

DECEMBER 1998

# Herald of Holiness

C H U R C H   O F   T H E   N A Z A R E N E

*"Light has come  
into the world."  
(John 3:19, N.T.D.)*



## An Era Ends. A New One Begins.

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*5-DIGIT 60914 0101  
MR & MRS PAUL DILLINGER  
1415 MIDDLEBURY CT  
BOURBONNAIS IL 60914-1524

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE  
P.O. BOX 419527  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64141  
Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Permit No. 47

# DID YOU KNOW?

## Did you ever study algebra in school?

I think I heard groans from some of you who did. I think I saw some thankful smiles on the faces of those who didn't.

In algebra, one of the most frustrating concepts for students is the *X* that stands for the unknown number in an equation. When a student looks at an equation made up of various numbers and lots of *X*s, it can be very confusing. However, once you understand how to work with the sides of the equation correctly, solving for *X* can be very rewarding.

Generation X got its name, in part, from the algebraic concept of *X*, the unknown. The baby boomer generation looked at their children and said, "We don't understand them. We don't know them." The church looked at the younger generation and said, "Our present methods of evangelization don't seem to be working with the youth. What has changed?"

Here are some of the things that make *X*ers different from boomers:

- Gen-X seeks real relationships. The effects of divorce and neglect have left this generation wanting closeness and intimacy in friendships.
- Gen-X wants authenticity. They are more concerned about someone being real than about what that person believes.
- Gen-X lives in the present. They are pessimistic about the future, so they concentrate on getting the most fun out of the present moment.



- Gen-X is looking for true spirituality. The pain and despair of their childhood have left them seeking true experiences with God, but they are open to any way that they feel is authentic.

Perhaps you find yourself, as a Sunday School teacher of *X*ers, trying to understand them. WordAction curriculum has developed material that specifically addresses generation *X* and answers the all-important question: "How can we reach them for Christ?"

*Young Adult Bible Fellowship Leader* is designed specifically for use in group settings of the 18 to 30 age-

group. The activities are based upon the same scripture passage as the adult material but are geared to the interests and life situations of gen-*X*. Plus, the *Young Adult Bible Fellowship Leader* features articles that will help you grow in your understanding of this important generation.

WordAction shares your concern to answer the question, "How can we reach this generation for Christ?" We feel the answer is to move into their world and find ways to show them that biblical truth is relevant for them.

Generation *X* may be the unknown part of the equation to us, but not to God. He knows all about them, and He cares for them. May we be willing to venture into the unknown with the good news of salvation.

—EVERETT LEADINGHAM

Young Adult Editor



For a **FREE** sample of *Young Adult Bible Fellowship*, contact us at: **1-800-877-0700**

Fax: 1-800-849-9827

E-mail: [orders@waction.com](mailto:orders@waction.com)

Web site: [www.waction.com](http://www.waction.com)



# Herald of Holiness

December 1998 • Whole No. 3632 • Vol. 87, No. 12

**Managing Editor,** J. Wesley Eby

**Administrative Secretary**  
Carolyn S. Hampton

**Director**  
**Division of Communications**  
Michael R. Estep

**General Superintendents**

John A. Knight  
William J. Prince  
James H. Diehl  
Paul G. Cunningham  
Jerry D. Porter  
Jim L. Bond

**Publisher,** Nazarene Publishing House  
C. Hardy Weathers, President

*Bible quotations in this issue:*

Unidentified quotations are from the KJV. Quotations from the following translations is used by permission:

(niv) From the *Holy Bible, New International Version*® (niv®). Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

(nrsv) From the *New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible, copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

(rsv) From the *Revised Standard Version* of the Bible, copyright 1946, 1952, 1971 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

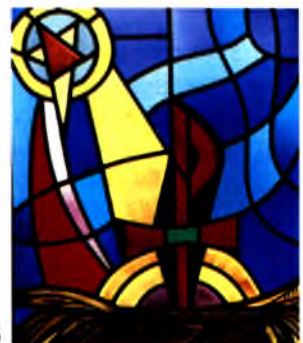
**Herald of Holiness** is published monthly by **NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE, 2923 Troost Ave., Kansas City, MO 64109.** Editorial offices at 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131 (816-333-7000, ext. 2302). E-mail: <HERALD@NAZARENE.ORG>. Address all correspondence concerning subscriptions to Nazarene Publishing House, P.O. Box 419527, Kansas City, MO 64141-6527 (1-800-877-0700). E-mail: <SUBSCRIPTIONS@NPH.COM>. Copyright 1998 by Nazarene Publishing House. All copyrights reserved. No portion of this magazine may be reproduced in any form without written permission of the editors. Canadian GST No. R129017471. Member Evangelical Press Association.

## FEATURES

- 4** **Believing and Receiving**  
*PAUL M. BASSETT*
- 6** **When Promise Becomes Presence**  
*WAYNE M. WARNER*
- 8** **A Pocket of Calm**  
*LUCINDA NORMAN*
- 10** **Christmas All Year Long?**  
*JUNE CERZA KOLF*
- 14** **Christmas Traditions—Making Your Family Celebrations Memorable**  
*STAN and LINDA TOLER*  
*ELMER and RUTH TOWNS*



4



6



10



16

## POETRY

- 9** **A Prayer for Advent**  
*JOEL T. MILLS*

## CONTINUING COLUMNS

- 2** **Editor's Choice,** *J. WESLEY EBY*
- 3** **Masculine Journey,** *VICTOR SCHREFFLER*
- 7** **General Superintendent's Viewpoint**  
*JERRY D. PORTER*
- 11** **Words of Faith,** *ROB L. STAPLES*
- 16** **The Unheralded,** *J. WESLEY EBY*
- 17** **In a Woman's Voice**  
*MARLO M. SCHALESKY*

## DEPARTMENTS

- 12-13, 20-21** News
- 18** Annual Index
- 22** The Readers Write
- 23** NCN Broadcast Schedule



Nazarene Communications Network

COVER PHOTO CREDIT:  
Fine Image Photography

# An Era Ends. A New One

**T**he *Herald of Holiness* era ends with this issue. After 87 years and more than 3,600 issues, the beloved *Herald*—as Nazarenes have come to know and accept and embrace it—ceases to be.

For almost nine decades, nine different editors have guided the *Herald*, veraciously *heralding* the doctrine and experience of Christian holiness. Thus the name—*Herald of Holiness*.

## The Herald Commences

When three different groups united in 1908 to form the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, the new denomination for a time recognized and supported three different publications: the *Beulah Christian* (Rhode Island), the *Pentecostal Advocate* (Texas), and the *Nazarene Messenger* (California). In 1911 the Committee on Publishing Interests of the general church recommended the election of a Board of Publication, which was duly empowered to establish a central publishing house and a church paper.

The new Board of Publication purchased printing equipment and set up a publishing company in Kansas City. The board also elected B. F. Haynes editor and C. A. McConnell office editor of the new periodical. The official organ of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, titled *Herald of Holiness*, rolled off the presses in 1912.

The first issue—Volume 1, Number 1, dated April 17, 1912—contained 16 pages of black-and-white text and four small photographs. Along with editorials and articles was a poem by Haldor Lillenas and a Sunday School lesson on the Beatitudes. The subscription price was \$1.00 a year.

## Holiness Heralded

Over the past 87 years, the *Herald's* editors have faithfully proclaimed the message of heart holiness. In his first editorial, B. F. Haynes wrote: "While the great gulf stream of aim and endeavor shall be the inculcation and propagation of the new birth from above, and of holiness as a second

definite work of grace, *Herald of Holiness* will stand for every principle and truth essential to . . . the advancement of our Redeemer's Kingdom in the world."

Consider these quotes from the *Herald's* editors:

"The way from regeneration to heaven leads right through 'sanctification of the Spirit.' . . . the time comes when one must become a sanctified Christian

holy purposes. He helps us bring every thought into captivity to Christ" (*W. T. Purkiser, January 11, 1961*).

"Those whom [God] justifies He also sanctifies. It is this full-orbed biblical truth that Nazarenes preach. To leave off sanctification—a real change in man—is to preach a truncated gospel" (*John A. Knight, November 19, 1975*).

"[God's] promise to make us holy is not carelessly given. In the atoning death of Christ and in the power of the Spirit, provision has been made to sanctify us wholly. God wants us to be vessels suited to His use, . . . making us fit and safe to live with" (*W. E. McCumber, March 15, 1984*).

"Sanctification also begins at conversion. Our theologians call it 'initial sanctification.' But entire sanctification and full cleansing, God chooses to make a subsequent gift" (*Wesley D. Tracy, September 1997*).

Without question, the *Herald* has been clear and true in its proclamation of the Wesleyan-Holiness doctrine.

## Herald of Holiness Facts

Many changes have occurred in the *Herald's* format, look, and price throughout its long history. Here are a few examples:

- For the first 51 years, the *Herald* was published weekly. From March 1971 until July 1989, it was a biweekly magazine. Only in its last decade, beginning July 1989, did it become a monthly.

- Starting out with 16 pages, the *Herald* increased to 32 pages under Dr. Chapman's editorship. Through the years, the number of pages fluctuated, increasing and decreasing at various times, from 18 to 32 pages. In 1971, the magazine consistently maintained 32 pages, until July 1989 when it moved to 48.

- The *Herald* was entirely a black-and-white magazine until September 11, 1949, when color appeared on the front and back covers. On March 1, 1961, two-color treatment, for the first time, was given to all the inside pages as well as the covers. Full-color

## Herald of Holiness Editors

B. F. Haynes (1912-22)

J. B. Chapman (1922-28)

H. Orton Wiley (1928-36)

D. Shelby Corlett (1936-48)

Stephen S. White (1948-60)

W. T. Purkiser (1960-75)

John A. Knight (1975-76)

W. E. McCumber (1976-89)

Wesley D. Tracy (1989-98)

or he cannot remain a Christian at all" (*J. B. Chapman, April 18, 1923*).

"Sanctification with us must be something more than a mere doctrine. It must be a vital, throbbing experience of purity of heart and devotion to God" (*H. Orton Wiley, June 8, 1935*).

"By the work of the Holy Spirit in entire sanctification the nature of sin remaining within the heart of a born-again Christian is destroyed, . . . 'that henceforth we should not serve sin'" (*D. Shelby Corlett, March 25, 1939*).

"The new birth, or conversion, carries with it a certain purging; so sanctification is called entire because it finishes the cleansing of the whole personality when it destroys inbred sin" (*Stephen S. White, August 1, 1949*).

"[God] purges the emotions and perfects the soul in love. But He also strengthens the will and guides it in

# Begins.

throughout arrived with the 1980 General Assembly issue. The regular, every-issue use of full color, along with bold, eye-catching graphics, began in July 1989.

• The subscription price remained at \$1.00 until 1950, when it increased to \$1.25. A decade later the cost was \$1.50. The subscription increments escalated through the years—\$2.50 . . . \$4.00 . . . \$6.50 . . . \$7.50 . . . \$9.00. Then in the '90s, the price went to \$10.00 and topped off at \$12.00. But, whatever the cost, the Herald has always been, and still is, a bargain.

## The Holiness Today Era Begins

In January 1999 the *Herald of Holiness* and *World Mission* magazines will be united into one monthly periodical. Under the leadership of R. Franklin Cook, *Holiness Today* begins a new era in the Church of the Nazarene—one that will take the church into the new millennium and serve its members well for decades to come.

While the name *Herald of Holiness* ceases with this issue, the purpose of the *Herald* does not. The mission statement for *Holiness Today* is:

**To guide the church through transition to a new clarity of holiness and global mission.**

With Dr. Cook as editor in chief, the Church of the Nazarene can be assured that their denomination's distinctive doctrine—Christian holiness—and their church's mission—world evangelism—will be trumpeted monthly from the pages of its all new, official church magazine, *Holiness Today*.

Sources:

- Church of the Nazarene archives, Kansas City.
- Ivan A. Beals, *Heralding Scriptural Holiness* (Kansas City: Nazarene Publishing House, 1987).

J. Wesley Eby has been managing editor of the *Herald of Holiness* for the past two years. Following Wesley Tracy's retirement, Eby has been interim editor for eight months.



# Favorite Things

## VICTOR SCHREFFLER



Victor Schreffler is senior pastor of Blue Springs (Missouri) First Church of the Nazarene.

AT EIGHT, STEPHEN, MY YOUNGEST, likes to keep moving. Ride his bike, play with his guinea pig, climb the fence, and generally cause his surroundings to move from order to chaos.

He's all boy, and neutral isn't on his transmission.

But guess what the highlight of his week is.

Saturday morning. And it's not cartoons.

One of Stephen's favorite things is getting up early with his dad and being at our church by 7 A.M. to spend the next hour and a half in prayer with a group of men.

And these guys pray. They don't talk about prayer; they actually pray.

Here's Vince\* calling out to God for his family. Recently remarried, he has seven kids; and both wise and desperate, he begs for God to bring about the blending that's nothing short of miraculous.

Stephen hears this prayer. I wonder, at eight, do you suppose

he's learning about the devastation of divorce and the need for any family to keep God first?

He hears Don\* really getting into it, sometimes praying so loud it's almost scary, but with a heart so tender you know he's for real. Stephen sees that manliness and brokenness go well together.

Robert,\* a brand-new Christian at 48, pleads with God for his family, for wisdom to raise his kids, and for strength to be free from cigarettes. What does that teach my son about things that addict?

Ben\* weeps for the teens who are teetering on the edge.

Karl\* gets so choked up he can't even speak.

And Lynn\* asks God to humble him and make him the kind of man that will be a servant to his wife and children.

Stephen even jumps in himself. Prays for his friends. Prays for his world. For many weeks, Afghanistan and Sudan were at the top of his list. Sometimes he's so moved his voice breaks; my little boy experiences the touch of God.

Robert, mentioned earlier, has observed that he never really knew what it was to be a man until he spent these hours with the brothers, calling on the Lord. It is there at the altar this formerly un-churched man has learned about true manhood.

Do you suppose that it's there, at the altar praying with men of all ages, that Stephen's discovering true manhood?

**Stephen sees that manliness and brokenness go well together.**

\*Names changed

# Believing and Receiving

by Paul M. Bassett, professor, Nazarene Theological Seminary

**O**ur Lord Jesus Christ, the Word, “came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:11). The Holy Spirit guided the Gospel writer to set down this awful fact so that the Church, God’s own people since Pentecost, would keep it in heart and mind.

You don’t need me, a church historian, to tell you why the Spirit has done this. Even in our day, “his own,” the Church (we say it through tears), has often seemed to receive everyone but Him, to receive every word but His. Oh, not everyone in the Church, thank God, but enough to call us to give heed to the Spirit’s guidance here.

Sadly we say it, some quite willingly receive any manner of pleasant and comfortable notion *about* our Lord but turn *Him* away. We see this perhaps most clearly around Christmas. Talk of God’s greatness, goodness and mercy, love and acceptance, and such folks sit on the edge of their pews, all infatuated. They sing of it, all smiles. “Ah, *now* we’ve got the true Christmas spirit,” they say. But speak of the need for real repentance and freedom from sin, speak not of adjustment of life but of its transformation, speak not of psychological self-fulfillment but of unconditional surrender to Him, and interest fades.

Christ comes even now to “his own,” and some receive Him not. How tragic to receive only that

which is pleasant and comfortable *about* Him when He would give *himself* to us. He came. He comes. And He will come again, asking not whether we know *about* Him but whether we know *Him*.

Then, too, we sadly note, some of “his own” do not receive Him because He disregards their rules for being religious. The enemy works subtly here.

---

*He came.  
He comes.  
And He will  
come again,  
asking not whether  
we know about  
Him but whether  
we know Him.*

---

The Church has always struggled, not always successfully, with the temptation to control and manipulate even the presence of Christ and Christlikeness. Sometimes even “religion”—with its practices and dogmas and opinions, with its arrogance and smugness and lack of love—has shut out the Word made flesh.

Sometimes the Church has cast Him out or refused Him entry by attempting to make Him an instrument for gaining social respectability or political clout.

Christ comes to “his own,” the Church, and some receive Him not because He insists on having it *His* way. He came. He comes. And He will come again, insisting that we shall have no other gods before Him and that the Church is *His* Body.

Again, sadly, we see a refusal related to this last one. Some of “his own [receive] him not” because they cannot tolerate being stewards of the Kingdom; they must be its owners and operators. Mark (12:1-12) recalls Jesus’ parable about this failure to receive Him.

Operators look upon the Church as a business or an assembly line or an investment house or a private army of supporters. They want control; some want more, some less. Some want it openly; some are more stealthy. But the aim is the same. Christ’s Church must benefit them above all, whatever that “benefit” may be. Position, “turf,” and reputation become matters of great gravity. So service and glory that should go to God are diverted, sometimes with great pretense of piety, into serving and glorifying human beings or human institutions.

The Word become flesh comes to “his own,” the Church, and “his own,” receive Him not because they will not surrender their claims to His. He came. He comes. He will come again as King and Lord to receive *His* kingdom.

Christ comes to "his own," the Church, and some receive Him not because they do not really trust Him with life itself—do not trust *Him*, the Lord of life. They demand the right to define what is life for themselves. He came. He comes. And He will come again with life—the only true life, life more abundant. And as for all the rest, it is without Him. It is death.

These things disturb us. I don't really like to think about them. But the Spirit has preserved this passage of scripture for our sake—that we might reflect upon it.

And, thank God, that same Spirit has given us another great fact to ponder: "But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh [not through ancestry, nor through human yearning] nor of the will of man [human declaration or human legislation], but of God" (John 1:12-13, RSV).

So, next time you are in church, look around you. You will see those who have received the Word made flesh and have believed on His name. You will see those to whom the Lord Jesus Christ himself has given power to become the very children of God.

Some of those around you were born and reared in the church. I was. Perhaps you were. But of those born and reared in the church, I hope those you see know this: that they did not receive Him, they did not believe on His name, they did not receive power to become the children of God because of their Christian ancestry. No. They became the children of God because God called each of them out of the darkness and death of their own sinfulness into His glorious light. For while they are by blood the children of believing parents, they were by moral nature the children of wrath, dead in trespasses and sins. But God, who is rich in mercy, has raised them up with Him and seated them in heav-

enly places in Christ Jesus (see Ephesians 2:1-6).

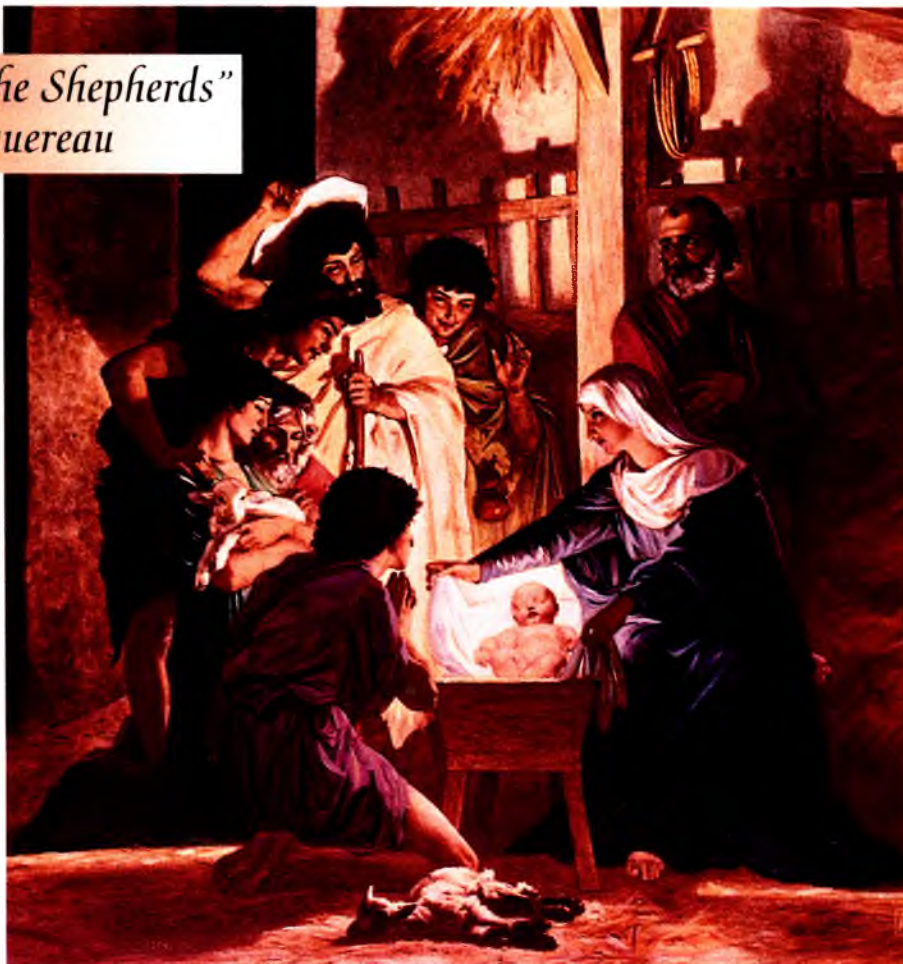
Some around you were not born and reared in the church. But some had an upbringing or have the kind of personality that just seems to draw them to being what the world would call good people—generally decent, generally honest, usually hard-working, alert to helping folks in need. I hope those around you who fit this description know this: that they did not receive Him, did not believe on His name, did not receive power to become the children of God because of upbringing or natural tendencies. No. For all of their decency and good works, they, too, were dead in trespasses and sins. But One came to them, and I hope they received Him. If they did, they have accounted their own righteousness as filthy rags and received Him who alone is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. It is He, not their upbringing nor their personality, who has made them His brothers

and sisters, His Father's own children and fellow heirs with Him.

Some around you have had it said of them that if anyone is Christian, they are. Some have participated in rituals that declared them to be Christian. Some have received assurances from church authorities or from any number of others that they are surely Christian. Some have had embarrassingly good things said about them even before their funerals. But I hope those around you who have received such declarations or accolades know this: it is not the will of others—not even the good will of the holiest of persons—that makes one a child of God. Human desire simply cannot make us the Lord's dwelling. Flesh and blood, on their own, cannot even tell us who Jesus really is. (Now there's an Advent to ponder.) And no human can make us members of the Body of Christ. But, thanks be to God, we can have a witness far more sure than the proclamations, the positive

Sibley/H. Armstrong Roberts

*"Adoration of the Shepherds"*  
by Bouguereau



votes, or the good opinions of all of humankind.

This Advent season, on this we can count: as once the Word made flesh came to Bethlehem, so the Word made flesh comes to us and to our fellow worshipers through His Spirit. Grace is given us to make a choice. He can come to us, "his own," and we, "his own," can refuse to receive Him. Refuse in ways crude and in ways subtle. Or He can come to us and we can receive Him.

To those who receive Him He gives power to become the children of God. And so we may become, not by ancestry nor by trying to work it out so that it is so nor by declaring it to be so, but by the will of God.

---

*As once the  
Word made flesh  
came to  
Bethlehem, so the  
Word made flesh  
comes to us and  
to our fellow  
worshipers through  
His Spirit.*

---

He will come again, one last time. And here is His promise to those who here and now receive Him: "I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:3, NRSV).

The Heavenly Father does not turn away the presence of His Son (see Psalm 132:10). And at the last, none of us will be able to, though now we may. But, rather, let us receive Him now, and let us receive Him as those born not merely of the flesh nor of human will, but as those who, by His gift of gracious power, are born of God. H

# When Promise Becomes Presence

by Wayne M. Warner

**T**he Christmas story tells of God's promise fulfilled in the presence of Jesus. "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet," wrote Matthew (1:22, NIV).

The following verse tells us He will be called Immanuel, meaning God is with us. Not only is Jesus a promise who became a presence, as "God with us," but He is our primary Source of truth today. *Presence* is always better than *promise*.

When my wife and I married 50 years ago, we decided presence was better than promise. I was a young airman stationed at Scott Field, Illinois, attending Radio Operator's School. She was a college dropout because of failing health.

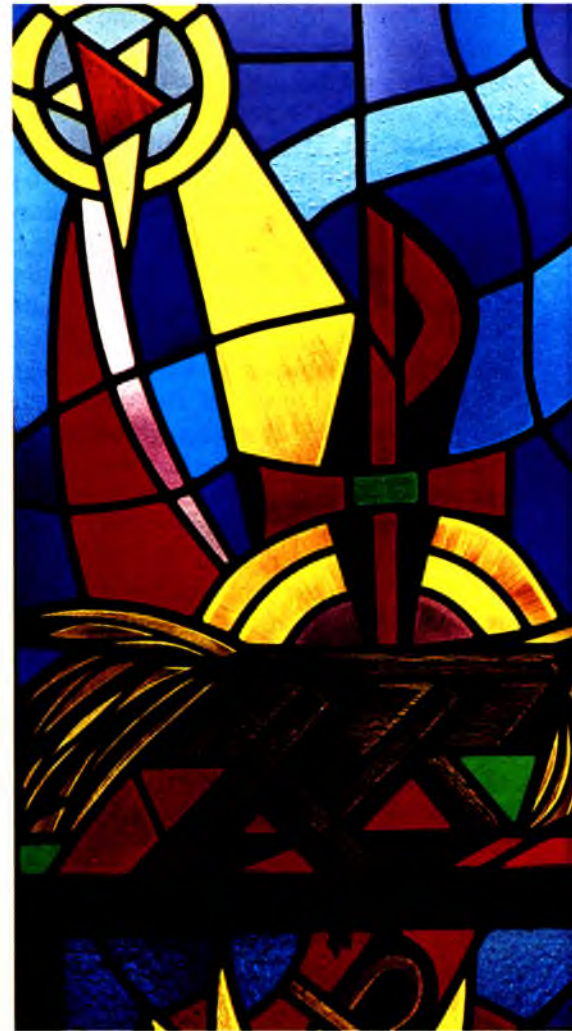
We married and lived on a minimal income. We occupied tiny, roach-infested apartments and ate

lots of BLT sandwiches. Why? Because we preferred presence to promise!

At the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, the world watched Derek Williams running his heart out in the 400-meter semifinal. Suddenly, he fell to the track and grabbed his right hamstring in obvious pain. High in the stands, a man watched him fall.

That shadowy figure of a man jumped to his feet, evaded five security guards, and raced madly onto the track. Putting his arms around Derek's shoulder, father and son limped across the finish line as the crowd cheered wildly. That is presence!

For centuries, Jesus had been but an unseen promise. With His birth, however, He became an undeniable presence—Immanuel, "God with us." H



Fine IMAGE Photography



## Broke at Christmas

by Jerry D. Porter

**M**y wife gave my salary away! It was November 1978 in the Dominican Republic. "I wish we could give a cash Christmas gift to each of the 30 Nazarene pastors," I told my wife, Toni. We had stretched the World Evangelism Fund money as far as it would go.

Early in December we were listening to a cassette tape from Pasadena, California, First Church as we drove to a revival service. Along the way, as I changed the inevitable flat tire, Toni continued listening to the tape. We had just started driving again when she spoke with deep emotion: "Honey, you are really concerned about giving the pastors a Christmas gift, aren't you? Well, I believe the Lord has given us the answer. On the cassette I heard the testimony of a young man who had been unemployed. He promised the Lord that he would give his first month's salary to the Lord once he found a job. I believe the Lord wants us to do the same thing on behalf of the pastors.

I tried to debate this crazy idea. What about our children and all the expenses of Christmas? But the more I argued, the more certain I became that this truly was the Lord speaking to us. We deposited that month's salary of almost \$700 into the district account. We didn't miss any meals, our children did not even realize we were pinching pennies, and we were able to have a pastors' Christmas fellowship where each family received a small cash gift!

On December 19, we had a glorious district assembly with Dr. Charles Strickland as we culminated

the first each-one-win-one thrust. Five hundred twenty-eight Nazarenes became 1,079 in one year! The joy of the victory celebration helped us forget that we were heading for a bleak Christmas.

The next day, Dr. Jerald Johnson called to ask me to take my family to my wife's home for Christmas. "Following that," he said, "we want you and Toni to come to Kansas

**'TIS THE SEASON TO BE  
JOLLY" NEEDS TO BE HELD  
IN PARADOX TENSION  
WITH "I WAS HUNGRY  
AND YOU GAVE ME  
SOMETHING TO EAT."**

City for orientation. You have just been appointed rector of the Nazarene seminary in San José, Costa Rica."

I was honored, excited, challenged—and suddenly it dawned on me: Toni gave away our salary, and God surprised us with a miracle! He gave us an unexpected Christmas trip to Pennsylvania, where bountiful gifts and delicious meals were provided for our children and us. We responded to a need, and the Lord chose to replenish our supply.

This 1998 Christmas season, we are bombarded with appealing advertisements luring us to a consumer mindset that focuses on us and ig-

nore the hungry, hurting, and poor who share this planet with us. Toni and I are asking the Lord to teach us new lessons in "faith generosity." Scores of Haitian Nazarenes died this past year from hunger and malnutrition. While we are tempted to over consume this holiday season, there are great needs, even within our immediate family of faith, that we can no longer ignore.

I thank the Lord for 4,870 sponsors who, through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, are providing loving assistance to over 29,000 precious children each month! There is a waiting list of nearly 532 children who need to be sponsored.

"'Tis the season to be jolly" needs to be held in a paradox tension with "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat" (Matthew 25:35, NIV). In the midst of our holiday spirit, we must open our hearts to the less fortunate ones all around us.

This holy Christmas season, join thousands of others in responding personally to make a difference in the lives of hurting people in your immediate community and around the world. We cannot feed the whole world, but we can feed one. We cannot meet all the needs, but we can be faithful stewards of the gracious blessings from the Lord and make a difference in someone's life this Christmas.

Faith generosity challenges us to give, even beyond the comfort zone—into the obedience miracle zone. I tend to be stingy while my wife is generous. She teaches me what Merry Christmas is all about! **H**



# A Pocket of Calm

by Lucinda Norman

**W**hen my three friends and I make our yearly trip to Erie's Mill Creek Mall for holiday sales, I used to become a combat shopper.

I felt I needed soldiers' skills to maneuver through crammed stores

and survive the onslaught of other shoppers with Christmas Club checks and credit cards.

A few years ago, this holiday shopping spree became a contest of survival of the rudest and sneakiest. Overzealous shoppers elbowed and hip-bumped me. Others jumped the fitting rooms and cashier lines.

During a 10-minute special (10 percent off the already 25 percent

discount), a woman grabbed a lace tablecloth from my hands. I looked her in the eye, grunted "Mine!" and yanked it back.

By four o'clock, my mood was belligerent. I stood in line for 20 minutes for a nonsmoking seat in the restaurant where my friends had agreed to meet for an afternoon snack. I collapsed into the booth. My head, legs, and feet ached.

I halted a waitress. "I need hot tea. Bring lemon."

"I'm not your waitress."

"I'm experiencing caffeine withdrawal. If I don't get some tea immediately, I won't be responsible for my actions." I expected her to salute and follow orders.

"Wait your turn," she snapped.

"I've waited my turn all day," I said to her departing back.

Moments later, someone laid a menu in front of me. "I'm Rob, your waiter." I looked up to see a red-headed young man, smiling.

"Would you like anything while you wait for your party?"

"I need hot tea. Fighting this crowd all day has depleted my caffeine reserves."

Rob actually chuckled. "I know what you mean. I've been here since 11."

As Rob returned to the kitchen, he helped the snappy waitress with her loaded tray. He greeted customers and staff. Wherever he went, people relaxed and smiled.

My friends arrived, laden with packages and suffering from battle fatigue. In a better mood from already having my tea, I commented to Rob, "Two of us are grandmothers. All of us have teen sons. Humor us. Just pretend we're your mom and grandma."

Rob grinned. "In that case, I'll

Comstock



give you the royal treatment.” He bowed. By the time he left, my friends were smiling.

Later, without my asking, Rob dropped a fresh tea bag by my cup and winked. “If you’re like my mom, you’ll want another cup.” As he poured steaming water, I saw he wore a dull silver ring made of connected letters. I looked more closely.

“Did you notice our waiter’s ring spells ‘Jesus’?” I asked my friends when he left us.

“No wonder he’s the most courteous person I’ve seen all day,” Marlene said. “He’s conscientiously being a Christian on the job.”

Rob hadn’t said a word about being a Christian. Polite, pleasant, and patient, Rob let Christ create through him a pocket of calm in the middle of Mill Creek Mall’s mad holiday sales.

I felt conviction sweep my conscience. That snappy waitress, clerks, and other shoppers wouldn’t guess I was a Christian. I was as ruthless as every other mall combatant. I mentally asked God’s forgiveness.

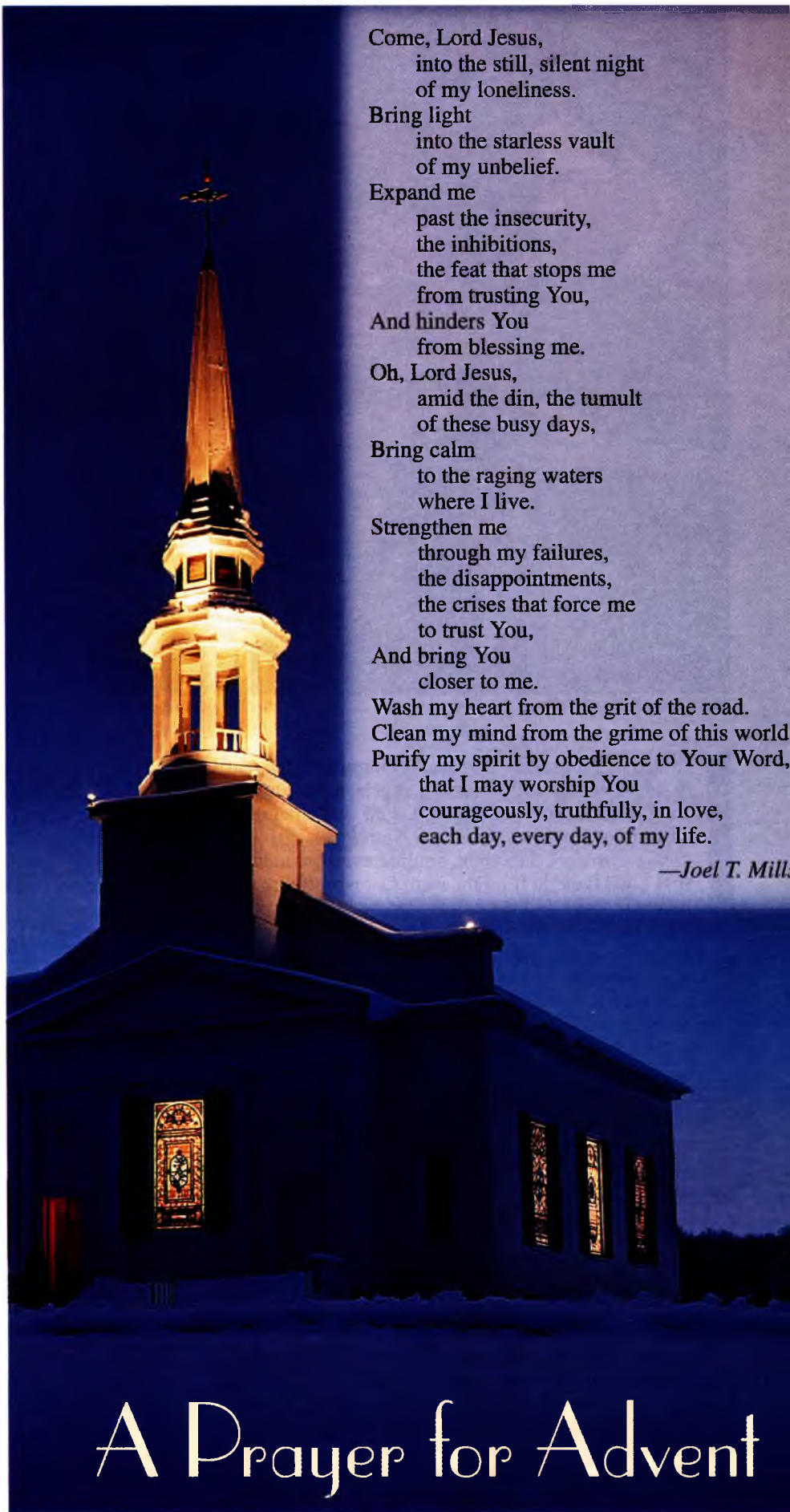
I left Rob a generous tip for his service and his quiet witness. He’d made me determined to model Christ. I was no longer a greedy, harried shopper ready to snipe at anyone who crossed into my zone. I was a Christian shopper facing mall combat with an adjusted attitude.

During the night sales, I excused myself when I bumped someone. Smiling, I called clerks by the names on their I.D. pins. I thanked fitting room attendants for showing me to empty booths. I let a mother with a tired toddler ahead of me in the checkout line.

Shoppers and clerks reacted differently to me too. That same pocket of calm and pleasantness that emanated from our redheaded waiter seemed to surround me and encompass whomever I contacted too.

Now whenever I enter a mall during peak hours, I remember Rob, the teenage Christian waiter. I remember I’m not a mall combatant. I’m a Christian shopper.

✠



Come, Lord Jesus,  
into the still, silent night  
of my loneliness.

Bring light  
into the starless vault  
of my unbelief.

Expand me  
past the insecurity,  
the inhibitions,  
the feat that stops me  
from trusting You,

And hinders You  
from blessing me.

Oh, Lord Jesus,  
amid the din, the tumult  
of these busy days,

Bring calm  
to the raging waters  
where I live.

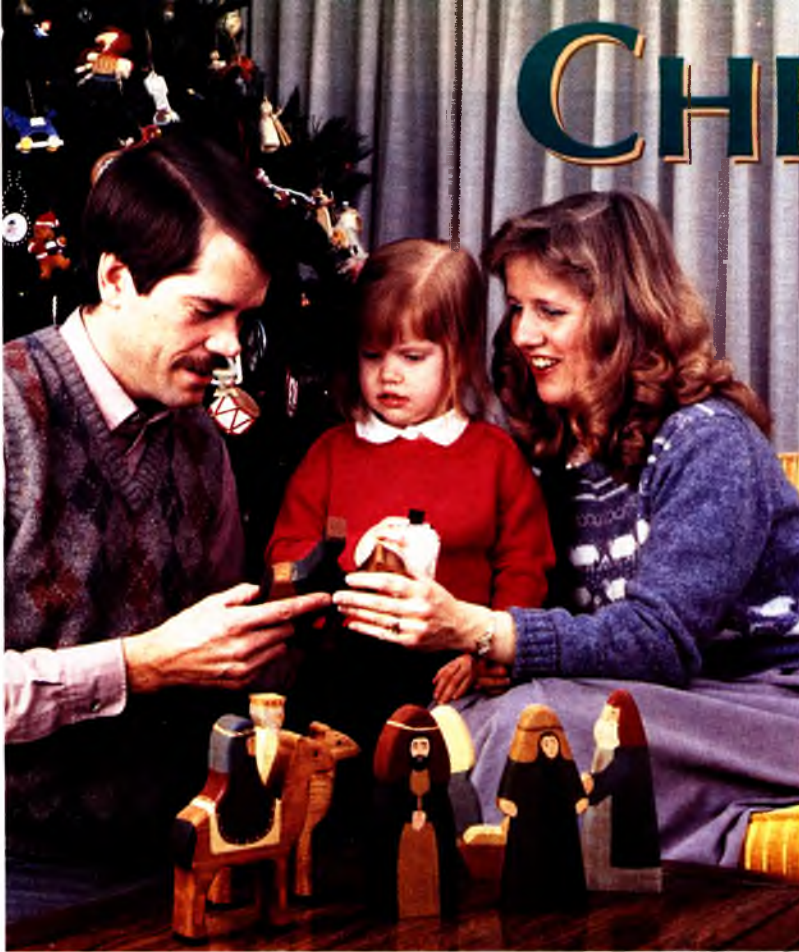
Strengthen me  
through my failures,  
the disappointments,  
the crises that force me  
to trust You,

And bring You  
closer to me.

Wash my heart from the grit of the road.  
Clean my mind from the grime of this world.  
Purify my spirit by obedience to Your Word,  
that I may worship You  
courageously, truthfully, in love,  
each day, every day, of my life.

—Joel T. Miller

# A Prayer for Advent



Jim Whitmer

# CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR LONG?

by June Cerza Kolf

I smiled as I looked at the pastel-colored ceramic Nativity set, complete with animals, angels, a drummer boy, and the three kings, sitting on a shelf in the bathroom. *I'll bet not many people have a Nativity on display in their bathrooms,* I thought, smiling even broader. At first I had thought it might seem disrespectful to display it in there, but the colors matched the rest of the bathroom perfectly, and I now had so many nativities that I had run out of room in the rest of the house.

It all started about 15 years ago with a frosted glass set of the three central figures—Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. I had never been a collector of anything and had no intentions of starting a hobby or collection. Yet, as I stared at the delicately defined features of the frosted glass figures, I knew I had to have this particular set. I went home and hinted quite vigorously in the weeks before Christmas. Naturally, it appeared in an odd-shaped box under the Christmas tree. My husband was very proud of himself for catching my hints as he watched me run my fingers over the smooth surfaces.

Each year after that a new Nativity appeared under the tree: wood, pewter, clay, ceramic, bamboo. Nativities from all over the world, each with their own unique interpretations. My children even constructed adorable, handmade ones, and the collection grew. However, the best part of my collection happened quite by accident.

One year, after packing away all the holiday decorations, I realized I had forgotten to pack away the Nativity in the bathroom. We stored all the holiday decorations in a huge carton in the rafters of the garage. It was a major production to get it up and down, and opening the box was even more of a big deal. The box was taped closed, wrapped with newspaper, taped again, and then tied up with string.

My engineer husband left no detail to chance. His efforts paid off. There was never a speck of dust on anything inside the box, and no mouse could have eaten its way into the box before Christmas, even if it started early in January.

I looked at the forgotten Nativity and pictured the airtight box way up in the garage. *I'll just leave it out all year long, I decided, and pack it away next year.* Even my husband agreed. "How about moving it out of the bathroom, though?" he suggested.

I did just that. I moved it into the living room to a prominent position on top of our piano. That was over 10 years ago. The results were startling. No one coming into our home could miss it. Some people simply stared, not saying anything. Others remarked that it was interesting to have a Christmas Nativity on display in July. I would smile and tell them that all year long I liked to remember the birth of Jesus and what His life stood for.

The next Christmas my children begged me not to pack the Nativity away. In fact, I left out several others as well. As the years have passed, I continue to display various sets from my collection in almost every room of our house. Many of my friends have copied this practice and now do likewise. All three of my children are grown now, and they have various nativities all over their houses. My grandchildren are being raised to think it's perfectly natural, that nativities are not for the Christmas holidays only.

What started out as an oversight has grown into a family tradition. It allows us the opening to talk about Jesus in a natural, comfortable way to guests in our homes, and it warms my heart whenever I dust a little figure in a manger and remember the accidental way this tradition started. Or was it accidental?

H

# Scripture

**ROB L. STAPLES**



Rob L. Staples has made a career of teaching the Christian faith as a pastor and as a professor at Southern Nazarene University and Nazarene Theological Seminary.

“THE BIBLE IS THE MANGER in which Christ is laid.” With that concise and graphic metaphor, Martin Luther explained his view of Scripture.

The great Protestant Reformer was utilizing Luke’s account of the birth of Jesus, in which the shepherds found the Christ child lying in a manger. The manger itself was not the shepherd’s ultimate goal. They were looking for the newborn Babe, and the manger was simply the place where the angels told them to look.

The point of Luther’s analogy is that Christ, who is the Living Word, is to be found in the Bible, which is the written Word. But the latter is but an instrument directing us to the former, and thus not an end in itself.

Let me construct a story, playing off Luther’s metaphor. In my story there are four shepherds. We usually assume there were three, but the Bible does not tell us how many shepherds came to the manger. I suppose we have three shepherds in the children’s Christmas pageants in order to balance the three wise men on the other side of the stage, also dressed up in their fathers’ bathrobes! But the Bible is also silent as to the number of wise men there were. Christian art and leg-

end have portrayed three wise men, perhaps because there were three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But we really do not know how many magi brought these gifts, whether 2 or 20 or 200.

So I can have four shepherds in my story if I wish. There is a Modernist, a Fundamentalist, a Postmodernist, and a Wesleyan. One by one they come to the manger (remember the “manger” is the Bible) seeking the Christ.

The Modernist shepherd comes to the manger and says: “This is a weak manger; some of the boards have knotholes in them.” So he sets about to make it better by ripping out the “miracle” board, the “virgin birth” board, the “resurrection” board, and pretty soon he has so weakened the manger that Christ falls onto the straw on the stable floor!

Then the Fundamentalist shepherd rushes up. “I will defend the manger,” he says. “I will fight anyone who tinkers with it. Let no one lay a hand on it.” He spends most of his energy defending the manger and practically idolizing the boards (the written words), leaving little time to adore the Christ (the Living Word), who lies in it.

The Postmodernist shepherd probably never even bothers to find the manger. He thinks the angel’s announcement of a newborn king is a nice story but only one story among many. It has meaning for some people. Other stories are meaningful to others, and who can say which story is most important? We can each create our own stories, and one is as true as another.

Now the Wesleyan shepherd differs from them all. Unlike the Postmodernist, he knows he must go to the

manger (the Bible) to learn about Christ. There are many mangers (books) in the world, but only this one has the words of eternal life. But, having come to the manger, he differs from the Modernist, who wants to reconstruct it. The Wesleyan knows that this manger is truly unique. Of all mangers (books) in the world, this is most important. He respects it, loves it, handles it with care. But he does not worship it. Having come to the manger, he, unlike the Fundamentalist, does not tarry there, adoring the manger itself. He does not even defend it, believing its truth is strong enough to defend itself. He quickly turns to worship and adore the Christ, who lies there, and then goes and proclaims Him.

That is my little story. Now someone might say, “Wait a minute. Haven’t you slanted this story to make it come out the way you wanted?” I answer, “Of course; it is my story. You may develop your own story and slant it as you wish.” But this is my simple way of explaining the place

**“The Bible is the manger in which Christ is laid.”**

the Bible has in Wesleyan theology.

Luther was correct in calling the Bible a “manger” in which Christ is laid. He also said: “Christ is Lord and King of Scripture.” In these respects, Wesley was much like Luther. The center of the Bible is Jesus Christ. The written words are important. But they are important for one main reason—they point us to the Living Word, whom alone we worship and adore.

## New D.S. Orientation Held

Newly elected or appointed district superintendents from the U.S. and Canada met in Kansas City September 14-16 for orientation sessions. Sponsored by the Board of General Superintendents and the General Secretary's Of-

fice, the event included meetings with the general superintendents and Headquarters directors. Other sessions included interaction with veteran district superintendents and a visit to Nazarene Publishing House.



District superintendents who attended the orientation (l. to r.): Roland Dunlap, Maine; Larry Wright, Southern California; Tharon Daniels, Northwest Oklahoma; James Kraemer, Dakota; Larry White, Alaska; Ronald Doolittle, Iowa; and Larry Fairbanks, Northwestern Ohio.

## NWMS Focus Magazine to Become Mission Connection

With the April/May/June 1999 issue, *NWMS Focus* will become *Mission Connection—A Resource Exchange for NWMS Leaders*. The change in title better represents the true purpose of the quarterly magazine, according to Nina Gunter, general NWMS director.

"I believe the readers will benefit from the changes," said Gunter. "We are planning a magazine that will appeal to the eye and continue to provide the valuable promotional ideas for which *Focus* is known."

A committee of pastors and local and district NWMS presidents reviewed the results of a user *Focus* survey. "The more the committee discussed it, the more we felt it was time for a name change," said Gail Sawrie, *Focus* editor. "We believe that *Mission Connection* gives a clear indication as to the magazine's purpose, which states: *Mission Connection* is a meeting place for equipping NWMS leaders through interaction and resource exchange."

## Earl Lee Dies of Cancer

Earl G. Lee, 80, died October 9, after a battle with cancer. Lee, a 1939 graduate of Eastern Nazarene College, was ordained in 1941. He served as pastor of Pasadena First Church from 1966 to 1984. He also served churches in Idaho, New York, and New England. Lee and his wife, Hazel, were missionar-

ies to India from 1946 to 1960. He authored several books, including the best-seller *Cycle of Victorious Living*. Lee is survived by his wife, Hazel, and three children, Gary, Gayle, and Grant.



## Revised Pension Summary Available

The Pensions Office at the Nazarene Headquarters has updated the booklet that describes the Nazarene "grandfathered" pension plans, according to Don Walter, director of Pensions and Benefits USA. The booklet, which is called a "Summary Plan Description (SPD)", contains up-to-date illustrations based on the most current benefit formula, which became effective July 1, 1998.

"Grandfathered" participants are those who were participants under either the "Basic" Pension Plan or the General Church Pension Plan before January 1, 1996.

Walter said that eligible participants who are not retired probably will want a copy of the new SPD. To request one, contact the Pensions Office. Walter added that participants with Web access may read the SPD on the Nazarene web site.

## Holiness Today to Offer Opportunities for Paid Announcements

Starting in January 1999, *Holiness Today* in conjunction with Nazarene Publishing House will offer a new service to the denomination; namely, Nazarene churches and organizations at the general, district, and local levels will be able to purchase paid-announcement space in the new denominational magazine.

The types of paid announcements will include:

- Special Events
- Educational Opportunities
- Services
- Miscellaneous

**Cost:** \$7.00 (U.S.) per line or fraction of a line with a \$21.00 (U.S.) minimum charge. (There is an average of about 50 characters—letters, numbers, punctuation, and spaces—per line.)

**Deadline:** The first day of the month two months prior to publication date for both reservation and cancellation. For example, reservations for the March 1999 issue must be received by January 1, 1999.

**Address:** Send paid-announcement requests to *Holiness Today*, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Fax: 816-333-1748.

E-mail: <HolinessToday@nazarene.org> *Note:* Phone requests will not be accepted.

**Payment:** Withhold payment until invoice is received.

All paid announcements are subject to approval by the *Holiness Today* editorial staff and NPH. While the publication of paid announcements implies neither endorsement nor approval by *Holiness Today*, Nazarene Publishing House, or the Church of the Nazarene, no announcement will knowingly be published that is in conflict with Nazarene doctrine, practices, or polity.

Here are examples of paid announcements:

**50th Anniversary:** First Church of the Nazarene, Webb, Ill., will celebrate its 50th anniversary on April 25, 1999. Former members and friends are invited to be with us on this special occasion.

**Northern Nazarene University Offers Credit for Israel Trip:** Two semester hours of credit may be earned by participating in NNU's trip to the Holy Land July 5-15, 1999. For more information call 123-456-7890, or write to Department of Religion, NNU, Box 333, Hippel, MN 44444.

## Sharpes New D.S. in Australia

R. Wayne Sharpes has been appointed superintendent of the Australia Northern Pacific District, according to General Superintendent William J. Prince.

Sharpes has most recently been the minister of discipleship at Lima Community Church in Ohio, where he had been senior pastor for 22 years. He previously pastored churches in Wisconsin, Kentucky, Kansas, and Ohio.

Sharpes holds a bachelor's degree from Trevecca Nazarene University, a master's of divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary, and a doctor of ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary.

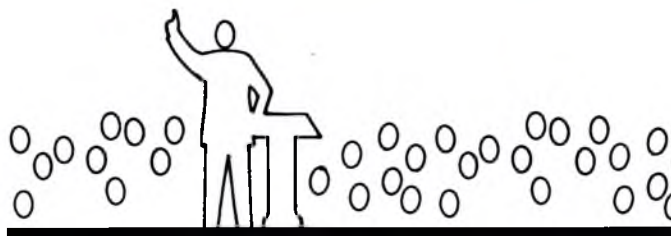
Sharpes and his wife, Wanda, have three grown children, all involved in Nazarene ministry.



## Golden Celebrates 100th Birthday



Newell Golden celebrated his 100th birthday on September 10, according to his pastor, Wayne Hicks. Golden and his wife, Edna, celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary in February. The Goldenes are charter members of the Valleyview Church of the Nazarene in Amarillo, Texas, which they joined 70 years ago.



**ABBOTT, DAN:** Junction City, OR, Jan. 17-20; Myrtle Creek, OR, 31—Feb. 3

**ALTES, DIANE—PROVIDENCE TRIO:** Weatherford, OK, Concert, Jan. 10-P; Altus, OK, Concert, 17-P; Bristow, OK, Concert, 24-A; Marlow, OK, Concert, 31-P

① **ARMSTRONG, LEON AND LINDA—THE ARMSTRONGS:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16

**BENSON, MICHAEL W.:** New Cumberland, PA, Dec. 2-6; Louisville, KY (Southside), 9-13; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Mesa, AZ (First), Jan. 17-20; Warren, MI (Warren Woods), 24-27; Virginia Beach, VA (Tidewater Central), 31—Feb. 3

① **BOND, GARY:** Tuttle, OK, 2-6; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16

**BROWN, ROGER N.:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Lakeland, FL (Lake Gibson), Concert, Jan. 3; Sarasota, FL (Trinity), 10-13

**BURKHALTER, PAT AND DONNA:** Post, TX, Dec. 4-13; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Vilonia, AR, Jan. 6-10; Conway, AR (College Avenue), 13-17; Many, LA, 20-24

**CERVANTES, RUDY—HEAVENLY TRUMPET MINISTRIES:** Traverse City, MI, Northern Michigan Pastors' Christmas Banquet Concert, Dec. 5-A; Traverse City, MI, Concert, 6-A; Alanson, MI (Lakeview), Concert, 6-P; Pueblo, CO (First), Concert, 9-P; North Vernon, IN, Concert, 13-A; Shelbyville, IN (First), Concert, 13-P; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Midwest City, OK (Community), Concert, 20-A; Perry, OK, Concert, 20-P; Hutchinson, KS (Bethany), Concert, Jan. 3-A; Marysville, CA (Hallwood Community), Concert, 10-A; Live Oak, CA, Concert, 10-P; Twin Falls, ID, Concert, 17-A; Vacaville, CA, Concert, 24-A; Sutter Creek, CA, Concert, 24-P

**COOK, THOMAS L.:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Dalton, GA (First), 26-27; Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, Jan. 5-11; Fort Oglethorpe, GA (Battlefield Parkway), 16-17; Jasper, AL (First), Alabama District Workshop, 29-31

**COVINGTON, NATHAN:** Haxton, CO (Clarksville Buffalo Grass), Dec. 3-6; Phoenix, AZ (First), Jan. 15-17; Arlington, TX (East Park), 31—Feb. 2

**CRABTREE, J. C.:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16

**DABYDEEN, ROBERT:** Fort Lauderdale, FL (First), Dec. 13-16; Albertville, AL (First), Jan. 16-20

**DELL, JIMMY:** Anchorage, AK (Hillcrest), Dec. 2-6; Shafter, CA, Jan. 9-13; Kingman, AZ, 20-24; Sheffield, AL (First), 30—Feb. 3

① **DENNISON, MARVIN:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16

① **FADER, WES AND MARY:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Brandon, FL (First), Jan. 27-31

**FLINT, ROBERT E.:** Findlay, OH, Nazarene

Bible College Extension, Dec. 1—Jan. 26

**GESSNER, DON AND SHIRL:** Cincinnati, OH, Dec. 3\*; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Brooksville, FL, Jan. 8-17\*; Lancaster, PA, 25-27\*; Crowley, LA (First), Zone Crusade, 28—Feb. 7

**GOSS, MIKKI, AND VINEYARD, JOANN—M & J EVANGELISTIC TEAM:** Danville, AR (Grace Chapel), Jan. 10-17

① **HAINES, GARY:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Hernando, FL, Jan. 9-13; Clermont, FL, 14-17; San Angelo, TX (First), 23-26; San Antonio, TX (Valley Hill), Zone Crusade, 27-31

**HANCOCK, TIM:** Anderson, IN (Eastview), Dec. 6-9

**HICKS, JOHN DAVID:** Vale, OR, Nov. 29—Dec. 2; New Plymouth, ID, 3-6; Panorama City, CA (New Hope), 13-16; Sandy, OR, Jan. 10-13; Homedale, ID, 17-20; Marsing, ID, 21-24; Marsing, ID, Zone Seminar, 23

**JACKSON, PAUL & TRISH—JETSTREAM MINISTRIES:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16

**JUNEMAN, JOHN:** Prescott, AZ, Cross Style Conference, Jan. 8-10; Tucson, AZ (Mountain View), 12-17

① **LECKRONE, LARRY AND TAMLA:** Hampton, VA, Dec. 2-6; Jackson Center, OH, 9-13; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Orange, CA, Jan. 2-6; Chino, CA (Cornerstone Community), 9-13

**LOMAN, LANE:** Elon College, NC (Power Line), Jan. 3-6; Monticello, MS, 10-13\*; Trussville, AL, 17-20; Crowley, LA (First), Holiness Crusade, 27—Feb. 7

① **MANLEY, STEPHEN—CROSS STYLE PROCLAMATION:** Tipton, IN, Dec. 2-6\*; Carey, OH (Ridge Chapel), 9-13; Marion, IN, 20\*; Phoenix, AZ (Maryvale), Jan. 3-6; Prescott, AZ, Cross Style Conference, 8-10; Scottsdale, AZ (Faith Chapel), 10-12; Madras, India, 14-31\*

① **MILLHUFF, CHUCK R.:** Kansas City, MO (Hillcrest), Dec. 2-6; Kansas City, MO (Blue Hills Community), 11-13; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16

**MILLS, CARLTON—SECOND TOUCH EVANGELISM MINISTRIES:** Cape May, NJ (Seashore Community), Dec. 6-9; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Leesburg, FL, Jan. 10-13; Belleview, FL, 17-20; New Port Richey, FL (First), 26-31

**MOORE, NORMAN:** Laurel, MT, Dec. 3-6; Muncie, IN (South Side), Jan. 3-6; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Yuba City, CA (First), Twin City Zone Crusade, 27-31

**PALMER, MIKE:** Lovington, NM, Dec. 6-9; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Hebron, OH, Jan. 1-6; Grove City, OH (Darbydale), 10-13; Bowling Green, MO, 17-20; Greenwood, SC (Community), 24-27

**PARKS, TOM AND BECKY:** New Harmony, IN (Harmony Chapel), Dec. 6-9; Benton, IL (First), 12-16; Fairview Heights, IL

(Parkview), Concert, 20-A; Roxana, IL, Concert, 20-P; Granite City, IL (First), Concert, 24; Lawrence, KS (First), Concert, 27-A; Ottawa, KS, Concert, 27-P; Moline, IL (Community), Jan. 10-13; El Paso, IL, 15-17

① **PERDUE, NELSON S.:** Tuscaloosa, AL (Woodhaven), Dec. 2-6; Crestline, OH, 11-13; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Bradenton, FL (First), Jan. 6-10; Blanchester, OH, 13-17; Orangeburg, SC (First), Indoor Camp, 20-24; New Castle, IN (First), Indoor Camp, 26-31

**PETTIT, ELAINE C.—EVANGELIST MINISTRIES:** Waldron, AR (First), Dec. 6-9; Indianapolis, Indiana, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Killeen, TX (First), Jan. 10-13; Waco, TX (South Manor), 17-20; Temple, TX (First), Prayer Seminar, 22-23; Temple, TX (First), 24-27; Lansing, MI (First), 31—Feb. 3

**PIERCE, RONALD L.:** Niota, TN, Dec. 1-6\*; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16

**ROACH, JERRY AND BARBARA—ROACH EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES, INC.:** Carthage, TN, Dec. 2; Royallton, IL (First), 6-A; Centralia, IL, 6-P\*; Georgetown, IL, 9; Gilman, IL, 10\*; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Primm Springs, TN (Elmore), Jan. 10; Tallahassee, FL (First), 24-27; Nashville, TN (Donelson), 31—Feb. 3

**SCHNEIDER, JAY:** Ann Arbor, MI (Honey Creek), Dec. 2-6

① **SMITH, DUANE:** Carpinteria, CA, Dec. 6-9; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Santa Clara, CA, Jan. 17-20; Redding, CA (Lake Boulevard), 24-27

**SMITH, LARRY D.:** Rock Hill, SC (First), Jan. 9-13; Winnsboro, SC, 16-20; Orange Park, FL, 23-27; Jacksonville, FL (Cornerstone), 30—Feb. 6

① **STRICKLAND, DICK:** Maryville, TN, Dec. 6-9; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16

**THARP, JAMES W.:** Baker City, OR, Prayer Seminar, Jan. 8-10

**ULMET, BILL AND KATHY:** Houston, MS, Dec. 3-6; Bella Vista, AR, 9-13; Manteno, IL, NYI Retreat, 28-30

**VECCHI, PETE:** Dolton, IL (First), Dec. 2-6; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16

① **WELLS, LINARD:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Fort Worth, TX (White Settlement), Jan. 5-10; Brownwood, TX (First), 12-17; Garland, TX, 19-24

**WESLEY, RONALD E.:** Haines City, FL, Jan. 3-6; Zephyrhills, FL, 27-31

**WEST, DAVID L.:** Zelenople, PA, Dec. 6-9

**WOMACK, PAUL—P AND S MINISTRIES:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Dexter, MO, Jan. 12-17\*; Jacksonville, TX (Lookout Valley), 20-24; Graham, TX, 27-31

**WRIGHT, E. GUY AND BETTY:** Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, Dec. 14-16; Jessup, GA, Jan. 10-14\*; Waycross, GA (First), 17-20; White Springs, FL (Suwannee River), 24-27; Lake City, FL (Trinity), 29-31

**YINGLING, KEN AND WANDA:** Royerton, IN, Dec. 6\*; Indianapolis, IN, Evangelists' Gathering, 14-16; Muncie, IN (Mayfield), Jan. 10; Gaston, IN, 17; Springport, IN (Lurray), 24

① Tenured evangelist is recognized by the church as a lifetime assignment. See *Manual* 407.3

\*Denotes Non-Nazarene Church

# Christmas Traditions—

## *Making Your Family Celebrations Memorable*

Stan and Linda Toler  
Elmer and Ruth Towns

### *Christmas Traditions*

*Making Your Family Celebrations Memorable*



*Stan & Linda Toler  
Elmer & Ruth Towns*

**I**t is more blessed to give than to receive.” Our family has learned this important lesson. Each member of our extended family goes to his or her overflowing closets, toy boxes, or pantries to find presents for a family who might not have Christmas. After deciding who will receive the surprise gifts, we sneak information, such as sizes, ages of children, or specific needs. Next, we collect a large box of goodies—lotions or fragrances for Mom, warm sweaters and a toy for each child, something special for Dad, and a bag or two of groceries (a ham, oranges, nuts, a package of dressing, some sweet potatoes, freshly baked bread, and a few candies to top it off).

Christmas Eve night, we decide who will have the honor of delivering the gifts. Amid giggles, barking dogs, and tripping over each other, the delivery team leaves the box on the doorstep, rings the bell, and runs like crazy. This is always so much fun, we now fight over who gets to deliver the surprise.

One year we received a big cardboard “thank you” card in our gift-family’s front yard. It said, “Thank you, Santa, whoever you are.”

—Elmer and Ruth Towns





Christmas Day 1981, Heritage Memorial Church. She carried her beginner's book and slowly approached the grand piano, left center of the platform. Kim Hawk was all of 10 years old—a

Down syndrome child.

More than a thousand worshipers silently cheered for her as she opened the book and began to play the Sunday morning offertory. With one finger, Kim painstakingly pecked out "Jesus Loves Me." At times she paused indefinitely, struggling to place her stubby little fingers on the right keys. Her brow wrinkled in concentration, her lips puckered with determination, her eyes narrowed with intensity.

As Kim continued in her simple, pure worship, my own heart swelled with God's love—perfect, holy, blameless. "Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so!" Every nuance of Christmas seemed wrapped in that simple message.

At last, Kim finished and slipped off the piano bench. An avalanche of applause punctuated her message. "Jesus loves me!" swelled from every heart as God's Spirit filled that sanctuary with the force of His infinite power. Grown men, breathing deeply, struggled to retain their dignity, while weepy women searched for tissues to blot their damp cheeks.

As He invaded the world 2,000 years before, the Holy Creator invaded our church service through the simplicity of an innocent child. God was near. And in that close moment, He wrapped His arms around each of us and said, "I love you."

—Stan Toler



Saint Nicholas was born wealthy in 280 A.D. He was a small-town boy from Patara in Asia Minor. Even though an epidemic killed his parents during his

youth, they had made sure of both his spiritual and material wealth. Nicholas had a faith no one could shake.

After his parents' death, Nicholas lived in Myra and there showed his love for Christ through his love for others. Eventually, the town asked him to be its bishop. Emperor Diocletian jailed him because of his faith. But Emperor Constantine released him.

News of Saint Nicholas' generous deeds spread through the countryside. Not only did he beg for food for the poor, he also gave impoverished girls dowries,

which enabled them to find husbands. And, of course, there is the unforgettable story of his putting on a costume, sneaking into the homes of poor children, and leaving gifts. Because of his generosity, Nicholas gave away everything he owned and died poor in 314.

He never rode around with reindeer, though. We can thank the clergyman Clement Clarke Moore for that (1822). And if you like his suit, you can thank the illustrator Thomas Nast for that. But for his generosity and love, you can thank his heavenly Father.

Saint Nicholas is the embodiment of what we all should be. The man reached out to his world and has touched humanity ever since. Think what our world would be like if we followed his example.

Maybe this is the Santa that parents should tell their children about. Perhaps telling youngsters the real story of Santa would put the right balance into the Christmas gift-giving ritual.

—Debra White Smith, *The Dallas Morning News*, Friday, November 24, 1994. Used by permission.

Excerpted from a new Beacon Hill Press book *Christmas Traditions: Making Your Family Celebrations Memorable*, by Stan and Linda Toler and Elmer and Ruth Towns. H



As a church we must minister to those who serve our country and challenge them to be missionaries in uniform.

Come alongside and let Chaplaincy Ministries know your servicemember's address, send them a Servicemembers' Readiness Packet, and keep in contact with them.

**"God and the soldier all men adore  
In times of danger, if not before;  
When all things are righted  
God is forgotten and the soldier is slighted."**

### **Chaplaincy Ministries**

6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131

#### **Home page**

[www.nazarene.org](http://www.nazarene.org)

#### **Military coordinator home page**

[www.keynet.net/~shirley](http://www.keynet.net/~shirley)

**1/800/233-8962**



# THE UNHERALDED



by J. Wesley Eby

**C**hristmas. This favorite holiday brings gifts, treats, and treasures. Indeed, rare is the person who has never been the recipient of a special Yuletide surprise.

George Mowry Jr. is like one of

hernia-inducing moving ministry in which he has helped hundreds of people relocate who lack the money to hire a Mayflower van. His heart and hands continually reach out to folks labeled “unlovely”—the incarcerated, the unemployed, the homosexual. No one—whether nursing-home resident,

most unusual pastor. His current assignment is minister of outreach for First Church of the Nazarene in Spokane, Washington. Though he never felt the call to preach, he daily evangelizes and disciples others. In fact, that is his first love. He was trained in Evangelism Explosion and Navigator Discipleship. And

## *George Mowry Jr. — A Not-So-Usual Minister*

those unanticipated Christmas presents. His life has been chock-full of out-of-the-ordinary events. With him, family and friends never know quite what to expect.

For example, his wife, Sharon, quipped that she never knew who was coming to Sunday dinner—or how many. For many years, George scoured the Sunday crowd for a new or lonely face and invited that person to join in the delicious food and warm fellowship of the Mowry home. Sharon just knew she needed to be prepared for an extra guest, or maybe more.

Ministry for George is far more than routinely carrying out assigned responsibilities at his church. He believes in getting down and dirty in the everyday lives of folks. Thankless tasks—the unpopular kind with the average churchgoer—have included a “bed ministry” in which he acquires good used mattresses and transports them to homes where individuals have been sleeping on the floor, and a

new immigrant, or lawbreaker—escapes his love and care. One day, he intervened in a robbery, befriended the thief, found the young man a job, and led him and his live-in companion to Christ.

Yes, Rev. George Mowry is a

he enjoys sharing his knowledge and experience with others. Also, he and Sharon are certified trainers for Nazarene Marriage Enrichment and have assisted with numerous retreats over the years.

Because George’s gifts are not in the area of a preaching pastor, he did not pursue ordination until later in life. Finally, at age 59, when most men are thinking of retirement, George was ordained as an elder.

Actually, the fact that George is a minister should not be surprising at all. He is a PK (preacher’s kid), and his father, George Sr., was a pastor in the Church of the Nazarene for 45 years.

George Jr. graduated from Northwest Nazarene College (NNC) in 1953 with a degree in English. Later, he completed two master’s degrees. He served in the military for two years and played in an army band. His professional career included the following positions: a public school band director, an elementary school



Sharon and George Mowry

# Trucks, Toys, and Grown-up Boys

MARLO M. SCHALESKY



Marlo M. Schalesky is a Christian novelist and freelance writer. She and her pastor husband, Bryan, live in Gilroy, California.

principal, a professor at Olivet Nazarene University, and for 25 years, a minister of music or outreach in various Nazarene churches.

George met his wife-to-be in Moscow, Idaho, where he was the volunteer choir director and her father, E. B. Hartley, was the pastor. George and Sharon married in 1959, becoming partners in ministry for the past four decades. (Today, Sharon serves her church as NWMS president while working as an assistant school superintendent in Spokane.)

The ministerial legacy of the Mowry-Hartley union runs deep. Their four children are all ordained elders in the Church of the Nazarene. Elizabeth Potter, a former church planter, lives in Kansas City with her husband, Mark, and their children. Doug is the minister of pastoral care for a United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Agnes, live in Richland, Washington. Jon and his wife, Kathy, are Nazarene missionaries in Saint Petersburg, Russia, where Jon is the area director and Kathy serves as director of pastoral training. David is the children's pastor at Spokane First, where his father is on staff. His wife's name is Melissa.

The four Mowry children and their spouses have given George and Sharon eight (almost nine) grandchildren with whom to play and love. How appropriate that a sign hangs in the Mowry's home that reads, "Grandpas are just antique little boys."

Rev. Mowry's love and enthusiasm for the Lord are boundless. He has spent his life spreading the good news through both his words and deeds. As an encourager, his favorite phrase is "Give 'em heaven." Most important, this *not-so-usual* minister lives as if each day is his last one on earth. While *unheralded* on earth, George's heavenly record is a voluminous chronicle of his Christlike, selfless servanthood.

Information provided by Elizabeth Mowry Potter and Northwest Nazarene College. **H**

WELL, IT FINALLY HAPPENED. Bryan got a brand-new hitch for his Ford Explorer. Not just any ol' hitch, mind you—not one of those pesky little balls on the bumper. Oh no. This was a man-sized hitch.

I knew I was in trouble when Bryan came home with a smile as big as a slice of watermelon. "So, what do you think?" he grinned, motioning to the back of the truck.

I looked down at the metal bar and attempted to appear impressed. "Uh, it's nice." I squatted down to look closer, thinking I must be missing something. Nope, it still looked like nothing more than a steel bar with a hole in it.

"Nice?" Bryan raised his eyebrows. "That's a Type 3 hitch. Why, we could pull a huge boat," he motioned with one hand into the air, "or a camper, or a big trailer, or . . . or . . . well, just about anything!"

"Oh."

Bryan glanced at me, obviously disheartened by my lack of enthusiasm.

Of course, I would have been more impressed if we actually had one of those things he mentioned. But we didn't. No boat, no camper, no trailer,

not even one of those little bike racks. Nothing. But this fact didn't seem to squelch Bryan's joy. And I knew better than to point it out.

"My, it's . . ." I searched for a word. "Lovely."

The watermelon-look turned more like a prune.

I swallowed. Hard. Apparently *lovely* is not a word you should use in conjunction with a man's truck. I took a deep breath and tried again. "It looks very strong."

Bryan's face lit up again. "It can pull 5,000 pounds."

Was that a lot? I didn't know. I decided to take the leap. "Wow, isn't that great! That's a pretty powerful piece of equipment. I'm impressed." I then proceeded to make the appropriate "oooo" and "ahhh" sounds.

Bryan's grin returned, full force, as he knelt down to show me just how incredible that hitch really was and how much we could now do with it. As he explained a variety of very important features that meant nothing at all to me, I realized something. He was happy. And I was happy. And that made our marriage just a

little bit better.

I learned a valuable lesson that day. I discovered that being interested in the things that interest my husband shows him that I value him. I was reminded of Paul's instruction in Philippians 2:4 (NIV): "Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." In other words, be impressed with his toys. And using the right words—like strong, powerful, big, wow—doesn't hurt either.

Oh, and by the way, it wasn't long before we found plenty of fun things to pull behind our Explorer. **H**

**Apparently *lovely* is not a word you should use in conjunction with a man's truck.**

## January through December 1998

### FEATURES

- Appetite for Righteousness, An** ..... Joe Seaborn, Mar., p. 26
- Beauty Doesn't Need a Pretty Package** ..... Marlo M. Schalesky, Feb., p. 2
- Believing and Receiving** ..... Paul M. Bassett, Dec., p. 4
- Blessed Are the Merciful** ..... Janette Oke, Mar., p. 22
- Blue Cross, The** ..... Jean Testerman, Nov., p. 8
- Call to Action, A** ..... Board of General Superintendents, Oct., p. 2
- Christmas All Year Long?** ..... June Cerza Kolf, Dec., p. 10
- Christmas Traditions—Making Your Family Celebrations Memorable** ..... Stan and Linda Toler, Elmer and Ruth Towns, Dec., p. 14
- Communication: Understanding How to Understand** ..... Bob and Yvonne Turnbull, June, p. 20
- Contented Spirit, A** ..... Betty Ann Nolan, Jan., p. 32
- Day in the Son, A** ..... Jane A. Rubietta, Jan., p. 26
- Day We Crossed Kellogg, The** ..... Joyce Williams, Aug., p. 6
- Deep Roots—Great Shade** ..... Doug Samples, Jan., p. 4
- Did I Take THIS Man?** ..... Mayo Mathers, June, p. 6
- Easter, the Cross, and Bunny Bunny** ..... Brenda Kern, Apr., p. 28
- Eight Ways to Grow Spiritually** ..... Victor M. Parachin, July, p. 3
- Evangelism Is a Process** ..... Lyle Pointer, Aug., p. 3
- Faith Promise** ..... Gerry Peck, Apr., p. 40
- "Flames of Holy Love"**
- John Wesley's Trinitarian Faith** ..... Roderick T. Leupp, June, p. 2
- Formal Dining in a Robe and Slippers** ..... Tina Krause, July, p. 5
- Gift of Simplicity, The** ..... Karen O'Connor, Jan., p. 22
- God Gave Me a Lawyer and a Songbird** ..... Melissa Salisbury, Nov., p. 16
- God's Love Is like a Boomerang** ..... Marilyn J. Woody, May, p. 18
- Graveclothes Are Empty, The** ..... Tim White, Apr., p. 26
- Grilled-Cheese Sandwich Time** ..... Grant Lee, Sept., p. 18
- Growing in Holiness** ..... Wayne M. Warner, July, p. 2
- Heirs of Holy Intensity** ..... Gary Allen Henecke, July, p. 10
- Holiness and Discipleship** ..... J. Ray Shadowens, Mar., p. 4
- How to Be Incredibly Happy** ..... Cheryl Jackson, Feb., p. 19
- Hymn That Became a Benediction, The** ..... Victor M. Parachin, Feb., p. 30
- In Sickness and in Health** ..... Joyce Williams, June, p. 12
- Instant Results** ..... Pauline Ellis Cramer, Jan., p. 34
- Is It My Turn?** ..... June Cerza Kolf, Sept., p. 9
- Leftovers for God?** ..... Mark Barnes, Sept., p. 2
- Lesson of the Wind-Blown Leaf, The** ..... Audrey Carli, Apr., p. 8
- Lessons Learned at VBS** ..... Mike Jackson, July, p. 16
- Let Me Help You Write** ..... L. Elizabeth Arthurs, Nov., p. 14
- Marriage Mentoring: The Sleeping Giant in the Church** ..... Les Parrott III and Leslie Parrott, Feb., p. 44
- Mine? Or His?** ..... Richard Maffeo, Sept., p. 5
- Ministering to Our Pastors** ..... Chip Ricks, Oct., p. 4
- Multicultural Ministries Conference Focuses on Reconciliation** ..... Bryon McLaughlin, Nov., p. 4
- My Snow Prayer** ..... Maxine Dowd Jensen, Mar., p. 33
- Nazarene Bible College—Preparing Future Pastors** ..... Oct., p. 16
- No Pain, No Gain** ..... Stephen Lim, Sept., p. 6
- NTS—A Place for Growing Visions** ..... Gordon Wetmore, Jan., p. 2
- Palm Sunday Parade** ..... J. Grant Swank Jr., Apr., p. 22
- Parent-Child Communication: 7 Ways to Close the Gap** ..... Debra Fulghum Bruce, Mar., p. 8
- Paring Down** ..... J. Grant Swank Jr., Jan., p. 31
- Phil and Laura—A Sandwich Generation Case Study** ..... Feb., p. 25
- Pocket of Calm, A** ..... Lucinda Norman, Dec., p. 8
- Pontius Pilate: One Way or the Other** ..... Kenneth L. Gible, Apr., p. 24
- Power and Pentecost** ..... J. Grant Swank Jr., May, p. 4
- Promise Kept, A** ..... Cheryl Gochnauer, June, p. 10
- Quiet Woman, Exuberant Song** ..... Keith Schwanz, May, p. 8
- Reflections of a Recently Retired Pastor** ..... Stan Meek, Oct., p. 8
- Rest and Revolution** ..... Kenneth L. Gible, Jan., p. 44
- Sanctification—A Comprehensive Provision** ..... Al Truesdale and Bonnie Perry, Sept., p. 12
- Sandwich Generation, The** ..... Phillip W. Bolerjack, Feb., p. 22
- Statement in Support of Refugees and Immigrants** ..... Board of General Superintendents, Nov., p. 2
- This Culture Is Overrated** ..... William Willimon, Apr., p. 38
- Three Little Plants** ..... Leane M. Button, Aug., p. 10
- To Die For** ..... Victor M. Parachin, Mar., p. 20
- Tribute to Wesley D. Tracy, A** ..... May, p. 12
- Twenty Years with Cancer** ..... Stephen M. Miller, Mar., p. 36
- Unsure Victory, but Assured Faith** ..... Michael D. Beegle, Apr., p. 36
- What Kind of Church Do You Seek?** ..... Wayne M. Warner, Nov., p. 7
- What's a Nice Church like You Doing in a Place like This?** ..... Mike Jackson, Aug. p. 14
- When Promise Becomes Presence** ..... Wayne M. Warner, Dec., p. 6
- Where Are the Merry Widows?** ..... Gloria Willingham, Apr., p. 10
- Who Needs Missionaries?** ..... Cheri Walters, Mar., p. 10
- Who Said Meow?** ..... Sharon K. McLellan, Feb., p. 20
- Why Celebrate Pentecost?** ..... Ron McClung, May, p. 2
- Why I Believe in Evangelism and Revivals** ..... Donald D. Owens, Aug., p. 2
- Working, Changing, Growing** ..... Mabel Adamson, Feb., p. 3
- POETRY**
- Aim High** ..... Charles Hastings Smith, Feb., p. 39
- Are You One of Them?** ..... Dorothy Purdy, Apr., p. 30
- Donkey, The** ..... G. K. Chesterton, Apr., p. 23
- Life's Winters** ..... Kathryn Burns, Jan., p. 46
- Prayer for Advent, A** ..... Joel T. Mills, Dec., p. 9
- CONTINUING COLUMNS**
- Creative Brooding*
- Cosmic Nonfiction** ..... Dean Nelson, Mar., p. 44
- For Sale** ..... Dean Nelson, Jan., p. 34
- Soccer and the Church** ..... Dean Nelson, Feb., p. 33
- Tangerines—Love in Masquerade** ..... Dean Nelson, Apr., p. 31
- The Family Album*
- Color-blind Love** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, Jan., p. 36
- Obey Your Thirst** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, Sept., p. 8
- Splinter of '98 a.k.a. "The Timber in My Toe!" The** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, Nov., p. 18
- Spring Is in the Air** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, Mar., p. 18
- Thing to Do, The** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, July, p. 15
- Things We Learn, The** ..... Jerry and Lynda Cohagan, May, p. 22
- General Superintendent's Viewpoint*
- Beatitudes—What's the Catch? The** ..... William J. Prince, Mar., p. 1
- Broke at Christmas** ..... Jerry D. Porter, Dec., p. 7
- Call to Jesuslikeness, The** ..... Jim L. Bond, July, Inside front cover
- Church—On Its Last Legs, The** ..... John A. Knight, Feb., p. 6
- In Quest of the Deeper Life** ..... Jim L. Bond, Jan., p. 11
- Is Enough Enough?** ..... William J. Prince, Sept., Inside front cover
- Out of Control** ..... Paul G. Cunningham, May, p. 3
- Selfish Spouses Are the Pits** ..... Jerry D. Porter, June, p. 4
- Sharing Christ with Others** ..... John A. Knight, Aug., p. 4
- Thanksgiving Living** ..... Paul G. Cunningham, Nov., p. 6
- Wes Tracy, Thank You!** ..... James H. Diehl, Apr., p. 6
- What's the Real Need?** ..... James H. Diehl, Oct., p. 3
- Guest Editorial*
- Christian Higher Education—A Contradiction in Terms?** ..... Loren P. Gresham, Sept., p. 4
- Focus on the Church: The Hope for Christian Marriages** ..... Stephen G. Green, June, p. 9
- Let's Build a Bridge** ..... Bruce Oldham, July, p. 4
- Surprise of His Truth, The** ..... John M. Smee, Oct., p. 14
- Turn the World Upside Down** ..... Bev Borbe, Nov., p. 3
- We're Family** ..... C. Neil Strait, May, p. 7
- Your Life in the Plan of God** ..... W. Mark Greathouse, Aug., p. 9
- In a Woman's Voice*
- Abundant Life, The** ..... Marlo M. Schalesky, Mar., p. 33

<b>Comforters, The</b> .....	Susan Hanson Bates, Jan., p. 35
<b>Harvest, The</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, Apr., p. 34
<b>I Thought They Were Weeds</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, Feb., p. 36
<b>My Manual for Love</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, June, p. 13
<b>Trucks, Toys, and Grown-up Boys</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, Dec., p. 17
<b>When a Friend Says She's a Lesbian</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, Aug., p. 8
<b>When Nightmares Come True</b> .....	Marlo M. Schalesky, Oct., p. 7

*Into the Word*

<b>First Choice</b> .....	Roger L. Hahn, Feb., p. 16
<b>God's Family Plan</b> .....	Roger L. Hahn, Mar., p. 47
<b>Letter to Churches, A</b> .....	Roger L. Hahn, Jan., p. 19
<b>Price of Freedom, The</b> .....	Roger L. Hahn, Apr., p. 44

*Masculine Journey*

<b>Favorite Things</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Dec., p. 3
<b>From the Mail to the Call: Servanthood After the Party's Over</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Jan., p. 9
<b>Of Husbands and Wives</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Feb., p. 37
<b>Out of Control</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, June, p. 11
<b>Peripheral Blindness</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Aug., p. 17
<b>Two Tickets to Paradise</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Apr., p. 7
<b>What's in a Word?</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Mar., p. 2
<b>Wisdom on the Water</b> .....	Victor Schreffler, Oct., p. 19

*Nazarene Roots*

<b>Model Pastor: John Short and the Cambridge Church, A</b> .....	Stan Ingersol, Oct., p. 10
<b>Orange Scott, Wesleyan Methodism, and Nazarenes</b> .....	Stan Ingersol, Feb., p. 18

*Words of Faith*

<b>Authority</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, July, p. 6
<b>Glorification</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Apr., p. 18
<b>Holiness</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Aug., p. 15
<b>Inerrancy</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, June, p. 5
<b>Judgment</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Feb., p. 43
<b>Millennium</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Mar., p. 32
<b>Predestination</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Nov., p. 10
<b>Satan</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, May, p. 11
<b>Scripture</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Dec., p. 11
<b>Theology</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Jan., p. 20
<b>Vocation</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Oct., p. 11
<b>Worship</b> .....	Rob L. Staples, Sept., p. 15

*DEPARTMENTS*

*Editor's Choice*

<b>An Era Ends. A New One Begins</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Dec., p. 2
<b>Going Primitive</b> .....	Wesley D. Tracy, Feb., p. 8
<b>Last Word, The</b> .....	Wesley D. Tracy, Apr., p. 48
<b>Premature</b> .....	Wesley D. Tracy, Mar., p. 7
<b>Trouble with Solitude, The</b> .....	Wesley D. Tracy, Jan., p. 10

*The Unheralded*

<b>Dennises—A Family of Pastors, The</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Oct., p. 18
<b>Double Duty: Pastor and Chaplain</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Feb., p. 47
<b>George Mowry Jr.—A Not-So-Usual Minister</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Dec., p. 16
<b>God Will Make a Way</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Apr., p. 20
<b>Kathryne Milton—A Stewardship Yardstick</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Sept., p. 10
<b>Phinola Schmidt—Doer-of-All-Church-Jobs</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Mar., p. 40
<b>Portrait of a Mother</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, May, p. 16
<b>Rev. Roebuck—Gloom “Dispeller”</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Nov., p. 20
<b>Revivals Pay: Just Ask the Beckums</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Aug., p. 16
<b>Simple Folks, Simple Faith</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, Jan., p. 40
<b>Uncle Boxy and Books: Synonyms</b> .....	J. Wesley Eby, July, p. 18

## Evangelism in Everyday Life

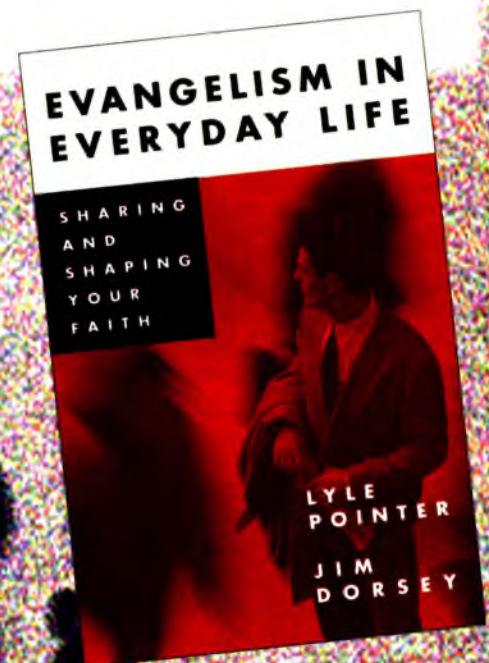
By Lyle Pointer and Jim Dorsey

Are you still going door to door?

Sure, but fulfilling Christ's Great Commission involves more than passing out pamphlets to the occasional stranger. Relationship evangelism is an ancient concept, but it is the key to reaching those without hope. Becoming friends with acquaintances and coworkers provides the open door.

*Evangelism in Everyday Life* addresses the believer who desires to share his or her faith but struggles with the words and actions of witnessing. It encourages sharing your faith through building relationships.

HH083-411-7185 \$9.99



To order call  
**1-800-877-0700**  
 or look us up on NPH Direct

# VITAL STATISTICS

## Deaths

**MATTIE "IRENE" BROWN**, 92, Grove, Okla., Oct. 3. Survivors: sons, Geron, Stephen; daughters, Vivian Houghtling, Johnnie Sloan; 14 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren.

**MAYBELLE F. CARPENTER**, 98, Fitchburg, Mass., Sept. 22. Survivors: sons, Lawrence, Ray; 5 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

**MARY N. CLARK**, 69, Harmony, Ind., Sept. 27. Survivors: husband, Rev. William; son, David; sisters, Glenna Ogborn, Marcella Loveall; brother, James Virgil Muncie; two grandchildren.

**ROBERT R. FAWCETT**, 72, Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 24. Survivors: wife, Dorothy; daughter, Teresa; foster son, Jose Chamah; one granddaughter; three foster grandchildren; one foster great-grandchild.

**FRANCES GUNTER**, 82, Scottsdale, Ariz., Oct. 9. Survivors: husband, Rev. A. J.; daughters, Barbara Watson-Carr, Elaine Goble; brother, Charles Brakebill; sister, Jewel Bentley; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

**REV. EDWARD M. KING**, 72, Spencerville, Ohio, July 22. Survivors: wife, Phyllis; daughters, Mary Beth Hancock, Sally Krichbaum, Rebecca Smith; brothers, William, Robert; seven grandchildren.

**HOWARD JAMES MARDIS**, 86, Fremont, Calif., Sept. 16. Survivors: daughters, Virginia Williamson, Laura Khan; brothers, Robert, Harry, Kenneth, Richard Warren; sisters, Elaine Carli, Ruth Allen, Mary Erickson; one grandson.

**ORIN D. MURRAY**, 84, Bethany, Okla., June 22. Survivors: sons, Don, Ronnie, Mike; daughter, LaDonna Moore; 14 grand-

children; 30 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great-grandchildren.

**WANDA JEAN RIPPERDAN NECCO**, 70, Long Beach, Calif., Sept. 13. Survivors: daughters, Gina Necco, Jennifer Hankins; sister, Lynne Mulford; brother, Robert Ripperdan.

**BRYAN K. PERRY**, 14, Crowley, La., May 3. Survivors: parents, Ned and Debbie; sisters, Heather, Heidi.

**RUTH E. STEELE**, 81, Valdosta, Ga., Sept. 12. Survivors: husband, Dewey; sons, James, Ronald, Kenneth; daughter, Sharon Thigpen; sister, Edna Houchins; 8 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren.

**PAUL M. VORE**, 46, Gig Harbor, Wash., May 8. Survivors: wife, Janet; parents, Rev. Warren and Jean; brother, Philip; sisters, Deborah Head, Rebekah Deeter.

**KATHLEEN WHITCANACK**, 86, Prescott Valley, Ariz., Sept. 27. Survivors: husband, Harvey; sons, Gary, Timothy; six grandchildren.

**EVELYN R. WIENS**, 54, Milton, Ont., Sept. 11. Miss Wiens served as a missionary in South Africa and Papua New Guinea for 19 years. Survivors: brothers, Allan, Orval, Bob.

**LESLIE WILLIAMS**, 95, DeLand, Fla., Sept. 23. Survivors: wife, Opal; sons, Jackie, Harry, Garland, Bobby; daughters, Barbara, Betty, Judy; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## Births

to **WILL** and **BETH CARSON**, Kankakee, Ill., a boy, Chase Alexander, Aug. 20

to **DAVID** and **DAWN (WILLIAMS) CRAIG**, Topeka, Kans., a boy, Adam Joshua, July 28

to **THOMAS** and **JANEL GOLDEN**, Waverly, N.Y., a boy, Kaleb Thomas, June 12

to **KURT** and **TRACEY (SWOPE) HALVERSON**, Tallahassee, Fla., a girl, Kelsey Rose, Sept. 12

to **STEPHEN** and **STEPHANIE QUISSY**, Langley, B.C., a boy, Christian Andrew, Sept. 25

to **KEVIN** and **EMILY (CAROWAY) SIMS**, Rock Hill, S.C., a boy, Todd Lebron, Sept. 10

## Marriage

**AMBER JEAN LEWIS** and **JASON STUART GUNTER**, July 7 at Puyallup, Wash.

## Anniversaries

**REV. AL** and **ROBBIE (CARTER) HYDE** celebrated their 50th anniversary Nov. 13. Greetings may be sent to 3712 N. Donald Ave., Bethany, OK 73008.

**JAMES** and **MARY (MOLLIE) MacLACHLAN**, Fawcett, Alta., celebrated their 50th anniversary Nov. 9 at a dinner party hosted by their 8 children. The MacLachlans have 18 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Greetings may be sent to Box 172, Fawcett, Alta., Canada, T0G 0Y0.

**J. L.** and **FRONNE McVAY**, Paris, Tex., celebrated their 75th anniversary Sept. 26 with a reception in their home sponsored by Paris First Church. The McVays have one son and one grandson.

## FOR THE RECORD

### Moving Ministers

**MICHAEL D. ADAMS**, from associate, Orlando (Fla.) United, to evangelism

**MARK A. AILLS**, from associate, Raleigh (N.C.) First, to associate, Asheville (N.C.) First

**RODNEY E. AMOS**, from Goodland, Kans., to Davenport, Okla.

**JOHN D. ANDERSON**, from associate, Huntington (W.Va.) First, to pastor, Fairmont (W.Va.) Central

**MARK S. ARMSTRONG**, from Mineola, Tex., to Ardmore (Okla.) First

**DANIEL M. ARNOLD**, from Ankeny (Iowa) Hope to Springfield (Mo.) Crestview

**J. MICHAEL BAREFIELD**, from Frankfort (Ky.) Capital to Havelock, N.C.

**RONNIE R. BARR**, from Paris (Ill.) First to Moline (Ill.) Community

**GERALD R. BELL**, from Spearfish (S.Dak.) Hillsview to Libby, Mont.

**GARY W. BLOWERS**, from Lyndonville, Vt., to East Charleston, Vt.

**GARY D. BOHANNAN**, from Tyler (Tex.) First to Altus, Okla.

**INOCENCIO C. CABANTUG JR.**, from pastor, West Covina (Calif.) Filipino, to associate, Los Angeles (Calif.) First Filipino

**AUBREY CARAWAY**, from associate, East Dublin (Ga.) Wilkes, to associate, Adrian (Ga.) New Life Meeks Road

**RICHARD L. CHAMBERS**, from Man, W.Va., to Stonewood (W.Va.) Clarksburg

**LOWELL B. CHURCHILL JR.**, from Derby, Kans., to Henryetta, Okla.

**RANDALL D. CLOUD**, from Clermont, Fla., to Charleston (S.C.) St. Andrews

**GERALD R. COLE**, from associate, Richland (Wash.) First, to associate, Hermiston, Oreg.

**MATT T. COWARD**, from student to associate, San Antonio (Tex.) First

**E. L. (J. R.) DEETZ III**, from associate,

# It's Not Too Late!

The end of the year is just around the corner, but there's still time to enjoy making charitable gifts to your local church or to any ministry of the Church of the Nazarene.

Besides being a blessing to the work of Christ, you may also benefit from tax deductions. Did you know that your gifts of qualified assets—such as stocks and mutual funds—avoid capital gains tax that would otherwise be due on a sale (if held more than 12 months)? Gifts of appreciated assets are deductible in amounts up to 30% of adjusted gross income and any excess may be carried over for use in the future.



If you have retirement accounts and are past the age of 59½, you can fund your gift with withdrawals. You report the income on your tax return but take a corresponding deduction for your gifts.

You can also make the church the beneficiary of life insurance policies. It's a great way to help underwrite the ministry of the church after you're gone.

Got any questions? Want to know more about how your gifts can further the work of the Church of the Nazarene?

Our trained professionals can help. Call us today at 1-800-544-8413 or E-mail us at <steward@nazarene.org>. Don't wait until it's too late!

For more information, complete and return this form to the address below

Title Name

Area Code Phone Number

City State Zip

Birth Date Spouse's Birth Date

Stewardship Development Ministries • 6401 The Paseo • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 1-800-544-8413

HH 1298



Jacksonville (Fla.) Oak Hill, to pastor, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.  
 DONALD E. DIEHL, from pastor, Jackson (Miss.) Emmanuel, to associate, Wichita (Kans.) First  
 RICHARD B. DOERING, from student to pastor, Ankeny (Iowa) Hope  
 JOHN W. DRUSEDUM JR., from associate, Albuquerque (N.Mex.) Rio Vista, to pastor, Austin (Tex.) Hope Community  
 R. LEE ELLINGSON, from pastor, Kenner (La.) First, to evangelism  
 DOUGLAS G. EVANS, from associate, Raleigh (N.C.) North Raleigh, to pastor, Greensboro (N.C.) Northside  
 RICHARD J. FISH, from student to pastor, Greenville (S.C.) Reality  
 MICHAEL JOHN FOLEY, from student to associate, Peoria, Ariz.  
 JIMMIE A. FRANKLIN, from Federal Way, Wash., to Otter Lake, Mich.  
 C. EUGENE GEE, from pastor, Atwood, Kans., to evangelism  
 DAVID J. GERBER, from student to pastor, Oxford (Mich.) North Oak Community  
 JONATHAN E. GERLING, from student to pastor, Clarence, Mo.  
 LERAY D. GLENDENNING, from Port Arthur (Tex.) Grace to Des Moines (Iowa) First  
 THOMAS S. GOFF, from Orofino, Idaho, to Ephrata, Wash.  
 DAVID O. HALVERSON, from Kamiah (Idaho) Valley View to Troy, Idaho  
 WESLEY L. HARPER, from student to pastor, West Bend, Wis.  
 VERNON R. HATTON, from Osceola, Ark., to Greenbriar (Ark.) Pleasant Hill  
 DAVID A. HAWKINS, from Los Angeles (Calif.) Highland Park to Carpinteria, Calif.  
 W. R. (WILL) HAWORTH, from Kearney (Mo.) Clear Creek to York (Nebr.) First  
 MARK A. HENSON, from Ardmore (Okla.) First to Troup (Tex.) Martin's Chapel  
 RANDY T. HODGES, from Wichita (Kans.) West Side to San Antonio (Tex.) First  
 GERALD D. HOLMES, from Mercer, Wis., to Monroe, Wis.  
 ANDY J. HUGHES, from associate, Huntingtonburg, Ind., to pastor, Winslow, Ind.  
 DAVID IGLESIAS, from pastor, Los Angeles (Calif.) First Spanish, to associate, Los Angeles (Calif.) First English  
 ERIC G. JOHNSON, from student to pastor, Show Low (Ariz.) New Life Community  
 STANLEY G. JOHNSON, from pastor, Follansbee (W.Va.) First, to evangelism  
 CHRIS KIRK, from student to associate, Wichita (Kans.) Linwood  
 ROBERT M. KRING, from associate, Flint (Mich.) Central, to associate, Detroit (Mich.) First  
 JIMMY L. LARRABEE, from Waukesha (Wis.) Spring City Fellowship to Follansbee (W.Va.) First  
 JEFFREY D. LILES, from pastor, Joplin (Mo.) First, to associate, Wichita (Kans.) First  
 TED O. MacNEIL, from pastor, Auburn (Mass.) Cornerstone Community, to associate, Worcester, Mass.  
 JOHN E. MADRID, from associate, Red Bluff (Calif.) First, to associate, Newbury Park (Calif.) Conejo Valley  
 LAYTON E. MALONE, from Smithfield, Ill., to Astoria, Ill.  
 STEVEN A. MCKEE, from pastor, Saint David, Ill., to associate, North Pekin, Ill.  
 ROBERT C. MILTON SR., from Jacksonville Beaches, Fla., to Oneonta (Ala.) Union Hill  
 DAVID F. MONROE, from Urbana (Ill.) Faith to Racine (Wis.) Taylor Avenue  
 RONALD J. MOSER, from Evanston, Wyo., to Stafford, Kans.  
 AVIS A. MURRAY, from associate, Jacksonville (Fla.) Oak Hill, to associate, Mitchell, S.Dak.

N. TODD NEWSOM, from student to pastor, Holland, Mich.  
 ROBERT W. NOOE, from associate, Dallas (Tex.) First, to associate, Wichita (Kans.) First  
 WAYDE M. NORMANDIN, from Walters (Okla.) Emerson First Indian to Waurika (Okla.) New Hope Community  
 JEFFREY W. POE, from student to associate, Eureka, Ill.  
 RICHARD J. RADTKE, from student to associate, Milwaukee (Wis.) First  
 SCOTT R. RAINEY, from associate, Fort Wayne (Ind.) Lake Avenue, to associate, Kansas City (Mo.) First  
 PHILIP E. REED, from associate, Covina (Calif.) New Life Fellowship, to pastor, Monrovia, Calif.  
 JERRY O. RICHARDS, from Marshall, Mo., to Marshalltown, Iowa  
 DENNIS R. RICHARDSON, from student to associate, Glendale, Ariz.  
 STEPHEN S. RUSHING, from Seattle (Wash.) North to Jacksonville (Fla.) Oak Hill  
 PETER J. RYDER, from associate, Wichita (Kans.) West Side, to associate, Junction City (Kans.) First  
 SCOTT J. SHERWOOD, from evangelism to associate, Pekin (Ill.) First  
 GERALD J. SILVA, from Fairfax, Okla., to Mercer, Wis.  
 CYNTHIA D. SLAYMAKER, from student to associate, St. Louis (Mo.) Ferguson  
 MARY L. SMITH, from student to associate, Phoenix (Ariz.) New Life Worship Center  
 BRIAN W. SMITH, from Anderson (Ind.) Parkview to Sikeston (Mo.) First  
 RICHARD C. SMITH, from associate, California (Pa.) Calvary, to associate, Beverly, Mass.  
 BRIAN J. UTTER, from student to associate, Streator, Ill.  
 SCOTT K. VAN BIBBER, from Monroe, N.C., to Wichita Falls (Tex.) First  
 JAMES W. VANOVER, from Newark (Ohio) Toboso to Columbus (Ohio) Frank Road  
 DANIEL K. VICKEY, from student to pastor, Oscoda (Mich.) Huron Shores  
 FRANLIN A. VISSER, from Blairsville, Ga., to Brunswick (Ga.) Bethel  
 SCOTT A. WADE, from Concord (N.C.) First to Hendersonville (N.C.) First  
 DENNIS E. WELCH, from Colorado Springs (Colo.) Indian Heights to La Junta (Colo.) First  
 PHILIP E. WHITBECK, from Sacramento (Calif.) New Covenant to Sacramento (Calif.) Liberty Towers  
 RALPH E. WOOD, from West Plains, Mo., to Park Hills, Mo.  
 JASON W. YOUNG, from associate, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, to pastor, Miller, S.Dak.

**Recommendations**

The following have been recommended by their respective district superintendents:  
 MICHAEL D. ADAMS, evangelist, 8174 Imber St., Orlando, FL 32825, 407-380-3711, by Gene Fuller, Central Florida District.  
 HARLAN H. CANNON, evangelist, 13254 S.E. 130th Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015, 503-698-3134, by Gerald Manker, Oregon Pacific District.  
 RONALD J. DICCIOLLA, evangelist, 326 Simpson Ave., Clarksburg, WV 26301, 304-622-6040, by Wesley B. Frederick, West Virginia North District.  
 DANNY L. ELDRIDGE, song evangelist, 921 W. Laurel St., Seymour, IN 47274, 812-522-2060, by M. V. Scutt, Southwest Indiana District.  
 R. LEE ELLINGSON, evangelist, P.O. Box 582, Bethany, OK 73008, 405-495-8277, by Gene C. Phillips, Louisiana District.

**NAZARENE CHILD SPONSORSHIP**

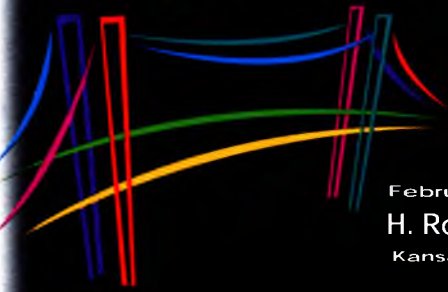


You can make a powerful impact in the life of a needy child! Nazarene Child Sponsorship matches your resources with a child's potential. Sponsorship provides food, education and spiritual nourishment to children in developing areas throughout the world. It's a powerful, life changing, partnership. If you want to invest in a child's potential or learn more, please call Nazarene Child Sponsorship at 816-333-7000, ext. 2530 or send a post-card with your name and address to Nazarene Child Sponsorship, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

**Resource Potential**  
 A POWERFUL PARTNERSHIP



*Bridge to the Future*



February 15-17, 1999  
 H. Roe Bartle Hall  
 Kansas City, Missouri

**A Millennial Celebration of Holiness, the Message of Hope**  
 Mid-Quadrennial Evangelism Conference

Please see the housing form in the September issue of the "Herald of Holiness" or call 1-800-821-2154.

*Faliness*

**T  
ODAY**

