premarital sex.

"This program will help parents get a feel for what teenagers are thinking about and experiencing and how they can help their teens combat those pressures."

World Tomorrow presenter Richard Ames traveled to the na-

tional Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., to interview Ward Cates, director of the sexually transmissible disease section.

Mr. Ames also interviewed Ronald Bayer, an associate professor at the Columbia University School of Public Health in New York, for the program "STDs—the Silent Epidemic."

On location

"We are trying to create interest (See SEASON, page 3)



DAMAGE FROM HURRICANE HUGO—Cena Secor, a member who attends the Sumter, S.C., church, and her family escaped harm when this tree fell on their house. [Photo by George Elkins]

'Everyone is enjoying serving and giving'

Brethren safe after hurricane

By Kerri Dowd

PASADENA—Hurricane Hugo ravaged the Charleston, S.C., area Sept. 21 and 22 causing an estimated \$3 billion in damages and at least 20 deaths.

"No one was hurt," said Robert Persky, pastor of the 237-member Charleston church. "There are several stories showing that the brethren were protected."

Property damage

Church members David and Matilda Price lost their house. The Prices were in the house at the time, although their infant son, Seth, was safe with another family.

Mrs. Price was in the bathroom when a tree fell on the house. She rushed out, and her husband joined her in the hallway, and another tree fell.

The couple stayed in the hallway among the trees and prayed for about an hour. When the worst of the storm had passed, nine trees had fallen on their house.

"They should have been killed," Mr. Persky said of the Prices, who live on Redeemer Drive. Their car and two boats were also destroyed, but the Prices have insurance.

Another member, Peggy Etheridge, went with her daughter to a shelter in a school. While they were

huddled there with about 600 other people, one of about 100 tornadoes produced by the hurricane started to pick up the building. The group evacuated to another school.

"Even though her trailer was destroyed, Mrs. Etheridge was just so (See HURRICANE, page 5)

Storm strikes islands: Intervention evident

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—Saturday evening, Sept. 16, the Caribbean Regional Office staff went to the office to tape windows and make backup copies of computer programs and files.

Hurricane Hugo was on its way.

This article was compiled from reports by evangelist Stan Bass, Caribbean regional director, and Pablo Gonzalez, San Juan, Puerto Rico, pastor.

Monday, Sept. 18, the hurricane swept into Puerto Rico.

"On the street I live on there are no houses on the opposite side—just a vacant area and a drainage canal," said evangelist Stan Bass, Caribbean regional director.

"For about six hours it sounded as though locomotives were passing down the street as the wind blew straight down the street."

Damage in Mr. Bass' area was minimal, but people were without electricity and water for several days.

The regional office lost power but received no damage.

"The storm came ashore in Puerto Rico much farther north and at a somewhat different angle than was being forecast by the weather bureau," Mr. Bass said.

"The new track caused the storm's eye to exit the island before it passed over San Juan. Had the regional office been exposed to the full fury of the 140-mile-per-hour winds, it would have been devastated."

Caribbean members

According to Mr. Bass, brethren in Dominica and Antigua are safe. On the island of Tortola in the British Virgin Islands, one member

is fine and there is no word from the other.

Both members in St. Thomas are safe. All members in St. Croix are fine, but one member's house was destroyed, one lost the roof of his house and several members had their roofs damaged.

Mr. Bass had no word from St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis, where four members live.

"We feel certain that God has protected them although we have not yet heard from them," Mr. Bass said. "God's intervention was evident throughout the region."

Telephones in Puerto Rico are functioning, but it is difficult to reach the islands to the southeast of Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rican brethren

Pablo Gonzalez, San Juan pastor, reported: "About half of Puerto Rico was hard hit, the eastern part being the most affected... Streets and roads became impassable. Electricity was cut off, as well as water supplies."

The Hotel La Concha, the planned site for Feast of Tabernacles services, sustained severe damage. The meeting hall was left intact, but it

(See STORM, page 7)

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren:

How should a true Christian view people of "the world"?

At first glance, this sounds like a simple question, with a simple answer.

But when we consider the way

had toward others who were not as knowledgeable about the law as they were. He called them "whitewashed tombs, snakes, a brood of vipers."

Have any of us had a similar pharisaic approach at times? Have we ever thought of our relationships with others with a

If we are truly Christians, we will not take on a superior-inferior attitude toward other people. Such thinking is the absolute antithesis of the way of life Jesus lived and taught.

some Christians tend to think of those in the world, we see why the apostles so often referred to right and wrong attitudes and thoughts about others.

Jesus condemned the spiritually superior attitude Pharisees

kind of "we and they" attitude?

For example: "We are righteous; they are unrighteous." Or: "We are saved; they are unsaved." "We are to be protected; they are to be destroyed."

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Last Issue Before Feast

This is the final *Worldwide News* before the Feast of Tabernacles. The *Worldwide News* will resume its two-week publishing schedule with the Nov. 13 issue.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

"We have spiritual knowledge; they are spiritually blind." "We have understanding; they have none." "God hears our prayers; they are cut off from God."

"We have the love of God; they have only human love."

Jesus was kind, merciful and patient with unconverted people. He was forgiving. He was not afraid to eat with them or spend time with them, even though he never partook of their sins. Many of them changed their lives to begin following his example.

"We are children of God; they are children of the devil." "We have spiritual understanding; they cannot understand spiritual matters."

Be an example to follow

Is this how Jesus, whose followers we are, looked at things? He was moved with compassion. He was kind, merciful and patient with unconverted people. He was forgiving. He was not afraid to eat with them or spend time with them, even though he never partook of their sins.

In fact, many of them changed their lives to begin following his example.

Even today, most of those who become converted are first attracted to God's way through the personal example of a Christian.

Whom did Jesus call children of the devil? Those who thought they had a corner on the spiritual

market. Those who thought they were the only ones who could have a relationship with God. Their attitude of pompous spiritual superiority made them partakers of the attitude of the devil.

If we are truly Christians, we will not take on a superior-inferior attitude toward other people. Such thinking is the absolute antithesis of the way of life Jesus lived and taught.

The Bible tells us to esteem others better than ourselves. It tells us not to have respect of

persons. It tells us to love even our enemies and to do good to those who persecute us and speak evil of us.

No superior feelings

That is why true Christianity is such a radical departure from the way human beings naturally think.

The teachings of Jesus Christ do not allow for even the attitudes of superiority, bitterness or hatred against non-Christians, much less the torture, murder and war that have marked the history of most religions, espe-

cially that of Christian Europe and now the Middle East.

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (New International Version throughout). This is how God feels about the people we sometimes refer to as the world.

"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us," Paul wrote in Romans 5:8.

John wrote in I John 2:2: "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but

also for the sins of the whole world."

During the Feast of Tabernacles, we especially focus on the joyous and wonderful time when hatred, strife, racism, partisan spirit, prejudice and vain superiority will no longer dominate human relationships.

Throughout the year, let's keep these things in mind, and renew our eagerness for the coming of the bright and wonderful new world under Jesus Christ that will see mankind delivered from the suffering and ruin that sin has created!



European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder

AIDS time bomb ticks: Will Europeans learn?

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Sometimes a short article by someone else seems ideal for this column. I have devoted my entire column to an eye-opening piece by Ruth Devine, a media staff member in our office here. Her article follows.

Reading the papers I came across a frightening article titled "AIDS Nightmare Hits Packed Costa [Coast] Resorts." The story told how an "AIDS time bomb ticking away at Spanish resorts is about to explode in Britain."

The reason for this, the article pointed out, was that millions of young Britons who flock to the Mediterranean for sun, sea and sex are unaware of the risks they are taking—in particular in the brothels surrounding the holiday spots where many a drunk young British holidaygoer ends his evening.

Doctors estimate that as many as two out of five of the hundreds of Costa call girls are HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) positive.

The situation is becoming so serious that a senior British diplomat on the Costa Blanca was warned: "It is only a matter of time before AIDS spreads back to Britain."

Often British men in resorts such as Benidorm use a prostitute if they can't find a partner at a club, then sleep with an English girl on the following evening, and so the cycle continues.

Amazingly this year the party spirit seems undampened by the threat of AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), and many don't bother with condoms.

But Europeans can learn a lot from the American AIDS experience.

American lessons

One disturbing account of the first five years of the AIDS epidemic in America is called *And the Band Played On*. . . . It was written by R. Shilts, a journalist for the San Francisco, Calif., *Chronicle*.

Mr. Shilts, a confessed homosexual, put together more than 900 interviews and medical and government documents from American associations, and detailed information from such prestigious European hospitals as the Pasteur Institute in Paris.

Mr. Shilts' book describes death after death, including the first American victim of the disease.

Mr. Shilts doesn't cover up that the disease was largely spread through ignoring warnings about the consequences of certain kinds of sexual conduct.

In fact, "Patient Zero," who in his 10 years working for Canadian Airlines, had 2,500 sexual contacts and passed on the disease to 40 of the first people to die.

Knowing full well that he had the disease now called AIDS, and that it was contagious, he continued to frequent bathhouses.

Lessons for Europe

The bitterness with which Mr. Shilts tells the AIDS story has many lessons for us in Europe. Not that we would recommend you go out and read the book yourself. It is frightening, explicit and often sickening and depressing.

What we should take seriously are the lessons to be learned from the American AIDS experience. That sexual immorality has repercussions down the line for the fabric of the nation. Big ones.

We in the Church realize that the Bible gives clear guidelines on sexual morality. Guidelines that experts admit would put a stop to the threat of AIDS to young holiday makers on the Spanish coasts. But it also gives much more.

There is not only the how to live, but also the why. Both aspects are essential to the restitution of healthy societies.



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

You're being watched

Imagine, if you will, the following. In the country where you live, it is a crime to be a true Christian. One of your neighbors suspects you are a Christian and turns your name into the authorities. Government agents are assigned to monitor your every action.

You are followed and watched as you drive to work. You are watched after work as you wheel your grocery cart through the aisles of the market and photographed when you approach the checkout counter. The agents note your conversation with the cashier.

You are under surveillance in your home. Recordings are made of your conversations with your mate and children and friends. Any suspected Church activities are videotaped for replay.

After several weeks of close observation, the agents make their final report. Your file is studied carefully for incriminating evidence. Is there enough data to indict you for being a true Christian? Or will the case be dismissed for lack of evidence?

I John 2:28-29 explains that if our faith is important to us, the evidence of our Christianity will be obvious. John puts it this way: "And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him" (New King James).

How about you? Are you practicing righteousness? The gospel is preached not only in print and on radio and television but by the example of our personal lives.

Is your light shining? If so, where does it shine—only on other brethren or out into the dark world

around us?

Matthew 5:16 tells us to "let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

One Editorial employee told me that when she graduated from Ambassador College, she and two other women found an apartment less than a mile from campus. None of them had a car, so they walked to work. That was fine, but when it came time to buy groceries, they had a problem.

Too busy to be a Christian?

Several times they called friends—fellow Church members—but they always seemed too busy to help. As a last resort, they occasionally called a neighbor with whom they had become acquainted. He was ready to drop everything and help out.

Often, when he was planning a trip to the grocery store, he would go to various apartments and ask if anyone needed anything. Isn't this the kind of example we should be setting?

Of course, as Galatians 6:10 tells us, we need to be willing to help another member whenever we are able, but how many times do we reach out to those who are not of "the household of faith?"

As I wrote in the September *Plain Truth*, it is good to be neighborly. Over the years, many have developed the idea that we should have as little to do with "worldly" people as possible.

One woman told me that about five years ago her best friend from high school moved halfway across the country and now lives a short drive away. But because her husband doesn't feel his wife should visit this woman who is not a

Church member, she has not seen her friend. How sad!

In other cases brethren have missed weddings and funerals of neighbors and co-workers because they felt it was wrong to attend. Others have shunned the friendly advances of neighbors.

Think of the impression this leaves. Instead of the warm feeling that light brings, it leaves the feeling of being pushed out into the dark with the door locked behind.

Another impression some nonmembers get is that we in the Church see ourselves as somehow better than they are. They feel this is the reason we are unwilling to associate with them.

Christ attended the wedding of nonmembers and even provided the wine. He also ate with publicans and sinners.

One employee said that she and her husband invited their dentist and his family over for dinner. When this came up in casual conversation, they were asked several times, "Why on earth would you

We can't know whether God will use us to call someone into the Church. We can't assume that he will, but we can't assume that he won't. Although it cannot be documented exactly, the Work's statisticians say that more people come into contact with the Church through family members and friends than any other way. Thousands have become members this way. This means that some members are out there shining their lights.

Even if those we come into contact with are not called now, they will be likely to learn more quickly and be converted more readily in the future if they have positive memories of the members they have met.

Obviously, there are some dangers in having too much fellowship with those who are not members, particularly in the case of singles and the opposite sex. And, it is not appropriate to have fellowship with those who constantly berate the Church and its teachings. But these

Is there enough data to indict you for being a true Christian? Or will the case be dismissed for lack of evidence?

want to ask your dentist to dinner?" Because he is a good dentist and a nice person. And because he was interested in their trip to the Feast last year.

When you spend time with nonmembers, there is always a possibility that they will ask questions. In most cases these questions reflect only a casual interest and can be answered easily. If not, or if the questions reflect a deeper interest, you should, of course, suggest they write and request information or ask for a ministerial visit.

Ashamed of truth?

Sometimes members are nervous or embarrassed about answering questions about the Church and its teachings, and this approach, too, can be a poor reflector of light. When someone asks a question, why not be positive and as helpful as possible? After all, these are the beliefs we have changed our lives for.

situations are the exception.

It is easy to think we are being lights when we hear the letters that come in from motel managers and restaurant owners after the Feast of Tabernacles, or when we can demonstrate family unity at a public event.

But the people of this impersonal world need personal contact. They need to see up close that God's way does work. They need to see people who are deeply convicted in their beliefs.

Instead of what has become the traditional approach of avoiding contact with those who are not part of the Flock, why not shine out? Take the single man in the apartment next door some fresh muffins. Carry some groceries for the elderly man down the street. Give a co-worker a friendly card to show you notice her hard work.

Why not really let your light shine?

Cooperation vital to success for brethren with hearing loss

By Selmer Hegvold

PASADENA—Hearing loss is an unpleasant specter that exists between the afflicted one and his or her friends, family and co-workers.

Selmer Hegvold is manager of the Church's Deaf Program in Church Administration. Mr. Hegvold has 80 percent hearing loss.

Any hearing loss can cause frustration, irritation and embarrassment. Chances are that you do not suffer from hearing loss, but you may be associated with some who are.

Hearing loss is the most common physical impairment in the United States, and it is growing at a phe-

nominal rate because of industrial high decibel sounds.

Some reading this article are afflicted—deprived of the ability to hear and understand conversation. This ranges from a minimal deterioration to profound inability to decipher sounds that come from their God-created hearing mechanisms.

Hearing loss creates problems. Jobs have been jeopardized, lives endangered, education has been difficult and family and marriage relationships have suffered.

Over the years hard-of-hearing Church members have developed a culture of their own to help them cope in a predominantly hearing society. The Church, however, is striving to blend the separate cultures of the deaf, the blind and the hard-of-hearing members into one Christian culture of the Church of God.

It is a tough, uphill climb to overcome a hard-of-hearing disability and succeed in life. But it can be done with understanding and cooperation from all—the victim as well as his or her associates.

Unfortunately, those suffering from a hearing difficulty do not always recognize how serious the problem is, since residual hearing allows them to hear sounds but not always decipher what is said. The circumstances of the conversation also affect what they hear.

Because the hard-of-hearing don't always recognize the seriousness of the problem, they choose to live with it rather than seek a solution. Hearing people can interpret their behavior as having a short attention span, hearing only what they want to hear or even a lack of intelligence.

While those with good hearing need to understand the nature of the problem and how difficult the average conversation can be, the hard-of-hearing must also understand the frustration it causes others and work to alleviate this problem.



SELMER HEGVOLD

Much of the corrective responsibilities fall upon the person afflicted. An audiologist can fit the hard-of-hearing with a hearing aid. They can also get telephone amplifiers for home and office use. And surgery can help those with conductive hearing loss.

Audiologists, particularly those in the American Veterans Administration working with war veterans, have discovered that hearing loss seems to be a taboo subject in families. They strongly advise that families be educated about hearing loss.

Often the focus is only on the hearing-impaired person in the family. Yet normal hearing members need to express themselves, for they sometimes are frustrated over misunderstandings within the family.

Season

(Continued from page 1)

for the viewer," Mr. Ames said. "We are also trying to implement on-location taping more frequently and to get out from behind the desk."

Mr. Vierra commented that a professional media broadcasting consultant has been working with the presenters on interviewing techniques and delivery methods.

"Our TV crew went to Europe last June to get on-location footage for a European's perspective of Europe," Mr. Kelly said.

"We also shot footage of the ruins of Babylon in Iraq and the Ishtar Gate in an East Berlin museum. This footage will help to make the program about Babylon, its history and its future, come alive."

"It is going to be a very exciting series of programs," Mr. Ames said. "I think we are fulfilling our mission to reach a broader audience and reach them effectively."

"In terms of preaching the gospel we have to be 'wise as serpents and harmless as doves' and try to reach more than just a narrow religious audience. . . . It is a tremendous opportunity to educate the public."

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Doctors astonished at member's recovery

She 'should not be here today'

By William Jahns

AKRON, Ohio—Violet Jarvis, 49, was hospitalized with a ruptured stomach in June 1988. Within hours her entire abdominal area was inflamed with a severe infection. Mrs. Jarvis' condition was critical.

William Jahns is pastor of the Akron, Ohio, church.

The life-threatening infection spread through her body and damaged her lungs, kidneys and liver.

She was operated on several times in attempts to relieve the infection and repair its damage. But the infection moved into her blood, and she was given large quantities of antibiotics, which caused her to lose her hearing because of nerve damage.

Several times Mrs. Jarvis' condition became so critical that death seemed imminent. Muscle and skin from her abdomen were removed and replaced with surgical screen to save her life.

The doctors were astonished that Mrs. Jarvis held her own. A person with this much infection and the loss of a large area of skin and muscle protection does not usually survive.

In August 1988, her situation became extremely critical. Her blood pressure dropped, and she had an adverse reaction to a blood transfusion.

Mrs. Jarvis was not expected to live more than a few hours.

But again, she began to recover. A few days later she was moved by helicopter to Cleveland Clinic, where she could receive specialized care.

Skin grafts placed over the surgical screen took hold, and the infection began to abate.

Physicians at the Cleveland Clinic told the family, "Mrs. Jarvis should not be here today."



ROAD TO RECOVERY—Violet Jarvis (seated), who suffered a ruptured stomach and spent 10½ months in the hospital, is now able to attend Sabbath services. Also pictured are daughter-in-law Teresa Jarvis (left), and daughter Rachel Jarvis.

It was obvious that she had God's help. She had been anointed several times, and over the next months she started to recover. Her liver and kidneys became fully functional.

After 10½ months in the hospital, Mrs. Jarvis is home. Through physical therapy she is beginning to gain back her muscle tone and move about. She still cannot hear.

To remedy the situation, sufferers need to overcome inhibitions and inform family and associates of hearing loss. They should ask others to speak clearly, distinctly and directly to them. Others should not speak with their backs turned or from another room. They should make sure that they have the attention of the hard-of-hearing before beginning a conversation.

The hard-of-hearing person should alert others that sometimes his or her hearing loss will cause miscommunication, misunderstanding or misreading of motives. He should tell others that he has difficulties in vocal communication and ask if this has caused them any problems in the past.

For those with good hearing, here are some helpful points to consider when talking to the hard-of-hearing:

(1) If a person is wearing a hearing aid there is no need to talk di-

rectly into the device. Face the person and talk in a normal manner without exaggerated mouthing motions.

(2) Hearing aids do not locate the direction from which sounds are coming. Allow the wearer time to orient himself to the source before you continue talking.

(3) Most hard-of-hearing people have learned to speech-read, which is simpler than lipreading. The speech-reader reads the speaker's entire expressive presentation: facial, gestures and body language unique to the speaker's personality, along with whatever limited sound he or she can hear.

(4) Even the most experienced speech-reader understands only 30 to 40 percent of what is said. It will be necessary to repeat or rephrase words or parts of the conversation missed.

(5) Patience, (on the part of all, is required.

Concert series offers full spectrum of music

PASADENA—"This season, Ambassador Foundation brings you a matchless roster of internationally acclaimed virtuosi and ensembles covering the full spectrum of classical and popular music."

So reads the brochure for the 1989-90 Ambassador Foundation concert series.

The season began Sept. 17 with a travel adventure film on Israel's history and culture, titled *The Bible Lands*. Charles Forbes Taylor narrated the film.

Six other travel films during the year feature travels in China, Europe, the pre-Civil War South, Australia and South Africa.

The films are "colorful, exciting and informative with personal nar-

rations by their producers," said evangelist David Hulme, vice president of the Ambassador Foundation.

Sept. 23 and 24 the Broadway musical *Big River*, based on Mark Twain's story of Huckleberry Finn, was presented in the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

Concert series this season are Great Performers, Great Orchestras of the World, Stars of Opera, Chamber Music, Piano, Guitar, Festival of Early Music, Footlight, Mostly Country Music, Ambassador Pops, Pasadena Civic Pops, Big Band Era, Sounds of Genius, Gold Medal '90 and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Ambassador Auditorium's resident orchestra.

New artists at Ambassador this year include Claire Bloom, the English String Orchestra, Orchester der Beethovenhalle Bonn, Paata Burchuladze, Frederica von Stade.

The Emerson String Quartet, Vladimir Feltsman, Kazuhito Yamashita, Goeran Soellischer, the British Music Hall, Boots Randolph, Floyd Cramer, the Bulgarian State Female Vocal Choir, the Black Watch bagpipers, Maynard Ferguson, the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra, the Masters of Harmony, the Great Guitars, the Toshiko Akiyoshi Jazz Orchestra and all performers in the Gold Medal '90 series.

Report from the Treasurer's Office

Leroy Neff

PASADENA—For several years I have not written a September report because of the difficulties in making an accurate comparison with the previous September.

It is difficult to make valid comparisons for two reasons. First, the Holy Days do not fall on the same Roman calendar days or even in the same month. In addition, the time when people go to the Feast drastically affects the regular income of the Church.

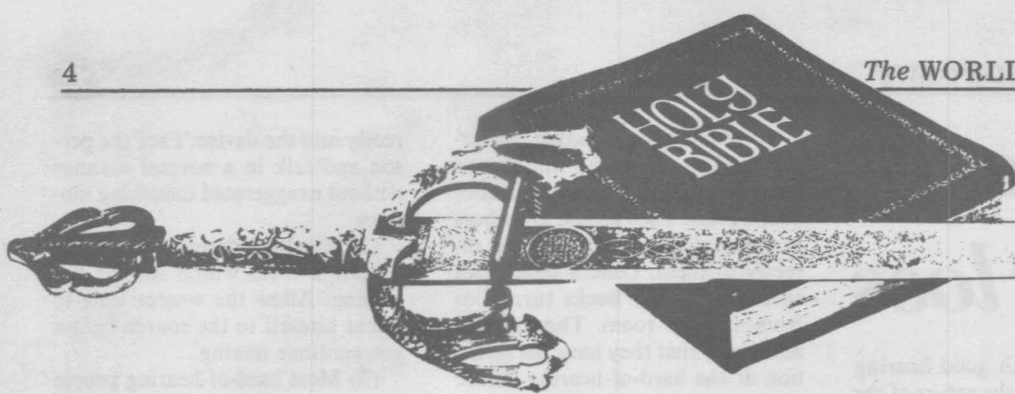
It is simple in our comparisons to move the Holy Day offering figures between months, but it is much more difficult to estimate the effect of the Feast period on regular tithes and offerings.

In the past I have waited until the end of October for a report on both September and October. This year we have modeled the figures to compensate for the differences between September 1988 and 1989.

Income for September therefore is 16.5 percent more than last year, and the year-to-date increase is 4 percent. Because of modeling, please realize that this information could prove to be slightly less than accurate.

As I write this report Oct. 2, the preliminary information for the Feast of Trumpets Holy Day offering indicates a good increase, but not quite as great as earlier offerings this year.

The October report should provide an accurate comparison of the regular income as well as the Holy Day offerings.



IRON SHARPENS IRON

Do you know what can happen if you forget to actively listen?

By James E. Kissee

I came home tired and picked up the newspaper to read. My son, Joseph, 3 years old at the time, said he wanted to talk. I glanced at him and said, "Go ahead."

As is sometimes the case for a child of this age, he started to speak, but the words escaped him and he had to start over again and again.

James Kissee, a preaching elder, is director of student employment and financial aids at Ambassador College in Big Sandy.

I had returned to my paper when my son finally got his thoughts together and looked up at me. He called for my undiverted attention. I looked and he tried again to tell me what was so important. With the repeated starts and stops I drifted anew.

Suddenly he was in my lap. He planted his nose on my nose and his forehead against my forehead. Looking eyeball to eyeball, he said,

"Daddy, are you in there?"

That got my attention.

The incident clearly illustrates a common problem: We don't listen.

Listening is often neglected, yet listening should be one of our most valuable skills. Each year we listen to more than 100 hours of spiritual instruction in sermons and sermonettes at Sabbath services and on the Holy Days.

How well do you listen? Paul says our faith depends on listening. "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17, New King James throughout). Faith increases if we listen well.

We're commanded to listen

Jesus often said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." He wasn't talking about the physical ability to hear. He was speaking of those with spiritual understanding—those with spiritual hearing.

Jesus didn't stop here. He said: "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be

measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. For whoever has, to him more will be given" (Mark 4:24-25). God gives us greater discernment and knowledge when we listen and obey.

Listening is often neglected, yet listening should be one of our most valuable skills. Each year we listen to more than 100 hours of spiritual instruction in sermons and sermonettes at Sabbath services and on the Holy Days.

If we fail to listen we can lose what we have. Verse 25 says, "But whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him."

Paul connects failure to listen directly to a stubborn attitude. "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the

oracles of God" (Hebrews 5:12).

Paul declares that stubbornness or resistance in listening hinders spiritual growth.

Ezekiel clarifies the problem. "As for you, son of man, the children of your people are talking about you beside the walls and in the doors of the houses; and they speak to one another, everyone saying to his brother, 'Please come and hear what the word is that comes from the Lord.'"

"So they come to you as people

poor listening. "You have come to need milk and not solid food" (Hebrews 5:12). In other words, abilities that should have developed have not. The poor listener is a babe. He or she needs to return to the basic, foundational principles.

Paul continued: "For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (verses 13 and 14). Solid food belongs only to those who exercise the gift of hearing.

What to do

So what must we do to improve our listening skills?

The Bereans practiced important keys to sound listening.

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

We must have a humble, teachable mind that is willing to hear, and then be ready to take action. The mind and whole being are involved.

The Bereans' thoroughness of listening didn't stop here. They searched. Attentive and thoughtful listening leads to diligent study. They were fully involved in the process.

We must listen

How important is listening to salvation? Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life" (John 5:24).

Jesus listened to His Father. "For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak" (John 12:49).

Much instruction is available from the ministry and in God's Word, but this is of no value if we aren't prepared to listen.

Ask God to help you listen. The reward will be increased faith. "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

Lesson from Ruth, her 'chooks' and a snake

By Norman L. Shoaf

Last year, on a trip to Australia for the Feast, I made a new friend named Ruth. Ruth lives on Australia's Gold Coast, and she is in the fourth grade.

Norman L. Shoaf is managing editor of The Good News.

One night over dinner, Ruth told me about her chooks (chickens).

Now, I've lived in the city all my life, and I don't speak Australian very well anyway. At first I didn't have the faintest idea what a chook was, so Ruth had to explain.

Ruth was in charge of a whole flock of chooks at her home. It was her job to feed the chooks and collect their eggs each day.

Ruth naturally took a liking to her chooks.

One day Ruth got a shock. A car-

pet snake swallowed one of her chooks, and when Ruth's parents went outside, they found the snake sunning itself in the yard, with a giant bulge in its midsection.

(I didn't know what a carpet snake was, either. I imagined a flat, rectangular creature decorated with colored designs and a fringed border like my Chinese rug at home.)

But that wasn't all. Ruth's grandfather killed the carpet snake by chopping its head off.

"They didn't want me to go outside, but I wanted to see," Ruth told me excitedly. "The snake's tail was wiggling around, and I thought it was trying to find its head."

What a world, I thought, where a little girl's poor little chook can be swallowed whole by a big, mean carpet snake!

The Bible says that not only will violence among humans cease in the world tomorrow, animal nature will be changed, too.

Events like the one Ruth told me about in such graphic detail will not occur.

Now there is enmity between the creatures on this planet.

After the Flood, God told Noah that the beasts and birds and fish of the earth would fear humans (Genesis 9:2). But God prophesied, through Isaiah, how different the (See RUTH, page 5)

Q&A from the Pastor General's Report

Anciently, God gave instruction concerning the choice of the firstborn son to whom a special double portion was given (Deuteronomy 21:17). How would this apply today?

Historically, upon the death of the father, the firstborn son would become head of the family and be responsible for the support and well-being of all the other members of the household, including the widowed mother (Genesis 27:27-29).

The double portion inherited by the firstborn in ancient Israel was thus not a reward or prize simply for being the first male child. It was compensation for the added responsibilities that the faithful firstborn son would undertake.

The right and portion of the firstborn was not always given to the actual firstborn son. Many disqualified themselves by their conduct. Reuben is an example (I Chronicles 5:1).

In other cases God chose an heir other than the actual firstborn to receive preeminence. Isaac was chosen over Ishmael, Jacob over Esau.

David was the eighth son, but was chosen. Solomon was not the firstborn, either, but he received the crown. Ephraim, grandson of Jacob, was named the firstborn (Genesis 48:13-20). Normally, however, it appears that the firstborn inherited the throne (II Chronicles 21:3).

Modern culture is vastly different. It is not the custom in industrial cultures today for the firstborn son to regularly exercise responsibility over the family household.

But if a firstborn son were to assume responsibility for the widowed mother and other family members in the household, it might be appropriate to increase the portion of inheritance he receives to compensate for these added responsibilities.

Also, where a family has a business and the firstborn son has toiled with the father and learned the business, the father may wish to give that son preeminence in the business so that it could continue and would not have to be sold or divided up into shares that might make it cumbersome or uneconomical.

BE READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER

STUDY THE BIBLE FOR UNDERSTANDING

- Set aside a regular time for study. Plan study time in advance, or other things might interfere.
- Pray for understanding. True understanding comes from God. Therefore, study the Bible in a prayerful attitude and ask God to reveal his will to you (Ps. 119:33-40; Prov. 3:5-7; Jer. 9:23-24).
- Seek correction and instruction. Study God's Word with a humble, teachable attitude. The Word of God reveals flaws in our character (Jer. 10:23-24; Isa. 66:2; Rom. 8:6-9; Matt. 5:48; II Tim. 3:16).
- Realize the Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is God speaking to you. Therefore, let his word inspire and motivate you to grow in his likeness (II Pet. 1:21; Phil. 2:5; John 6:63).
- Let the Bible interpret the Bible. Although some passages may seem confusing, there are no contradictions in the Bible. Examine the context and gather all scriptures on a given subject or doctrine. The clear passages will clarify those that are difficult to understand (II Pet. 1:20; John 10:35; Isa. 28:9-10; John 17:17).
- Keep an open mind. Because there is so much religious confusion, it is necessary to prove the truth and distinguish it from error. Keep an open

mind and be willing to change wrong ideas.

- Prove God's way is right. Practice the things you learn and acknowledge the blessings that result, and you will find your Bible study more rewarding (I John 3:22; John 10:10; Mal. 3:10; John 8:31-32).
- Study by subject. Concentrate on one book, doctrine or subject and go into it thoroughly. This will help you grow in depth of understanding.
- Read the Bible through. Read the Bible from cover to cover in addition to other study. This will broaden your perspective as to story flow.
- Mark key verses. Develop a marking system. It will save time in locating scriptures and provides a quick recall of subject matter.
- Meditate and review. Think about what you learn. Then reflect on how it can be applied in your life (Ps. 1:1-3; Ps. 119:97-99; Ps. 139:17-18).
- Be familiar with study aids. A Bible handbook can provide helpful background information. A concordance will help you locate scriptures. Bible maps provide topographical, geographical and historical information. Commentaries can be helpful, but exercise care, they contain a great deal of uninspired opinion.

Hurricane

(Continued from page 1)

happy to be alive," Mr. Persky said. "All the brethren are very happy. They are thankful to be in the Church and realize it is the only safe place."

The homes of several members sustained varying degrees of damage, primarily to roofs.

Mr. Persky described Summerville, S.C., as looking like a battle zone. "Almost every other house had a tree on it. The damage is beyond everyone's wildest imagination."

In Charleston more than 50 ma-

ior buildings were destroyed. Schools were indefinitely terminated. Television stations were damaged. However, one station was operating on a makeshift basis, with continuous live footage.

Humanitarian efforts

Crews from surrounding church areas, including Columbia, S.C., Augusta and Savannah, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla., brought in truckloads of food, generators and other supplies.

"We had to tell some from as far as Greenville, S.C., to hold up because we were getting enough help," Mr. Persky said.

"It is very obvious that the

Church is one, and that we are not all separate churches. It proves what Christ said, 'By this shall all men know you that you are my disciples, that you love one another.' Love has just poured out.

"Just looking at the community shows me how the Millennium is going to work," Mr. Persky said. Members of the community "are serving one another, and they are really enjoying it."

Crews of Church members are working Sundays with chain saws to clear the debris and fallen trees from the yards of about 18 members.

While crews were cleaning the yard of one member and two of her

family's yards, a neighbor observed what was happening.

"He said this is the way things ought to be," Mr. Persky said.

The crew decided to help this neighbor as well. They cleared the trees from his barn and guest house. "He couldn't get over how we helped him, and he asked, 'What church is this?' He was very moved by our example," Mr. Persky said.

Before the storm all six lanes of Interstate 26 were opened westbound, and more than 200,000 people left Charleston when they were told to evacuate.

"When people heeded the message, it really saved lives," Mr. Persky said. "Of course, there are spiri-

tual applications there, too."

Some people were ordered out of the city and told they would be under arrest if they didn't go. They were told they would be jeopardizing the rescue workers.

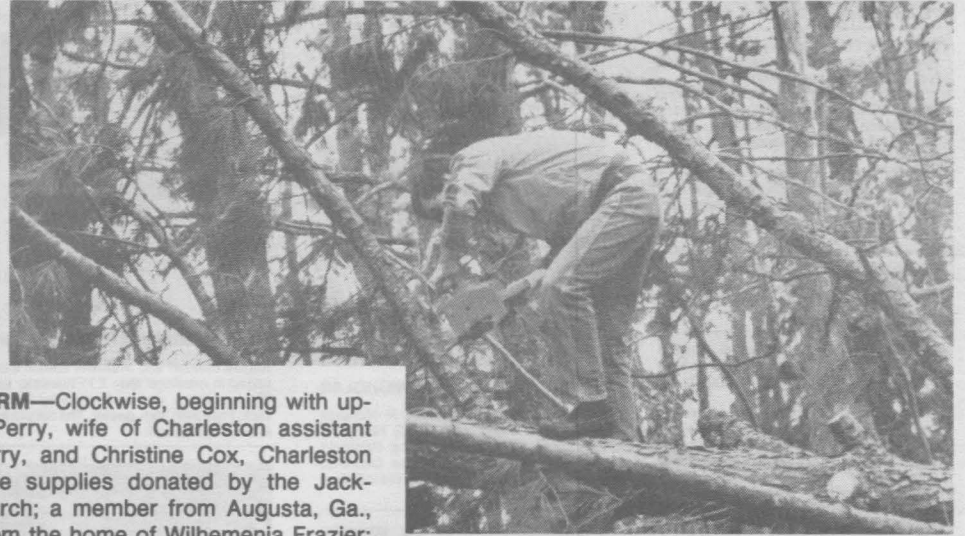
Goods and services

Grocery stores are reopening one by one, "but it's been like being in the Third World as far as goods and services," Mr. Persky said.

Electricity was still out in some areas Sept. 28, and some homes were without water. Gas stations were beginning to reopen, but garages were servicing only emer- (See HURRICANE, page 8)



MEMBER'S HOME—As the above picture shows, brethren in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, suffered extensive damage to their homes. However, none were injured, according to Rick Taylor of the Caribbean Office. [Photo by Rick Taylor]



AFTER THE STORM—Clockwise, beginning with upper left: Jonnie Perry, wife of Charleston assistant pastor David Perry, and Christine Cox, Charleston member, organize supplies donated by the Jacksonville, Fla., church; a member from Augusta, Ga., removes trees from the home of Wilhemenia Frazier; Mrs. Frazier's home in Givhans, S.C.; water-well drillers Leon Frick and James Walker of the Columbia, S.C., church supplied water to brethren and others [Photos by David Perry and George Elkins]



Your service gives life to a dying world

Ruth

(Continued from page 4)

world will be after Jesus Christ returns and sets up the kingdom of God on earth.

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

"The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den" (Isaiah 11:6-8, New King James).

What a different world under God's government. A child and her chooks and all other living creatures will be able to dwell together in peace and safety, when Satan and his violent, hateful influence are removed from the world.

Notice the result of this peaceful, harmonious system:

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain [under God's government], for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (verse 9).

In the coming world, men and animals will dwell at peace. The Worldwide Church of God's symbolic seal captures the spirit of this prophecy.

By Philip P. Stevens

In August 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Hiroshima. From the annals of this historic event comes this story of a Japanese midwife.

Philip Stevens is a regular contributor to The Good News.

Looking for shelter, bomb victims stumbled into the basement of a ruined building. There, among the groans of suffering and dying people, came an unexpected cry: "The baby's coming!"

In this basement, full of the stench of death, a woman went into labor. Forgetting their own pains, people wondered how they could help in the dark, without light from even a single match.

Suddenly there came another cry: "I'm a midwife. I'll help with the birth!" The speaker, a seriously injured woman, was moaning only moments before. But she responded to the cry for help, and that night, among the dying people, a new life was born. Before dawn the midwife died, still bathed in blood.

Forty-four years after the bombing of Hiroshima, the midwife is remembered, not for the lives she helped bring into the world under normal conditions, but for the one life she delivered when she herself was in sore trial. It was her finest hour.

Christ is remembered, not only for the many lives he restored during his ministry of healing, but for the lives he delivered from death when he himself was in sore trial of

crucifixion. Those lives he delivered were ours.

Now we, those whom God has called and chosen, have been given the job of one day bringing to birth a new world, where sorrow and pain will no longer exist. "The creation itself also will be delivered from the



bondage of corruption . . . For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now" (Romans 8:21-22, New King James throughout).

This world, like a laboring mother, is in pain. And we have been called to help bring it new life. We are, in essence, midwives. It is a job we must do, even when our personal problems seem more than we can handle.

The Japanese midwife did not allow even her life-threatening problems to stop her from saving others. Christ also died on the job, giving his blood to deliver us and give us new life.

Each of us has a cross to carry.

We have problems and afflictions that beset us (Matthew 10:38). We can either let our trials weigh us down, or we can use them as a powerful tool for helping others, as Christ did.

Through the problems we suffer, we can extend comfort and strength to people who are suffering the same trials (II Corinthians 1:4).

When we open our eyes to the suffering of those around us, we are motivated to forget our own problems so we can help them. The Japanese midwife laid down her life to help someone in need. Her example was a light in that dark basement in the same way our example of laying down our lives for others is a light to the world.

Like the cry, "The baby's coming!", we have heard the cry, "Christ is coming!" He is coming to bring new life to a suffering world and we have been called, like midwives, to help with the birth.

Our calling is so immense, it should make all our problems seem small in comparison.

When we ask God for his Spirit, he gives us a mind occupied with the needs of others—even, at times, at the expense of our own.

It is the experience of putting this godly love into action that makes the work that God has called us to be a part of so fulfilling. The joy of helping others should become a part of our being (Galatians 5:22-23).

When our thoughts are concerned with others' feelings and needs instead of our own, we experience the abundant life that Christ wants us to enjoy (John 10:10).

Despite the words of a popular song, it is not people who need people who are the happiest people in the world, but people who serve people.

The extent to which we have lasting happiness is the extent our minds are on the needs of others. We should serve others regardless of whether they serve our needs in return.

The whole purpose of the Christian life of overcoming is to lose ourselves in the service of others and, in doing so, become like Christ.

God calls us to make a fresh start—to gain our lives by losing them in service instead of allowing the problems and frustrations of this life to drag us down. "He who finds his life [dwelling on his own needs] will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake [laying his life down like Christ] will find it" (Matthew 10:39).

Eternal life in God's kingdom is given only to those who have learned and lived the "more excellent way" (I Corinthians 12:31)—the way of love toward others.

The hour is coming for this world's deliverance. Like a woman in labor, it is in pain and sorrow. But at that time the world will be released from its anguish and God's new world will be born. We have been called, like midwives, to help make this transition.

Like the Japanese midwife, we must refuse to allow our own suffering to stop us from relieving the pain of others. Let us be midwives. Let us help bring new life to this dying world.

Church News Clips

● Twenty-five members of the Albuquerque and Santa Fe, N.M., Half-Century Club visited Pasadena Aug. 11 to 13. Round-trip air fare was paid out of the church activity fund. *Linda Ward.*

● The Oklahoma City, Okla., church was host to a singles seminar, "Building Bridges of Understanding," Sept. 1 to 4. One hundred sixty singles from Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Arkansas and Missouri attended.

Topics included Christian maturity, communication skills, infatuation vs. love, dos and don'ts of dating for men and women, choosing a mate, dating a person with children and overcoming loneliness, fear and

self-consciousness. *Mary Nixon.*

● The Atlanta, Ga., East and Northeast churches sponsored a singles activity Aug. 26 for more than 250 singles from Alabama, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Georgia.

A sermon focused on learning roles as husbands and wives before marriage and stressed service in the Church. The activity ended with a dance. *Amy K. Burnes.*

● More than 200 singles gathered in Minneapolis, Minn., June 30 to July 3 for the seventh Friendship Fest sponsored by the Minneapolis South church.

Activities included a Bible study,

Sabbath services, dance lessons, a treasure hunt, canoeing, volleyball, a semiformal dance and a barbecue.

Guests for the occasion were evangelist David Albert and his wife, Simone. *Scott Nohrenberg.*

● After a year of preparation and fund raising, 38 Huntingdon and Indiana, Pa., Church youths and 19 adults went by bus on a camping trip July 23 to Aug. 6 to Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming.

The group also visited Wisconsin Dells, Wis.; Sioux Falls and Rapid City, S.D.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Omaha, Neb.; and Michigan City, Ind. *Rosalyn Dale McFarland.*

● The Stavanger, Norway, church sponsored a summer gathering for 33 brethren from the Nordic churches June 30 to July 3.

Activities included Sabbath services, visits to botanic gardens and an Iron Age farm, a potluck and a four-hour hike to Pulpit Rock, a 2,000-foot cliff cutting its way into a fjord.

● Forty-nine married couples from the Seaford and Wilmington, Del., churches combined July 8 for a moonlight boat cruise with a Hawaiian theme.

Guests for the occasion were Peter Nathan, an instructor in theology at Big Sandy Ambassador College, and his wife, Karen. *Barbara Hogan.*

Why Does It Take So Long?

From time to time *The Worldwide News* receives letters and comments from people wondering why it takes so long for announcements to appear in the paper.

The primary reason you may read of weddings that took place nine or 10 months ago or babies that were born four months ago is that some wait to send their announcements in.

To avoid printing material that is too old, all announcements except weddings must be postmarked within five months of the event.

Wedding announcements must be postmarked within 11 months so we can print them within one year.

Many area newspapers require such announcements to be submitted within three weeks. We have extended our deadlines to allow our family of readers around the world ample time to submit their news.

The announcement page is the first page we put together. It is the most complicated page to do because of the number of pictures and amount of copy.

Once we receive an announcement, it usually takes between 2½ weeks and one month for the announcement to appear in print.

Some exceptions are:

● When space does not permit every announcement to be printed, we may hold a few of the most recent wedding announcements for one issue only. The announcements that we hold over are given first priority in the next issue.

● Anniversary announcements are always printed after the anniversary date, so when we receive them weeks or months in advance, we hold them until the first issue after the anniversary date.

● If the announcement does not meet our guidelines (some examples are obituary or engagement announcements without a ministerial signature, wedding announcements without the date, obituaries without the age of the deceased or an unusable photograph), it may take additional time while a staff member contacts the sender or the minister to solve the problem.

Source of encouragement, inspiration

Chicago associate pastor dies

CHICAGO, Ill.—Lowell L. Foster, 74, associate pastor of the Chicago North and Northwest churches, hospitalized with cancer, died of pneumonia July 27.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, who served as a deacon and then a local church elder in Chicago, said: "I had great respect and admiration for Mr. Foster. He was a source of inspiration and encouragement to many people over a great number of years."

Mr. Foster was born Dec. 21, 1914, in Manley, Iowa. He served in the Navy during World War II and

after the war worked in construction. He and his wife, Lillian, now deceased, were baptized together on the Day of Atonement in 1958.



LOWELL FOSTER

Mrs. Foster was the first Jewish woman baptized in this era of God's Church, according to evangelist Dean Blackwell.

Mr. Foster was ordained a deacon July 29, 1961. In March 1968

he was ordained a local elder and entered the full-time ministry three months later as associate pastor of the Chicago North and Northwest churches.

"They were a very happy and enjoyable team, dedicated in God's service and greatly loved in the church area," said Mr. Blackwell, who ordained Mr. Foster a deacon.

"Mr. Foster especially enjoyed working with the single people of God's Church," Mr. Blackwell said. "Members termed him one of a kind, an institution in his church area, a rock and a dear Christian brother."

Mr. Foster is survived by his sister, Neola Jahraus; two sons, John W., pastor of Harrisburg and Lancaster, Pa., churches, and Gary Steven Foster; and daughters Sally Ann Frantzen and Lorraine Stewart. Both daughters attend the Chicago North church. Grandchildren are Timothy Shawn Foster, Eric James Stewart and Edward John Foster.

Storm

(Continued from page 1)

was not known Sept. 29 if services could be conducted there.

U.S. members transferring to San Juan were encouraged, but not required, to make alternate Festival plans.

Two Puerto Rican brethren reported that all units in their condominiums were damaged, some severely.

"Only one apartment in each building was left intact," Mr. Gonzalez said. "You can easily guess which those ones were."

"Almost all members saw their neighbors' aluminum and zinc roofs, awnings and parts of their properties blown away while theirs remained intact."

Among boats anchored at Fajardo, where the eye of storm passed, only a boat belonging to a Church member survived with a minor scratch.

"The brethren had heeded the exhortation to hearken to the warnings, and be attentive all the time to the situation," Mr. Gonzalez said.

"They did secure their properties as best they could, and God did the rest."

When calm returned, Mr. Gonzalez and others took food and basic items to members in the hardest hit areas.

Some have electricity and no water, and some have water and no electricity.

"In general, we all were protected from physical injuries," Mr. Gonzalez said, "and damage to properties has been minimal, save for one member who lost his home, and another one who is a farmer and suffered total loss of a beautiful crop of papayas and parchas (passion fruit)."

"It has been and still is a golden opportunity for sharing, for caring, for loving one another and for singing praises to the Almighty, who does love and care for his people."

Top of the Class

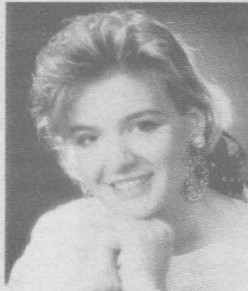
The *Worldwide News* congratulates the following youths who were valedictorians or salutatorians (or ranked first or second) in their graduating classes.



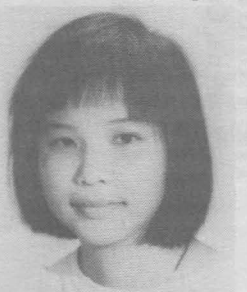
Faye Ashby
Salutatorian
Central High School
U.S. Virgin Islands



Riccinni A. Beloso
Salutatorian
Gateway High School
Orlando, Fla., P.M., church



Roxanne Cafourek
Salutatorian
Tupelo High School
Tupelo, Miss., church



Judy Chua
Valedictorian
Divine Word Academy
Quezon City, Philippines, church



Julie Oliver
Valedictorian
Ninety-One Elementary
Portland, Ore., West church



Susan Elizabeth Philbrick
Valedictorian
Wentworth Elementary School
Concord, N.H., church



Rhonda Rider
Valedictorian
Sharbot Lake High School
Kingston, Ont., church

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

PASADENA—Publishing Services replaced a 15-year-old plastic laminator with a new machine. The department sent the old machine, instructions and 10 rolls of plastic material to Haiti.

"We also hope to send them about nine pallets of paper and envelopes if suitable storage space for them can be found," said **Barry Gridley**, operation manager of Publishing Services.

Members there will use the laminator and supplies in a job skill development program, Mr. Gridley said.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Dennis Van Deventer, director of Security & Safety, and nine other Security & Safety employees attended a Security Law and Justice Commission awards luncheon Sept. 6 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles.

The luncheon, sponsored by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, recognized Los Angeles police officers who displayed uncommon bravery in the line of duty, risking their lives to save the lives of others. The officers were presented with medals of valor.

Actor **Gregory Peck** was guest speaker.

Security & Safety employees who attended the event were **Tim Crabb, Mark Kersh, Dennis Sexton, William Hankamp, Jon Hegvold, William Kubon, Larry Lewenthal, Karwin Klassy and Ken Lewis.**

☆☆☆

PASADENA—The Church signed a contract with Kansas City, Mo., to conduct the Feast of Tabernacles in the Municipal Auditorium in 1990. This replaces Tulsa, Okla., where the Feast has been kept since 1986.

The Festival Office asks that members not make housing reservations or inquiries yet. Further information will be given next spring in the Festival Planner.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Accounts of the Ambassador Foundation's involvement with the Pogorelich Festival, which took place in August in Bad Woerishofen, West Germany, Aug. 1 to 8, appeared in various newspapers.

Some of those papers pointed out the connection of the foundation to the Church.

"Some religious leaders expressed alarm, which gave us the opportunity to respond," said evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

Pianist **Ivo Pogorelich**, the main performer of the festival, was asked about his relationship with the Worldwide Church of God.

One article said that a Bavarian minister classifies the Church as a sect, which Mr. Pogorelich said was "absolute nonsense."

The paper reported earlier that the director of the festival, **Lothar Burghardt**, "not only gave his welcome in connection with very special thanks toward the Ambassador Foundation in Pasadena, but also said he hoped to continue to work together."

☆☆☆

PASADENA—The United Cerebral Palsy Association of Niagara County, N.Y., Inc., selected Ambassador Publishing to receive its 1989 Industrial Relations Award.

Each year the association presents this award to the company that has contributed the most to its

vocational-rehabilitation program.

"The business relationship has benefited both the association and the Work," said **Barry Gridley**, Publishing Services operation manager.

"By drawing upon people in vocational rehabilitation to mail introductory copies of the *PT*, the Work provides employment for them," Mr. Gridley said.

This group mails 30,000 introductory issues of *The Plain Truth* every week, doing the job more economically and faster than it could be done elsewhere.

☆☆☆

MANILA, Philippines—A fire broke out Sept. 21 at rented warehouse storage space used by the Philippine Office, according to **Rodney Matthews**, regional director.

The fire, said to be caused by faulty electrical wiring, destroyed literature inventory, equipment for the Summer Educational Program and other items.

The fire started at about 2 p.m. in an office section on the second floor, and spread quickly throughout the warehouse section.

The Church had rented a partitioned section of about 200 square meters.

Mr. Matthews visited the site and expects that little if anything will be salvageable.

"The fire will cause minor delays in mailing operations," said **Andre Zick**, who assists evangelist **Larry Salyer**, associate director of Church Administration for international areas, "but steps are being taken to minimize the impact while stocks are replenished."

Mr. Matthews said, "Next year's SEP camp should not be greatly affected, with the possible exception of one or two activities where more expensive equipment is used and where it may take a year or more to budget to replace it."

Mr. Matthews is looking for new warehouse facilities.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—American Passage, a campus distribution firm, placed card holders containing *Plain Truth* brochures on 100 U.S. college campuses in September.

A similar program in 1988 produced a 1.18 percent response, according to **Boyd Leeson**, *Plain Truth* circulation manager.

☆☆☆

MADRID, Spain—The producer of a late-night program on Radio Nacional Radio 5 in Spain interviewed **Pedro Rufian**, pastor of the Madrid, Spain, church Aug. 5.

The interview, which lasted 40 minutes, produced 60 responses from the Iberian Peninsula.

The producer, a longtime *Pura Verdad* (Spanish *Plain Truth*) subscriber, set up the interview after attending *Pura Verdad* lectures conducted by Mr. Rufian.

Mr. Rufian commented that the producer was enthusiastic and friendly throughout the show.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Church Administration announced that **Delaneo Greer**, a deacon in the Spokane, Wash., church, was ordained a local church elder on the Sabbath, Aug. 26.

Hurricane

(Continued from page 5)
gency vehicles.

Other areas

Hurricane Hugo left a 40-mile-wide strip between the eastern border of the Columbia congregation and the center of the Sumter, S.C., church area, where 30 to 40 percent of trees were felled.

George Elkins, Sumter and Columbia pastor, reported: "We only have three homes that were damaged to any great extent, although many had half a dozen trees fall around their houses. It was miraculous" that damage was not greater. **Cena Secor** and her 8-year-old

grandson, **Thomas**, were asleep on a bed. The telephone rang, and Mrs. Secor got up to answer it just one minute before a tree fell and knocked all of the ceiling beams onto the bed.

Thomas was still on the bed, but the beams fell across the bottom, and he was uninjured.

Mr. Elkins reported no injuries and said the main problems brethren were facing were lack of electricity and lack of water in some areas.

Two Church members who drill water wells for a living have tanks on their trucks that hold 1,000 to 1,500 gallons of water. They filled their tanks and delivered water to brethren and others who needed it.

"This was a wonderful way to let

our light shine to the people," Mr. Elkins said. "They asked, 'What church is this?' and 'Can we join your church?'"

A deacon, **Gerald Shephard**, who is black, lives in a predominantly white neighborhood, where he was not well received.

When members brought a water tank to his yard, and he shared the water with his neighbors, it changed their attitudes.

Daniel Orban, Charlotte, N.C., pastor, reported quite a bit of roof damage.

"There was nothing extremely serious, where anyone was hurt or bad property damage occurred. One member had trees fall on his jeep."

Because about two thirds to three fourths of Charlotte was without water and electricity, brethren went to other members' homes for water.

Mr. Persky said: "It is just like the early chapters of the book of Acts. All possessions are divided among others and the people are giving of what they have. Everyone is enjoying serving and giving. It is not a curse; it is a learning experience."

An 18.8 percent response, this figure "is surprising since Guatemala had just ended a long mail strike and the initial invitation letter arrived only seven to 10 days before the first lecture," said **Keith Speaks**, *Pura Verdad* circulation manager.

Mr. Cisneros said that more than 90 percent of the group had not attended a previous Bible lecture. In the past, 25 to 40 percent of those attending had attended lectures.

He also said most attendees were young, enthusiastic and more open to what was discussed than previous groups.

More than 300 indicated they would be interested in attending future Bible studies, the first of which Mr. Cisneros was to conduct Sept. 24.

"Mr. Cisneros was suffering from excruciating pain because of severe swelling in his foot," said Mr. Speaks. "It is still bothering him. I told him I would ask the Spanish Department to pray that the pain would cease and the condition would disappear completely."

Growth in French area

Income has increased in almost all French-speaking areas for the first six months of 1989.

For all French areas worldwide, the income is up 14.7 percent, with Switzerland topping the list at 18.2 percent.

"This, of course, is encouraging in regard to the Work's stated goal of developing the French phase of God's Work," said evangelist **Dibar Apartian**, French regional director.



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

PASADENA—Paul Krautmann, Guyana pastor, and his wife, **Unita**, transferred from Guyana to the Caribbean island of Grenada in August.

Mr. Krautmann has been in Guyana for 15 years, first as a member of the British Overseas Volunteers, then, after baptism and graduation from Ambassador College, as a local church elder.

The Krautmanns were married in 1977, and he became a full-time minister the following year.

Mr. Krautmann has traveled extensively throughout Guyana's beautiful, rugged, almost impassable interior, according to evangelist **Stan Bass**, Caribbean regional director.

Although brethren in Guyana will no longer have Sabbath services every week, they will meet in Georgetown on the third Sabbath of each month. A Bible study will be conducted in Berbice on the following Sunday.

Taped sermons will be sent from the Caribbean Office. The ministers in Trinidad and Barbados will



PAUL AND UNITA KRAUTMANN

initially be involved in serving brethren.

After Mr. Krautmann has settled in Grenada, he may visit Guyana from time to time.

Spanish lectures

Herbert Cisneros, pastor of the Guatemala City, Guatemala, and San Salvador, El Salvador, churches, said that 463 new people attended *Pura Verdad* (Spanish *Plain Truth*) lectures Sept. 2 and 3.

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Applications for the fall 1990 semester are available at the Pasadena and Big Sandy campuses.

Applicants are encouraged to request their application packets and submit applications early. It is anticipated that highly qualified students who have taken the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) will begin to receive acceptance notices in November. Several applicants have already been accepted for fall 1990.

The deadline for submitting applications for the fall 1990 semester is Feb. 1, 1990. Applications must be received by the Admissions Office in Pasadena or in Big Sandy by that date.

SAT test dates—The College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) has released test dates for U.S. and international administration of the SAT. (SAT scores are required of prospective students with less than 30 semester hours of college-level course work.)

The following dates are Saturday tests. All Sunday SATs are administered the day after these dates: Nov. 4, Dec. 2 and Jan. 27. Other test dates (but considered too late for fall 1990 admission) are scheduled for March 31, May 5 and June 2, 1990.

However, high school juniors and others planning to apply to Ambassador College for the fall 1991 semester may take the SAT in the spring of 1990.

Registration information and forms for the above test dates are available from high school counselor offices or by writing CEEB, Box 592, Princeton, N.J., 08540; or by calling 1-609-771-7600. Instructions for obtaining a Sunday administration are given in the SAT registration brochure.

The Ambassador College Admissions Committee strongly recommends that Ambassador applicants take the SAT at the earliest possible date. The CEEB requires six weeks to process SAT registration for U.S. applicants and longer for international students.

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