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Mr. Tkach guest at royal galas; duke, duchess 'down-to-earth'

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach attended private receptions for the Duke and Duchess of York Feb. 28 in the Los Angeles (Calif.) Biltmore Hotel, and March 3 aboard the 412-foot British royal yacht *Britannia* moored at the U.S. naval station in Long Beach, Calif.

Prince Andrew, fourth in line to the British throne, and Sarah, flew to Los Angeles Feb. 26 to start their 10-day Southern California tour as honorary patrons of UK/LA '88, a British arts festival.

"Mr. Tkach was able to talk with them and several other dignitaries in the greater Los Angeles area who attended the private reception" Feb. 28, said evangelist David Hulme, Ambassador Foundation vice president for domestic projects, who also attended.

Mr. Hulme told Prince Andrew that Herbert Armstrong founded Ambassador Foundation and had worked with the prince's brother, Prince Charles, in restoring the Royal Opera House in London.

After "one of the nicest meals we've had at such an occasion," according to Maxine Neff, wife of evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer, who also attended, the royal couple spoke to the audience, after which the Royal Marine Band performed.

"When they played 'God Save the Queen,' Prince Andrew was standing, respectfully and dignified," said Ellen Escat, Mr. Tkach's administrative assistant. "After the band finished he raised his glass and, to honor his mother and her office, led the group in a toast 'To the Queen.'"

After the band played "The Star-Spangled Banner," Prince Andrew, in similar fashion, toasted the President of the United States.

"I was impressed with how well the duke represented his country and the example he set when he was meeting people and as host to the dinner," said Joseph Tkach Jr., assistant director of Church Administration for the United States. "I wish we could represent ours so well."

"The occasion was a good example of the rapport between the United Kingdom and the United States," said Gregory Albrecht, Pasadena Ambassador College dean of students. "There was something there that goes beyond two countries getting together, especially with the toasts to the two leaders and playing the national anthems of both countries. Of course we know it's two brothers—Ephraim and Manasseh—getting together."

"What I found noticeable was the friendliness of both the duke and duchess and the ease with which they made conversation with everybody," said Mr. Hulme's wife, Robin.

"They manage to chat about significant things in an interesting way, which means they have to have a spatter of knowledge about a great deal of things," she added. "You can't make conversation if you don't know what you are talking about."

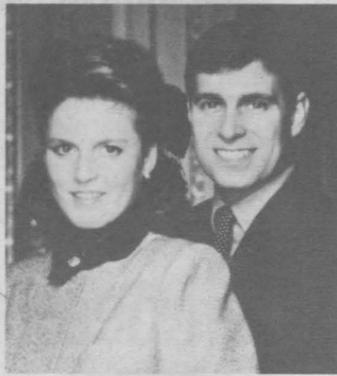
"The duchess seemed to be very down-to-earth," Mrs. Neff said. "She made you feel at ease. She appears to be fun-loving, which tradi-

tionally in public is a little bit out of the ordinary for royalty."

The duke and duchess announced financial gifts to jointly benefit the UK/LA festival and the Save the Books Campaign for the Los Angeles Central Library.

Concurrent with the event, the Church ran a two-page advertisement in the Feb. 28 Los Angeles *Times* featuring the Church's involvement in the UK/LA festival.

"The festival and the visit of British royalty are receiving a good



DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK

deal of publicity," said Mr. Hulme, "so we used the opportunity to describe the Ambassador Foundation's past involvement in several cultural events in the United Kingdom.

"The ad demonstrates our international involvement to an audience that otherwise probably never realized the depth of the organization," he added.

The advertisement is part of an overall approach to inform the public of "our commitment, goals and purpose, whether it be Ambassador College, the Ambassador Foundation, the Worldwide Church of God or all three," said Mr. Hulme.

An advertisement in the Feb. 28 Los Angeles *Times* "Calendar" section announced that several UK/LA concerts were taking place in the Ambassador Auditorium, "featuring many of the most prestigious figures and ensembles in British

musical entertainment, including distinguished solo artists, orchestras, conductors, composers, in addition to leading folk ensembles."

The UK/LA segment began with a Scottish performance titled *Gathering of the Clans* Feb. 7, and will end with the West Coast premier of the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, led by Sir Neville Marriner, April 23, 24, 26, 27 and 28.

Civic and community officials who were at the Biltmore reception include Donald Ballentyne, British consul general in Los Angeles; Mayor Tom Bradley; Los Angeles County Supervisor Deane Dana; and their wives.

Mr. Tkach Jr.'s wife, Tamara, and Mr. Albrecht's wife, Karen, also attended.



MEET THE PRESIDENT—U.S. President Ronald Reagan (center) sent this photograph to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach (right) March 3, commemorating his Dec. 5 to 7 visit to Washington, D.C. While in the nation's capital Mr. Tkach attended the Kennedy Center Honors, met the President and First Lady Nancy Reagan (left), and toured the Pentagon.

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren:

In a joyous ordination ceremony on the Sabbath, March 12, a number of headquarters ministers joined me in ordaining Dexter Faulkner, Larry Omasta and Ray Wright as preaching elders.

God has certainly blessed the labors of these three men extraordinarily these past two years as the *World Tomorrow* television program has become one of the top-rated religious programs in the world, and as *The Plain Truth* has increased dramatically in impact and in efficiency of production.

You are all familiar with the encouraging and inspiring columns and articles written by Mr. Faulkner in many of the Church's

publications. Mr. Faulkner is editor of the Church's publications. Mr. Omasta oversees the collaborative scripting process and the actual production of the *World Tomorrow* program. Mr. Wright oversees the printing of all the Church's publications as well as the many promotional programs, from stitch-in envelopes in the magazines and booklets to print advertising and renewal letters.

By the time most of you receive this issue of *The Worldwide News*, another Spring Holy Day season will have just ended. We must take care that the lessons of this important time of year are not lost. As we now move toward the Day of Pentecost, we need to put special focus on our own personal spiritual condition before God.

Certainly one of the major admonitions Jesus gave His disciples

just before His death was to "love one another." The events of the Passover—Jesus' willingness to lay down His life for His brethren, His instruction to eat His "flesh" and to drink His "blood," His example of washing the disciples' feet and commanding them to do the same to one another, His prayer that those God would call would be one, just as He and His Father are one—all underscore and illustrate His admonition to "love one another, even as I have also loved you."

(See PERSONAL, page 7)

Philippine conference takes place

By Paul Kieffer

TAGAYTAY, Philippines—For the first time since the 1985 Ministerial Education Program, the full-time ministry in the Philippines met for a conference.

Paul Kieffer is director of Ministerial Services in the Manila, Philippines, Office.

Thirty-seven full-time ministers, including three trainees, and their wives, met the first week of March for a four-day conference in this picturesque community on the rim of Lake Taal, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Manila.

Topics included being a good shepherd, counseling and sermon preparation. Supervisors from the Manila Office gave updates on financial planning, mail processing statistics and vehicle maintenance.

Five hours of questions and answers dealt with such subjects as dating, family planning and complications caused by the insurgency.

Rodney Matthews, regional director, emphasized the need to have an annual ministerial conference in this country, where some pastors do not have telephones and where pastores on different islands present additional communications and transportation problems.

Ministers confer in England

By Jeremy Rapson

CROYDON, England—Ministers, trainees and wives from the British Isles and Scandinavia met here March 13 to 15 for their first conference in two years.

Evangelist Larry Salyer, assistant director of Church Administration for international areas, and his wife, Judy, attended.

The purpose of the conference, according to evangelist Frank Brown, regional director, was to help the ministry serve more effectively, to give administrative and doctrinal updates, to chart the progress of God's work in Pasadena and in the British region and to provide fellowship for the ministry.

Paul Suckling, director of Ministerial Services in the British Office, spoke on ceremonies in the Church and outlined the Feast coordinators conference he attended in Pasadena in February.

Maurice Frohn, a surgeon who

attends the Maidstone, England, church, spoke on "Stress: Its Causes and Treatment." He observed that stressful conditions can exact a penalty unless recognized and dealt with.

John Ross Schroeder talked about the British Office news bureau. Barry Bourne, pastor of the London and Basildon, England, churches, gave pointers on counseling about sexual matters.

On the second day Mr. Salyer spoke on the wife's role in the ministry. Mr. Brown followed with a lecture titled "Helpers of Their Joy."

After a break Mr. Salyer spoke on baptismal counseling for second generation Christians. In the afternoon the ministers heard from David Gunn, *Plain Truth* circulation manager in the British Office, and Tony Lodge, postal director, whose topics included satellite and

cable broadcasting in Europe.

Mr. Suckling and Philip Gray, assistant pastor of the London and Basildon churches, spoke on Youth Opportunities United (YOU).

A reception and banquet for those who participated in the conference took place Tuesday evening, March 15.

On behalf of Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, Mr. Salyer gave a plaque and watches to Robert Boraker and his wife, Margaret, for 25 years of service in the ministry. Mr. Boraker has been head of the Personal Correspondence Department in England since 1960.

The next morning the full-time ministers and their wives heard from Mr. Brown on Festival organization; Francis Bergin, business manager, on legal and administrative matters; and John Meakin, pastor of the Maidstone, Croydon and Brighton, England, churches, on time management.

Europe moves toward single great market

PASADENA—A Gallup Poll revealed that less than one third of Americans surveyed—29 percent to be exact—had heard of the 12-nation European Community, or Common Market.

From this startling statistic it might be safe to deduce that the vast majority of Americans are almost completely unaware of important developments taking place within the Community and its relationship toward other nations in Europe.

Throughout the Community, for example, the number 1992 is common fare in the news media. This refers to the Dec. 31, 1992, target date that the EC has set for itself to achieve an economic "Europe without frontiers."

On this date, remaining bureaucratic and legal barriers to trade within the Community are scheduled to be eliminated. The goal is a trade bloc in which national borders will be erased in the economic sense, allowing for the free flow of goods, services and labor among the EC's 320 million citizens.

Whether the target date is reached exactly on schedule is, in one sense, immaterial. There is a compelling sense of inevitability about the process under way.

Next: one currency, central bank

The vision of a single great market is accelerating calls for the next logical steps, this time in the area of monetary reform.

Influential voices say the time is ripe to turn the European Currency

Unit—the ecu—into a fully accepted money to be used, perhaps initially, alongside the various national currencies. They further maintain that an EC central bank must be created, relegating the 12 national central banks to the status of regional reserve banks.

Not every EC state is in favor of such a fiscal transformation. West German banking officials fear that some of their EC partners, less concerned than they are over inflation, would mismanage a centralized monetary system. However, they do not squelch the central bank concept, labeling it instead as "premature."

Already, some farsighted Europeans have pointed out what must occur at the end of the EC's unification process.

A single European market, complete with a common currency and a central bank, would still be a "headless" Europe unless a centralized government to rule it is created, complete with a President for Europe (see "European Diary," this page). And finally, there must be a European army to defend it.

The accelerating integration of the European Community is producing an agonizing reappraisal toward it on the part of nonmember European states. This is especially true with the six nations of the European Free Trade Association—Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Austria and Switzerland.

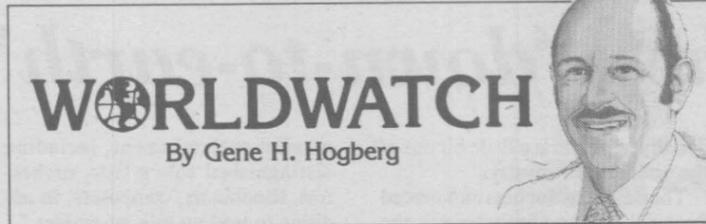
Four of the EFTA members are neutral states, but all have indispensable trade links with the Com-

munity. Industrialists throughout the EFTA countries are concerned over their nations remaining on the outside of the EC looking in.

Of the EFTA states, Norway is said to be closest to actual membership in the EC. Officially, however, EFTA officials are pushing for a closer link between the trade blocs, short of actual merger.

tional borders will be more and more diminished . . . We want this new border quality for all countries of Europe and also those of the Eastern Bloc. That will be the historic signal for overcoming the division of Germany."

The West Germans are aggressively pursuing stronger ties with Eastern Europe. According to the



WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg

Their plan envisions a "European economic space" encompassing the 18 EC and EFTA nations, which altogether represent more than a quarter of world trade.

Reaching out to East Europe

It is becoming more evident that the European economic superstate under construction is not going to stop at the present borders dividing Eastern and Western Europe.

Before his December trip to the Soviet Union to confer with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev ("Worldwatch," Feb. 1), West Germany's Franz Josef Strauss wrote in the Winter, 1987, *European Affairs* quarterly: "We can assume that the importance of na-

Feb. 15 *U.S. News & World Report*, they "see no conflict between their ties to the West and a self-appointed mission to lead the Warsaw Pact countries back into the European fold."

The Federal Republic of Germany has the financial resources to help out the East European states, nearly all of whom are in desperate financial condition. The East Europeans are responding favorably.

"For East Europeans," the *U.S. News* article continued, "links with Bonn are an affirmation of their Europeaness. The postwar division of

natural mind cannot fully comprehend. Even though people in the world may at times experience the good feeling that comes from doing an occasional unselfish deed, they cannot comprehend that giving can and should predominate over getting as an entire way of life.

Our God is generous. He is the God who gives "to all liberally" (James 1:5). He lets even the unjust benefit from His generosity (Matthew 5:45). It is God's pleasure to give—especially to His elect. Jesus said to His Church: "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

What is your pleasure? As we grow in becoming more like God, we should be finding more and more pleasure in giving, in helping others and getting interested in their welfare. We can still experience pleasure in receiving, but our greatest pleasure should be giving pleasure to others.

Even when we might be tempted to think someone may be undeserving of our attention, we must be sure "not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself" (Romans 15:1-3).

Jesus did not do His own will; He did the will of His Father. He pleased God (Matthew 3:17; John 8:29).

God inspired David to describe what it will be like for those who are made immortal in God's Kingdom. "You will show me the path of life," he wrote concerning God; "in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore" (Psalm 16:11).

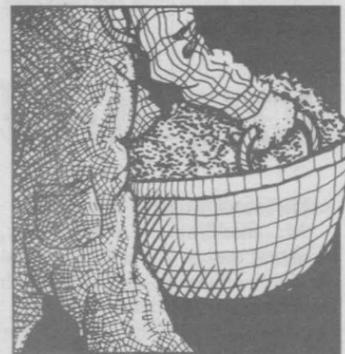
You can be sure that these pleasures are not merely selfishly oriented ones. Rather they are pleasures derived from everyone looking out for the welfare of everyone else as the two brothers did.

What a wonderful time that will be! What we need to do now, though, is work on making our idea of pleasure agree with what God says is pleasure. Examine yourself. Are you putting on the divine nature and seeking pleasure in giving rather than in just getting?

as well as videos and movies—is a popular pleasure. Spectator sports are also high on the list.

Eating, relaxing, sleeping, traveling, accumulating material things, gaining reward, admiration, accomplishment—such are what constitute pleasure in the eyes of most people. And such can indeed be enjoyable.

All the "pleasures" mentioned, however, have something in common. Did you notice what it is? They all involve receiving—getting



some thing or some sensation. Not that it is necessarily wrong to enjoy receiving. If no one ever received, no one could give either.

But Jesus explained what the proper balance is. He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35, New King James throughout). The Greek word translated "blessed" is *makarios*. It can also be translated "happy." So Jesus here affirmed that getting produces happiness—it is therefore pleasurable—to receive. But, and this is the important point Jesus made, giving produces more happiness—more pleasure!

That concept is something the



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

What's your pleasure?

I woke up about 2 o'clock the other morning. While contemplating why I was awake at that hour, I thought of a story I'd heard years ago about two brothers who farmed together for most of their lives. One brother was married and had a large family. The other lived alone. However, they divided equally the harvest from their fields.

One night each brother gave serious thought to the other. The single brother asked himself why he was taking half the harvest when his brother was struggling to support a large family.

In sincere love he devised a plan to help out his married brother. Each night he would fill a huge basket with a portion of his share of the harvest, slip over to his brother's barn and unload the basket there.

The married brother often worried about his single brother not having a mate and children to care for him in his old age. His heart went out to his single brother. So each night during harvest he also filled a basket with a good measure of his share and sneaked quietly to his brother's storage sheds and left the grain there as a silent offering.

One night as they crossed the field, the brothers met. When each found out what the other was doing, they cried and embraced there in the dark. They realized that their greatest wealth lay not in their crops, but in the love and concern that they had for one another.

These two brothers found great pleasure in giving to each other. But, what is the pleasure of most people? To judge by the number of waking hours devoted to it, especially in the developed nations, entertainment—watching television,

Europe did not eradicate the concept of *Mittleuropa*, a region consisting of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Hungary plus Austria and the two Germanies. Today, *Mittleuropa* is alive and well and looking to West Germany."

The Soviet Union, too, is pushing for a role in the Europeanization process. Visiting Belgrade, Yugoslavia, March 15, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev proposed, as *The New York Times* reported, "a beguiling vision of an integrated Europe," with economic cooperation being the "cement" of such a Europe.

In his remarks Mr. Gorbachev reemphasized a current theme of his, appealing for "building and arranging a truly comfortable home in Europe for all its peoples." Non-aligned states such as Yugoslavia, he implied, also had an important part.

At the moment, economics is the principle focus of unity action. Political unification is still down the road. "The majority of Europeans," reported the Feb. 13 *Economist*, "see 1992 mainly as a good way to make themselves richer."

But even that statement is significant. What we see developing throughout Western Europe and eventually extending eastward is the outline of the awesome end-time economic power described in Revelation 18. Labeled Babylon the great, it will, for a short while, make "the merchants of the earth . . . rich through the abundance of her luxury" (Revelation 18:3, New King James).

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Europe's first president: an idea gaining ground

EN ROUTE FROM BRUSSELS TO LONDON—Europe respects Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for her reputation to mete out unpleasant financial discipline.

John Ross Schroeder concludes his discussion of a first president of Europe.

Mrs. Thatcher was invited to speak at the Foreign Press Association's centenary celebration Jan. 13 in London. Her speech revealed a good grasp of the magnitude of the European Community's agricultural dilemma.

In remarks taken from a transcript she said: "We still have to bring discipline to its finances and reform the Common Agricultural Policy [CAP] . . . 70 percent of the Community budget goes on agricultural support; half the total Community budget goes on storage and disposal of agricultural surpluses; since the Fontainebleau meeting in 1984, when we sought to tackle these problems, the cost of the CAP has risen from 9 billion pounds to 19 billion pounds; the subsidy for every cow in the Community is more than the personal income of half the people in the world."

Bernard Ingham is the prime minister's chief press officer. He accompanies her on most international trips. Mr. Ingham conducts periodic meetings with the British press during these council meetings. During one of these briefings one journalist remarked that "the council chamber was meeting without a chair[man]." This was a reference to the ineffective leadership structure within the European Council.

This is one reason why people are talking up the idea of the first presi-

dent of Europe. Back in Britain this reporter asked Richard Elphick—chief press spokesman for the European Commission in London—about the possibility of a first president of Europe. He replied that there was no provision for such a one-man or one-woman office in the Treaty of Rome (1957)—the EC's founding document.

However, Christopher Tugendhat, a former European Commission vice president, wrote in *Making Sense of Europe*: "The European Council is not mentioned in the Treaty of Rome and grew up later. As a result there are some who argue, even now, that it [the European Council] has no proper place in Community proceedings and is some sort of constitutional aberration."

So here is a major aspect of the Common Market that has emerged without a mention in the Treaty of Rome, either in the founding document or as a later amendment.

Mrs. Thatcher concluded her European remarks to the Foreign Press Association by saying firmly that "Europe needs to show political leadership in the world. But we shall do so only when we can demonstrate success in running our own affairs, in a way which increases Europe's standing and strength."

Exactly how and when a first president of Europe will come about, we don't know. We are to watch. The idea has gained ground in the past year or two.

The first president of Europe will most probably not be the last. Perhaps the office will begin symbolically—with an individual democratically elected for a fixed term of office. But the end of a thing is not always the same as the beginning. Circumstances change—and never more than at the end of the age.

'Long overdue,' says pastor general

Three media heads ordained

PASADENA—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach ordained Dexter Faulkner, director of Editorial Services, Larry Omasta, director of Media Services (Television and Radio Production), and Ray Wright, director of Publishing Services, preaching elders March 12.

"This is something that has been long overdue," said Mr. Tkach. "These individuals should have been set apart a long time ago . . . As the apostle Paul said, he who seeks the office of bishop seeks a good work. That means he's willing to be industrious, that means he's willing to do a labor of love," Mr. Tkach said.

Dexter Faulkner

Dexter Faulkner, 50, editor of the Church's publications, was born in Grand Island, Neb., Sept. 10,



DEXTER & SHIRLEY FAULKNER 1937, but didn't stay there long. He grew up on the West Coast, living in Washington, Oregon and California.

When he was in high school, Mr. Faulkner lived on a farm in Dos Palos, Calif., one mile from Shirley Hume, his childhood sweetheart, who was to become Mrs. Faulkner.

After high school he spent two years at the University of California at Fresno. Miss Hume took classes there for one year before they both attended Pasadena Ambassador College from 1958 to 1960. They were married in the winter of 1959.

Mr. Faulkner, who had no religious background, heard Herbert W. Armstrong on the radio and wrote to Pasadena for some litera-

ture. When he requested a visit, it was Mr. Armstrong's oldest son, Richard, who came in July, 1958—just two weeks before he was killed in an automobile accident.

Mr. Faulkner was baptized in 1958, and his wife was baptized after they came to Ambassador College.

From Ambassador College the Faulknors served in the Australian Office from 1960 to 1966. It was in Australia that their two sons, Nathan, 25, and Matthew, 23, were born.

In 1966 the Faulknors came back to Pasadena, where Mr. Faulkner worked for the Church's News Bureau until 1971.

Their next assignment was Washington, D.C. From 1971 to 1975 Mr. Faulkner was a regional correspondent for *The Plain Truth*. His office was in the National Press Club building, where he came into contact with leading newspaper and television correspondents. He met and talked with then-President Richard Nixon, and attended some of the Watergate hearings.

The Washington years were "a very exciting time, jam packed with experiences you wouldn't get as a journalist anywhere else."

When Mr. Faulkner returned to Pasadena in 1975, it was to serve as a managing editor at Editorial Services. He has been director of the department and editor of the Church's publications since 1979.

In addition to his editorial and managerial duties, Mr. Faulkner writes a column for the Church's three magazines and *The Worldwide News*.

When he isn't working, Mr. Faulkner's hobbies are "acquiring grandchildren, antique cameras and antique bottles—in that priority," he said. The Faulknors have two grandchildren, Stephen, son of Nathan and his wife, Melody, and David, son of Matthew and his wife, Ruth.

Nathan is a ministerial trainee in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Matthew is a computer graphics specialist for Editorial Services.

Mr. Faulkner describes himself as family oriented. He is close to his sons and says: "My wife and daughters-in-law are very important to me. It is through family that we develop the highest-quality character of our lives."

He praised his wife's domestic

and professional skills. "She is a professional secretary, a motivator, a continual source of inspiration and a fantastic mother. You know, honestly, I don't think I've ever seen a day that she didn't have a smile on her face."

Larry Omasta

Larry Omasta, 47, was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. After high school he attended the University of Pittsburgh and earned a bachelor of science degree in bacteriology and immunology.

While in graduate school Mr. Omasta realized that the area of



LARRY & JUDITH OMASTA

specialization he chose was not what he wanted to do. He returned to his parents' home, and it was there he learned about the Church. His parents, Michael, who died in 1975, and Margaret, listened to the *World Tomorrow* radio program and received *The Plain Truth*. Mr. Omasta and his parents were baptized in 1964.

That was also the year Mr. Omasta came to Ambassador College in Pasadena. His first job at college was with Custodial Services. From there he went to literature inventory and then to Editorial Services.

In 1966 evangelist Norman Smith was given the responsibility of setting up a television studio. He needed one more person but did not have the budget for another employee, so Mr. Omasta was loaned to him from Editorial.

He graduated from Ambassador in 1967 and was hired full-time at Television in 1968, "and I've been here ever since," Mr. Omasta said. "I came into TV at a unique time—literally at the basement floor."

His first responsibility was as a

production assistant. "That's kind of a catchall," he said. "I was a floor director, a film projectionist—I did whatever needed to be done."

He said his "hobbies were always photojournalism and writing. I worked with my high school and college yearbooks and the college newspaper."

Mr. Smith encouraged the staff to learn professional skills by taking evening courses at the University of Southern California. Over a period of eight to 10 years, Mr. Omasta took courses in production, directing, editing and other aspects of the television industry.

He went from production assistant to video editor and then became a production director. In 1980 he became Media Services director.

Mr. Omasta traveled extensively with Mr. Armstrong. "I have shaken the hand of Anwar Sadat and others. I was there for many of Mr. Armstrong's discussions with world leaders, such as King Bhumibol [of Thailand], and videotaped them," he said.

When Mr. Armstrong was doing the telecasts, production stopped when he went on a trip, so Mr. Omasta was able to travel with him. When Mr. Tkach travels today, the television production schedule is not interrupted. Now one crew, directed by John Halford, associate producer of *The World Tomorrow*, travels with Mr. Tkach, while another stays to produce the telecast.

Mr. Omasta married the former Judith Russell in 1966. Mrs. Omasta was born in Lufkin, Tex., and began attending Sabbath services with her parents when she was about 10 years old. She graduated from Pasadena Ambassador College in 1966.

The Omastas have one daughter, Carmel, who is an Ambassador College junior.

Aside from his reading widely, especially on history, people and foreign affairs, Mr. Omasta and his wife are avid bridge players.

He said he appreciates that his wife "is a very capable person and a challenge to me, which helps me to improve in areas that need improvement. We work well as a team and complement each other. In some of the areas where I am weak, she is strong and vice versa.

"Spending time with my family is a commitment and a priority. It is also one of my hobbies," Mr. Omasta said.

Ray Wright

Ray Wright was reared in a small town in Texas, between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Mr. Wright said he came from a close family that taught him work

ethics at a young age. He feels this early background and close family relationship contributed greatly to his approach to business.

After graduation from high school he attended the University of Texas at Arlington, majoring in geology and electrical engineering.

After working first for Procter & Gamble and then for Bell Helicopter, Mr. Wright established a career in management in the Dallas-based electronics firm of Texas Instruments.

In December, 1966, the company asked him to be its operations manager for England. He was also to establish a new light-sensor division in its English plant to serve all of Europe.

After moving to England Mr. Wright and his wife, Linda, first heard the *World Tomorrow* broadcast. Because the broadcast could not be aired on British radio stations, the program was transmitted from "pirate" ships off the coast.

The Wrights were baptized in 1968. In 1969 Mr. Wright resigned from Texas Instruments to attend



RAY & LINDA WRIGHT

Ambassador College in Bricket Wood, England. "I was not unhappy with Texas Instruments. I loved my job, but felt I had to be involved with God's work," Mr. Wright said.

While attending Ambassador as a full-time student, Mr. Wright conducted management studies and established a student training program that became part of the junior-senior men's curriculum.

In 1970 Mr. Wright became manager of the Church's European publishing operation based in England.

In 1972 the Wrights were transferred to Pasadena, where Mr. Wright served in the Financial Affairs area of God's Church, becoming vice president for Financial Affairs in 1978.

In 1979 Mr. Wright was appointed director of Publishing Services and is still serving in this ca- (See ORDAINED, page 8)

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Letters TO THE EDITOR

Husbands and wives

The Jan. 18 paper . . . was not only of great interest and informative, but the "Personal" from you was particularly enlightening. I trust that all who read the article will be so filled with thoughts about it that couples will endeavor to live the right way together.

Actually this article does not apply to me personally now, as I am a widow in my 78th year, but I was most impressed by your love and understanding of the way in which the whole family could become more united when husbands and wives learn how to apply true spiritual understanding.

Ina Morgan
Havelock North, New Zealand

I thank you for bringing out the role of women. I have read these scriptures about what is expected of women in the Church and have tried to live by them, but reviewing the rules as you did helped me to try to do better.

Elma Chestnut
Parkdale, Ore.

I think it's wonderful how you are trying to get the family together, especially by your last "Personal" on mar-

riages. My husband is not in the Church, but he's absolutely wonderful about everything. I have to watch what I say and do, because it teaches him and reflects on God. We all need to be reminded of our duty to our mates and to God every once in a while.

Shirley Short
Orlando, W.Va.

I was moved to write a note to you expressing my appreciation after reading the "Personal" in *The Worldwide News* on the proper marriage roles. My wife of three years is such a good example of "balanced" meekness that I find myself learning from her actions . . . Her attitude has been so ingrained that she almost automatically looks for the right way to do things.

I must struggle with myself to do the right things in life, and it sure helps to receive the loving advice and proper correction that comes from God via Mr. [Joseph] Tkach's writings, the sermons, Spokesman Club and all the literature we receive.

Daniel E. Page
Leeds, Ala.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for letting us know, once again, the

way a husband and wife should be toward one another. The same principle would apply, I feel, to the way we parents handle our teenagers.

With an unconverted mind having to deal with the many things which beset them, our teenagers need a strong, loving, solid family unit exercised by patience, trust, long suffering and all of the attributes our great God possesses. With my two teenagers, I try so hard to deal with them as God does with us. It isn't easy at times, but at least they know where we stand with each other.

Mrs. Morris Owings Jr.
Childersburg, Ala.

☆☆☆

Cooperation makes difference

It was my first day back at school and I was starting year 10. One of the teachers in our school decided last year that on the first day back after the holidays, seeing as it is the bicentennial year, he wanted to get our school to form Australia out of the kids and teachers.

When I heard this it triggered my thoughts back to the 1987-88 SEP [Summer Educational Program] camp where we formed the words *We Are One Family* and a map of Australia [see Jan. 18 *WN*]. I thought it would be fun to compare God's people at camp to the people in my school.

I had a vague idea of what was going to happen, and as soon as the whole school got down to the oval I knew my thinking

was going to be right. Chaos everywhere. Teachers racing around with loudspeakers in hands trying to get disobedient and pushy kids to form Australia.

Then I thought back to the camp . . . The whole process probably took less than 20 minutes to complete, even including the staff who formed Australia by joining hands on a marked-out map.

My thoughts were interrupted by some kids pushing me sideways and saying they wanted to play human dominos . . .

It took probably a little over 40 minutes of yelling and shouting to get people in the formation, and even then kids would get pushed out, making Australia look like it had suddenly grown a large amount of small islands . . .

I realised how proud I was to be a part of the making of Mr. Tkach's sign. At camp, everyone was cooperating and working together as one family to get things done. At school, the oval was like a battleground with teachers shouting and kids pushing each other to get in the front row . . .

I know that we at camp achieved it faster than school because we had cooperation from all people. At school we did it because it was Australia day, and we were told to. But at camp we did it to show anyone who could see us that we were working together as one united family.

Susan Downes
Ormeau, Australia

MPC's continuous work flow: A-to-Z mail process never done

By Kerri Miles.

PASADENA—What happens when the Church receives a letter from a co-worker that includes a donation, a literature request and a Bible question? When the work began, Herbert W. Armstrong and his wife, Loma, opened and answered all of the Church's mail personally.

Today, the Mail Processing Center (MPC), with its specialized sections, does this job. The letter is picked up from the post office by mail receiving; the donation and literature request are entered into the computer in the terminals section; the Bible question is answered by Personal Correspondence; and the postal center mails the literature.



FAITHFUL SERVANT—David Hunsberger, employed in the Personal Correspondence Department since 1963, researches questions and answers letters. [Photo by Warren Watson]

MPC occupies the second floor of the Office Facilities Building, purchased by the Church in December. The department's purpose is to process the mail from post office to post office in one continuous work flow.

More than 900 employees and volunteers work in MPC, including on-call employees and those working with the Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS) program in Big Sandy.

The WATS in-home program, operated by MPC, includes an additional 5,200 volunteers from 182 congregations in 31 states, said evangelist Richard Rice, MPC director. Early morning calls can be routed to the East Coast, and late-night calls to the Western states. In-home operators answer 48 percent of the weekend telecast responses.

Mr. Rice outlined the history of the department. In the 1950s as the *Plain Truth* subscription list grew, the department expanded to process literature requests. Eventually MPC became fragmented as sections were moved into different buildings on the Ambassador College campus.

"These separate and independent locations began to experience serious problems with efficiency," Mr. Rice said. "Bottlenecks occurred in the work flow as mail was transported to scattered areas."

In 1971, under the direction of Mr. Armstrong, the sections were brought together under one department head—Mr. Rice. He has served in that position ever since.

MPC is now responsible for receiving, opening, reading, processing and answering mail, and fulfilling all mail requests generated by the media and publishing areas. Telephone responses are also handled by MPC.

"MPC also works in close communication with the Media Services, Publishing and Editorial Services departments," Mr. Rice said. All four departments are coordinated by Bernard Schnippert.

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach appointed Mr. Schnippert to coordinate the four departments as Me-

dia Production Services (MPS) in November, 1987.

Six sections

MPC is organized into six main sections: mail receiving, telephone response, terminals, Personal Correspondence, international mail and the postal center.

Mail receiving, supervised by George McFarland, picks up, sorts and processes mail addressed to the Church, its publications and Mr. Tkach. Mail receiving personnel also bank and tabulate tithes and offerings.

William Butler supervises the telephone response area, which handles WATS calls from the *World Tomorrow* telecast and advertisements. Telephone response also receives calls from people requesting ministerial visits or asking for times and locations of Sabbath services.

The in-home WATS program is managed by Mr. Butler.

The terminals area maintains the computer master record, adds new names to the files, fulfills literature requests, handles name and address changes, updates records and enters donation information. Gary Endres is the supervisor of terminals.

Personal Correspondence, supervised by Carroll Miller, is the section of MPC that answers questions about the Bible and the Church. Mr. Miller's area is also responsible for responding to personal problems, prayer needs and visit and baptism requests.

Ron Urwiller oversees international mail, which serves as a liaison between MPC and the international offices in mail-handling matters. This area maintains subscriber files for international offices that do not have computer equipment, and assists with major mailings.

The postal center, managed by Eric Shaw, handles mailings for the Church from Pasadena, including literature, letters, renewals and business mail. The postal center also looks for ways to cut mailing costs and provides information to other departments to help them plan their mailings.

Other areas of MPC analyze trends in the types of mail and telephone responses received, train employees, maintain literature indexes and handle subscriber complaints.

Family and team spirit

Mr. Rice described MPC as a department that is "very keen on unity and family togetherness. We stress camaraderie and team spirit. People are our major resource."

He said that many of the supervisors were trained within the department and have moved up through the ranks. Employees are encouraged to develop themselves. "I believe in the principle of delegation."

Mr. Rice added, "There is an attitude in the department of closeness and respect of each other's professional abilities."



ABLE ASSISTANT—Helen Halbe, senior secretary since 1981, assists evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Mail Processing Center. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Helps employees develop potential

Director has service philosophy

By Kerri Miles

PASADENA—"I've always thoroughly enjoyed people. I find them an exciting challenge. I really enjoy watching them develop and grow," said evangelist Richard Rice. That's one reason he loves his job as director of the Church's Mail Processing Center.

Mr. Rice, 52, a native of Midwest City, Okla., near Oklahoma City, first learned about the Church of God in 1946 when he was 11 years old. It was his brother, Robert, who has worked for the Church's Custodial Services Department for more than 26 years, who introduced him to the broadcast. It was 1953, however, before "everything began to sink in," Mr. Rice said.

Mr. Rice was so anxious to come to Ambassador College that he came after his junior year of high school. He finished his final year of high school by correspondence course while he was a freshman in Pasadena, at what was then the col-

lege's only campus.

It was at college in 1957 that Mr. Rice married Virginia McAllister, also a student. "I don't think I could get away with that now," he said. "Things were a little different at college then. It has worked out beautifully, though."

After graduation Mr. Rice spent two years teaching at Imperial Schools in Big Sandy. Then in the



RICHARD AND VIRGINIA RICE fall of 1962 he was ordained a local elder and hired into the full-time ministry.

After serving as assistant pastor in the Minden and Shreveport, La., and Big Sandy churches for four years, Mr. Rice pastored the Birmingham and Huntsville, Ala., churches. He was raised in rank to preaching elder in 1964 and pastor in 1969.

"At that time ministers were transferred every five years," Mr. Rice said. "In 1971 we were given the option to go elsewhere or come to Pasadena. We opted to come to Pasadena. I was asked to work on a new program to work with people on the subscription list in a much more personalized way."

This project didn't get off the ground, but Mr. Rice was appointed director of the newly formed Mail Processing Center in December, 1971. Before then departments such as mail receiving, terminals and international mail were scattered over the campus.

About his responsibilities Mr. Rice said: "There is never anything boring. There are so many opportunities, and the biggest joy is the real and vivid knowledge that this is God's work. Just being involved in the work of God is something overwhelming."

He continued: "I hold the philosophy that a manager has to literally understand the meaning of being a servant. We want to, in our leadership roles, do everything in our power to encourage employees to develop their potential." On his desk was a book on becoming a better servant titled *Improve Your Serve*.

Aside from his MPC responsibilities, Mr. Rice has guest lectured at Ambassador College; directed Ambassador, Women's and Spokesman clubs; and traveled extensively to speak in church areas and give lectures for singles groups. He was raised in rank to evangelist in 1984 and is a member of the Advisory Council of Elders.

The Rices have three sons, all of whom are married. Phillip is associate pastor of the Fresno and Visalia, Calif., churches; Anthony works with architecture and predevelopment in the construction industry; and Michael works in Church Administration. They also have three grandchildren and one due before the Feast.

Mr. Rice likes to fish, camp and watch and participate in athletics. He is also an avid reader and enjoys woodworking, when his schedule permits.

Ms. Rice works part-time as registrar for Imperial Schools. She is "very domestically inclined. She loves entertaining, sewing, macramé and interior decorating," Mr. Rice said.

"She is a terrific companion, an excellent listener and a kind and gracious counselor. She is always encouraging and supportive and positively oriented."

MPC Employees			
PASADENA		BIG SANDY	
Full-time	170	Full-time	10
Part-time	15	Part-time	3
Student employees	173	Student employees	24
On-call (students)	8	On-call (students)	412
On-call (other)	91	On-call (other)	55
High school students	6		
Total	463	Total	504



MPC SUPERVISORS—Evangelist Richard Rice, center, meets with supervisors in the Mail Processing Center conference room. From left, Carroll Miller, Personal Correspondence; George McFarland, mail receiving; Gary Endres, terminals; Mr. Rice; Ron Urwiller, international mail; William Butler, telephone response; and Eric Shaw, postal center. [Photo by Warren Watson]

The Plain Truth About Healing

Chapter four Divine healing Promise or blessing?

So far, we have learned some important truths about healing.

We have learned that sickness is the malfunction of one's body, perhaps but not invariably the result of breaking God's revealed law. Further, we have seen that sickness is a trial like other trials and that healing is simply God's miraculous answer to prayer for relief. Healing thus entails no special connection to Christ's physical beating in any way different from any other type of answered prayer. Nor does it entail any complicated or unusual theological process.

But some questions still loom. One is, "Has God bound Himself with an absolute promise to heal everyone every time?"

An absolute promise?

A cursory reading of some commonly cited verses about healing can certainly give the impression that healing is an absolute promise of God.

For example, James 5:14-15 directs a sick person to call for the elders of the Church and to be anointed, with the promise that "the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." Such a statement certainly sounds like an absolute promise! After all, it says, "The Lord SHALL raise him up."

Psalm 103:3 also sounds like an absolute promise to heal every person every time, saying God is one "who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." Since we all know that God forgives every single iniquity, it is only logical, one reasons, that God also heals every single disease. That seems to be what the verse says.

But, as everyone can see, the situation is not at all that simple. In spite of how we tend to read these scriptures, experience proves not every single Christian is healed of every single disease every time. And this is true even though he has been properly anointed, and even though he has been baptized and had all his sins forgiven (as Psalm 103 says). No one can deny this.

Further, the Bible records numerous cases where righteous persons became ill and were not healed. As proven in the last chapter, Isaac and Jacob were blind in later years. Elisha died of an illness. Timothy had "often infirmities." The apostle Paul had an infirmity which Scripture implies had a physical component, and which Paul flatly states was not removed. Therefore, to say that God always heals every true Christian simply contradicts plain Scripture and our own experiences.

It can seem to us to be a paradox, therefore, that while God has absolutely bound Himself to heal the righteous every single time by scriptures like James 5:15 and Psalm 103:3, in reality He only sometimes heals.

Is healing a promise of God, or merely a blessing God only sometimes gives, based, as it might appear to us, upon mere whim?

The surprising answer is simple, and it is tremendously reassuring! It is this: Healing is both a PROMISE and a wonderful BLESSING God bestows in His good judgment!

The nature of God's promise

Actually, the very act of asking whether healing is a promise OR a blessing starts the questioner down an erroneous path of reasoning. It does so because the question presumes certain fallacious concepts about the nature of God's promises and His blessings. For example, it assumes that bless-

ings and promises are opposites.

Let's understand! And let's begin by understanding about promises in general and God's promises in particular. To start, any promise (whether from God or not) is simply an "oral or written agreement to do or not do something" (*Webster's New World Dictionary*). Certainly, by this definition, numerous Bible statements about healing are indeed promises, for many statements say God will heal.

But a promise may be either conditional or unconditional. An unconditional promise is one in which the promisor will fulfill his promise without any action on the recipient's part. Thus, if God has promised to heal everyone every single time immediately upon request, then He has given an unconditional promise. A conditional promise is a promise to do or not do something, but only if some event occurs or if some action is taken by another party. Thus, if God has promised to heal us, but only if we ourselves do something

faith. Clearly, in those cases, Christ simply honored their own human faith or belief.

On the other hand, faith can be required today of true Christians as a prerequisite of healing, for James 5:15 clearly and expressly conditions such healing upon faith: "The prayer of faith shall save the sick."

But faith is not the only condition often stated for healing. A second, obvious condition is obedience to God's law. As I John 3:22 states, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." No one would even think of believing that God has bound Himself to heal all unrepentant sinners!

Still, we must ask whether God has bound Himself to heal every single person who has the faith and obeys Him, or whether He has not so bound Himself. In other words, are there any more conditions?

The answer is, no, God has not bound Himself to heal everyone

Some have wrongly thought that it is *always* God's will to heal us every single time, and have turned for proof to Luke 5:12-13, where Christ said it was His will to heal a certain leper. But that verse only says it was Christ's will to heal that leper then, not that it is *always* His will to heal *everyone* then or now. To the contrary, Christ simply did *not* heal every person with whom He came into contact back then, *nor* does He heal every Christian now. It simply is not His will to remove all suffering in this age.

Certainly, God wants (i.e., "wills") to heal ALL in the sense that He does not like to see people suffer. But God has clearly decided to *allow* man to suffer so he may build character and qualify for God's Kingdom. He wants to bring sons into His Kingdom more than He wants to heal everyone now, and if He removes all suffering now, He will defeat His own plan and His greater will for humans!

Do you understand that? God sometimes does not heal the faithful and obedient *not* because He does not love, but because *in* His great love He wants eternal life for you. To gain that eternal life takes character—the character that comes, sometimes to our chagrin, through the suffering of illness and death. Did not Jesus Christ Himself suffer in excruciating pain and humility to become the firstborn of many brethren? Did He not, as Hebrews 2:9-10 states, become "perfect through sufferings"? Yes, of course He did. And we all must become perfect through suffering, even if that means the suffering of disease.

All true Christians know that the purpose of suffering is to build character. And all true Christians know that every prayer they pray for help in time of need is predicated upon God's will and His overall view of what is in our ultimate—not necessarily our immediate—best interest, and in our best interest as it appears to Him, not just to us. But when it comes to sickness and disease and healing, we tend to forget these things.

But we shouldn't. We shouldn't forget that illness is a trial like any other. And we shouldn't forget that, just as in any other trial, we must trust that God will do what is best in our lives. In reality, saying we must trust that God knows what is best for us in the long run is merely another way of saying we must have faith not simply for healing, but for

God's overall direction in our lives.

Correct understanding of key scriptures

But what about James 5:14-15 and Psalm 103:3? Don't these verses prove we are healed every time we are sick? In answer, we must ask a question ourselves: What about all the dozens of other Bible verses, some of which we saw in the last chapter, which show conclusively that God *did not* and *does not* heal every time? Don't these other verses deserve to be believed as well? And what about common sense that tells us everyone dies sometime, and almost always of an illness or disease?

There simply is no contradiction here at all, as long as we don't try to force a meaning on Psalm 103 or James 5 that God doesn't intend.

Psalm 103 lists the "benefits" of serving God. It simply does not list ANY absolute, unconditional promises at all, let alone an absolute, unconditional promise to heal everybody every time. And this includes God's promise in verse 3 to forgive our sins.

Look at verse 3 closely. Some say that in this verse God promises to heal every illness as surely as He promises to forgive every sin. But realize this: God does not promise to forgive our sins *unconditionally*. We must first repent and be baptized, as we see from other verses.

Neither does God promise unconditionally to heal us every time. There are, just as in the case of forgiveness of sin, conditions—conditions which are clearly stated elsewhere in the Bible. In the case of healing, though, the conditions are (often) faith, obedience and always the condition of what is best for the person's eternal life—God's will for the person!

Now, it is true that healing has a condition which forgiveness of sin does not—namely, the condition of what God deems best in our life. But this is only because it is *always* in our best interest to be forgiven of a repented sin immediately, but *not always* in our best long-term interest to have the suffering of illness instantly removed (I Peter 5:10).

Now examine James 5:14-16. Does this section promise unconditionally that God will heal everyone every time? To read it that way not only contradicts our own experiences and, even more importantly, many other Bible examples, but also is not fair to the context itself. AL (See HEALING, page 7)

God's purpose is not simply to give you perfect health now, nor eternal physical life. He will do nothing for you now that will jeopardize your chances for His Kingdom.

first, then God has made a conditional promise.

There are very few truly unconditional promises in the Bible, or in human experience for that matter. Some condition or other is almost always stated or implied.

Some have said that God's healing promises are "absolute." By saying this they merely wish to emphasize that God is *totally reliable*—that He will indeed do what He promises to do. And, of course, that is true. God is totally reliable. He will *always* do what He promises. But what is it that He has promised to do?

Certainly God has not promised to heal everybody every single time. And EVEN THOSE WHO BELIEVE GOD'S PROMISE IS ABSOLUTE DON'T DENY THAT. For they inevitably first state that the promise is absolute and then later state that this absolute promise has *conditions* (usually stated to be faith and obedience—proven below). But an absolute promise is the same thing as an unconditional promise (see *Black's Legal Dictionary*: "absolute"). To say therefore that an absolute promise has conditions is to say an unconditional promise has conditions—a clear contradiction.

But, since all agree God's promise to heal *is* conditional, then what are the conditions? And how do you explain James 5:14-15, Psalm 103:3 and other verses?

Conditions for healing

One condition long understood to be a condition of healing is the condition of faith or belief. In Matthew 9:29 Christ promised to heal if and only if the men had the faith. Thus, plainly, faith *can* be a condition for healing. Yet, it would not be correct to say that faith has *always* been a condition of healing, nor that it necessarily must be every time God heals. The Bible records examples of healing where faith doesn't seem to have been a factor. Acts 3:1-8 is such a case.

Another reason that spiritual faith has not always been required for God to heal is the truth that Christ healed the unconverted masses. Since they were unconverted, they by definition did not have God's Spirit living in them (Romans 8:9). Without the Spirit of God, one cannot have spiritual

who has faith and obeys, and, *yes*, there is another CONDITION! It is a very real condition found in the Bible, not just coupled to healing, but to every single answered prayer for relief from every kind of trial. It is this: God heals UPON THE CONDITION THAT SUCH HEALING IS GOOD FOR YOU in terms of His overall master plan for your life.

What is God's will?

God's great purpose for you is to give you *eternal life* as His own son in His great Kingdom. His purpose is not simply to give you perfect health now, nor eternal physical life. He will do nothing to you or for you now that will jeopardize or lessen your chances for His Kingdom, nor that will lessen your potential degree of reward.

Remember, I John 5:14 states that God hears us whenever we ask anything in prayer "according to his will." Sometimes it just is not God's will to heal us, because the suffering has an overriding purpose in our lives!

BE READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER

PRAYER

Here are seven vital keys to answered prayer:

- *Seek God's will, not your own* (Rom. 12:2). This leads to answered prayers (I John 5:14-15), whereas self-will leads to unanswered prayer (Jas. 4:3). You must put God's will ahead of your own (Matt. 26:39).
- *Believe God's promises; have faith that He can accomplish them* (Rom. 4:20-21). Without this faith you will receive nothing from God (Jas. 1:5-7). If you permit yourself to have prolonged feelings of worry, anxiety or doubt, you are practicing the exact opposite of faith.
- *Be fervent* (Jas. 5:16). In Greek, the words for "fervent" mean "without ceasing" or "with intensity or emotion." Make sure fervency is from the heart (Hos. 7:14) and not feigned or insincere. Don't just temporarily work yourself up into an emotional frenzy. Follow through with determined, intentional action. Ask God to help you be consistently zealous and fervent.
- *Humble yourself before God*. Dwell on His greatness. Recognize your insignificance in comparison to Him; don't be proud and puffed up. See your faults and shortcomings (Luke 18:9-14).

Realize that God resists the proud but helps the humble (I Pet. 5:5-6).

- *Be persistent*. Follow the example of the widow and the gentile woman—they both received answers because they kept asking (Luke 18:1-8, Matt. 15:21-28). Realize that God may be building your patience by delaying His intervention (Jas. 1:3). Also, realize that you may not be receiving answers simply because you aren't asking for them (Jas. 4:2).
- *Obey God*. This is an absolute requirement for receiving answers to prayer (I John 3:22). God cuts off those who disobey (I Pet. 3:12, Isa. 59:2). But He enjoys listening to the righteous (Prov. 15:8).
- *Pray to God the Father, but ask in Christ's authority* (John 14:13-14, 16:23-24). This means to ask on the authority Christ has because He died for us and serves as our High Priest (Rom. 14:9, Heb. 4:14-16). He lived as a human in the flesh and knows exactly what it's like to be tempted like we are. Because of this, Christ is willing to intervene on our behalf.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

ARNFIELD, Mark and Sherry (Weppler), of Edmonton, Alta., boy, Daniel Robert, Feb. 16, 12:16 a.m., 6 pounds 6 ounces, first child.

ATHANS, Murray and Julie (Coston), of Anchorage, Alaska, girl, Rachel Anne, Feb. 25, 3:57 a.m., 6 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

BARE, Dale and Kathy (Worrell), of Fayetteville, Ark., boy, Timothy Jesse Lee, Jan. 22, 1:29 p.m., 10 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 boys, 3 girls.

BIRMINGHAM, Tom and Lori (Lund), of San Jose, Calif., boy, Andrew Thomas, Feb. 10, 12:45 p.m., 10 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 boys.

BREDEHOFT, Leo and Anja (Haering), of Fort Collins, Colo., girl, Kim Nicole, Feb. 13, 9:33 p.m., 7 pounds 7 1/2 ounces, now 2 girls.

BREMFOERDER, Fred and Anita (Buntain), of Detroit, Mich., boy, Ryan Robert, Feb. 24, 12:20 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

BRIXIUS, Peter and Colleen (Rockey), of Cheyenne, Wyo., boy, Casper Garrett, Sept. 9, 8:12 p.m., 9 pounds 9 1/4 ounces, first child.

BROWN, Brian and Beth (McElwain), of Windsor, Ont., boy, Christopher Jordan, Jan. 30, 12:42 p.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

CARTER, Jackie and Patricia (Smith), of Tupelo, Miss., girl, Elizabeth Ellen, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

CONVERY, Brian and Linda (Winslow), of Rochester, N.Y., girl, Laura Rose, Dec. 5, 7 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

CROCKER, Lary and Donna (Donovan), of Houston, Tex., boy, Benjamin Edward, Feb. 17, 12:10 p.m., 9 pounds 7 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

DIGGINS, Steven and Rhonda (Collins), of Baltimore, Md., boy, Brett Edward, Jan. 18, 8:18 p.m., 6 pounds 13 ounces, first child.

DURBIN, Edward and Jane, of Belleville, Ill., twin boys, David Andrew and Daniel Alan, Dec. 26, 12:20 and 1:26 a.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces and 6 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 3 girls.

DYCHES, Steven and Jane (Zahradnik), of Garden Grove, Calif., girl, Kristen Marie, Feb. 9, 1:04 a.m., 9 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

EBELING, Allan and Cheryl (Olsen), of Boston, Mass., girl, Stephanie Ruth, Feb. 14, 11:35 a.m., 6 pounds 13 ounces, first child.

FENSTERMAKER, Jerome and Oleta (Sellnow), of Helena, Mont., girl, Rachel Mae, Feb. 12, 2:32 a.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 girls.

GONZALO, Dennis and Michelle (del Gaudio), of Vallejo, Calif., boy, Garrett del Gaudio, Jan. 22, 12:57 a.m., 8 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

HANSON, Ronald and Bonita (Francour), of St. Paul, Minn., girl, Ann Elizabeth, Oct. 24, 3:33 a.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

KITT, Ed and Lorraine (Thomas), of Calgary, Alta., boy, David Ryan, Feb. 17, 1:52 a.m., 8 pounds 11 1/2 ounces, now 2 boys.

LAFFITTE, Christopher and Shawna (Fertig), of Casper, Wyo., girl, Renea Dyan, Feb. 16, 6:42 a.m., 6 pounds 11 ounces, now 2 girls.

MIRANDA, Leopoldo and Columba (Mellin), of Escondido, Calif., boy, Leopoldo III, Dec. 10, 7:58 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

NEILSON, Terry and Donna Mae (Weppler), of Wetaskiwin, Alta., girl, Candace Terrill, Jan. 5, 7:45 p.m., 3 pounds 7 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

REECE, Steve and Joyce (Bailey), of Plymouth, Ind., boy, Michael Jared, Jan. 7, 5:46 p.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

RUSCO, Kevin and Candace (Matson), of Verde Valley, Ariz., girl, Ember Shaa, Feb. 18, 11:47 a.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 girls.

SAGE, Mark and Holly (James), of San Diego, Calif., boy, Jonathan Bryce, Jan. 30, 7:39 a.m., 8 pounds 1 1/2 ounces, first child.

SCHOLTZ, Richard and Rebecca (Van Mechelen), of Auburn, Wash., girl, Rachel Amelia, Aug. 20, 4:40 a.m., 7 pounds 6 ounces, first child.

SEWARD, Jerry D. and Suzanne (Mitchell), of Fort Worth, Tex., boy, Zachery Rylan Mitchell, Jan. 24, 1:23 p.m., 9 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

SMITH, Nevin and Nora (Telford), of Youngstown, Ohio, girl, Lydia Virginia, Feb. 26, 8:12 p.m., 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 3 girls.

STARKE, Terry and Druclie (Morris), of Grand Island, Neb., girl, Brittany Lynne, Feb. 13, 5:36 a.m., 8 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

TRONE, Drew and Lydia (Van Kol), of Sacramento, Calif., boy, Joseph Peter, March 1, 8:05 p.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

WILLIAMS, Freddie Jr. and Lesa (Dispain), of Gainesville, Ga., boy, Preston Jay, Dec. 17, 5:38 p.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, now 4 boys.

WILSON, Gary and Pam (Hagan), of Boston, Mass., boy, Bryce Patrick, Oct. 23, 8:13 p.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys.

WISENBAKER, Michael and Sandra (Ashcraft), of Fort Worth, Tex., boy, Michael Edward II, Jan. 11, 4:35 a.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

ZASTROW, Mark and Yvonne (Zoellick), of Wausau, Wis., girl, Brenda Renee, Feb. 24, 2:52 a.m., 8 pounds 3 1/2 ounces, now 2 girls.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Carlson of Duluth, Minn., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Julie Anne to Ran-

dolph Zacharias, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Zacharias of Winnipeg, Man. A June 5 wedding in Duluth is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Puls of Melbourne, Australia, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Wendy to Stephen Alter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alter, also of Melbourne. A September wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Benson of Prescott, Ariz., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Debbie Elizabeth Ann to Charles Anton Aybar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Aybar of Flushing, N.Y. A May 1 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. James Walden of Columbus, Miss., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Pattie to Tony Diaz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Diaz of Laurel, Miss. A May 29 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Cardott of Vancouver, Wash., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Natalie to Richard Gutman of Portland, Ore. A December wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Schemm of Sharon Springs, Kan., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Diane Lynae to Mike Kuykendall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Kuykendall of Hixon, Tenn. A July 17 wedding is planned.

Gary L. Howe of Jacksonville, Fla., is pleased to announce his engagement to Dagmar Thomas of St. Petersburg, Fla. A July 3 wedding in Pinellas Park, Fla., is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Vargo of Pasadena are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Karen to Gerald Awana, son of Alberta Awana of Mesa, Ariz. A June 26 wedding in Pasadena is planned.

Dianna Lynn Hinds and Allen Roy Héckman are happy to announce their engagement. A June 12 wedding is planned.

WEDDINGS



MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL HUBERT

Michael R. Hubert and Terranciya Devi were united in marriage Feb. 5. The ceremony was performed by Bharat Nakar, assistant pastor of the Bombay, India, church. Sherina Rita was maid of honor, and Albert Raj was best man. The couple reside in Madras, India.



MR. AND MRS. DANNY JOHNSON

Danny Johnson and Shekinah Perkins were united in marriage Jan. 2. The ceremony was performed by Donald Mason, pastor of the Raleigh and Rocky Mount, N.C., churches. Beverly Turner, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Joe Freeman was best man. The couple reside in Boston, Mass.



MR. AND MRS. GARY CLAYTON

Jeanne Marie Bahen and Gary Wayne Clayton were united in marriage Aug. 23. The ceremony was performed in East Lansing, Mich., by Gerald Witte, pastor of the Lansing and Flint, Mich., churches. Diane Miller was maid of honor, and Terence Robison was best man. The couple reside in South Lyon, Mich.



MR. AND MRS. FLOYD CRAWFORD

Addie L. Higgs of Knoxville, Tenn., is

pleased to announce the marriage of her daughter Violet V. to Floyd Crawford of Atlanta, Ga. The ceremony was performed Dec. 19 by John Comino, pastor of the Knoxville A.M. and P.M. and Cookeville, Tenn., churches. Addie E. Higgs, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Myron Watson, nephew of the groom, was best man.



MR. AND MRS. LLOYD ANTHONY

Barbara E. Velasco of Tucson, Ariz., and Lloyd D. Anthony, formerly of Wichita, Kan., were united in marriage Feb. 28. The ceremony was performed by Carl McNair, pastor of the Tucson and Sierra Vista, Ariz., churches. Vicki Velasco, daughter of the bride, was maid of honor, and Bill Anthony, son of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Tucson.



MR. AND MRS. BRIAN GRAY

Charlene Faith Brock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brock of Parsons, W.Va., and Brian Robert Gray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gray of Wellington, New Zealand, were united in marriage Nov. 22. The ceremony was performed by Peter Nathan, then regional director for the Church in New Zealand and the South Pacific. Angela Showalter was maid of honor, and Dean Newcomb was best man. The couple reside in South Pasadena, Calif.



MR. AND MRS. RON A. MAURER

Lynn Marie Marson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Marson of Anchorage, Alaska, and Ron A. Maurer were united in marriage July 19 in Anchorage. The ceremony was performed by Samuel Butler, associate pastor of the Anchorage, Palmer, Fairbanks and Soldotna, Alaska, churches. Katherine Kizer was maid of honor, and Rick Maurer was best man. The couple reside in Anchorage.



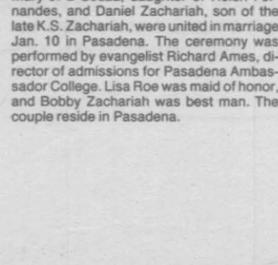
MR. AND MRS. BYRON NORROD

Byron Alexander Norrod, son of Bill and Mary Norrod of San Antonio, Tex., and Cathy Elaine McNeil, daughter of Pete and Joy McNeil of Brownfield, Tex., were united in marriage Nov. 29 in Lubbock, Tex. The ceremony was performed by Stanley McNeil, brother of the bride and pastor of the Wichita, Kan., church. Diane Kinder was maid of honor, and Bill Norrod, father of the groom, was best man. The couple, both Pasadena Ambassador College graduates, reside in Pasadena.



MR. AND MRS. D. LOVELADY JR.

Donald G. and Linda K. Nicholson of Muncie, Ind., are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Lori Alane to Darrell E. Lovelady Jr., son of Cliff H. and Kay Herring of Silver Creek, Miss. The ceremony was performed Feb. 21 by Richard Baumgartner, pastor of the Muncie and Richmond, Ind., churches. Susan Mills was maid of honor, and the groom's stepfather was best man. The couple, both 1987 Ambassador College graduates, reside in Hattiesburg, Miss.



MR. AND MRS. D. ZACHARIAH

Mary J. D'Souza, daughter of Helen Fernandes, and Daniel Zachariah, son of the late K.S. Zachariah, were united in marriage Jan. 10 in Pasadena. The ceremony was performed by evangelist Richard Ames, director of admissions for Pasadena Ambassador College. Lisa Roe was maid of honor, and Bobby Zachariah was best man. The couple reside in Pasadena.



MR. AND MRS. LEO de FOLTER

Leo de Folter and Marleen Hendriks were united in marriage Sept. 2. The ceremony was performed by Bram de Bree, regional director for the Church in Dutch-speaking areas. The couple reside in Drunen, Netherlands.



MR. AND MRS. FARON BLAKEMAN

Teri Lee Pflester, daughter of Jack and Carolyn Pflester of Bryan, Ohio, and Faron Gene Blakeman, son of Bobby and Faye Blakeman of Greensburg, Ky., were united in marriage Oct. 4. The ceremony was performed by Roger West, pastor of the Somerset, London and Middlesboro, Ky., churches. Tina Pflester, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Tom Carmichael was best man. The couple are 1987 Pasadena Ambassador College graduates. They reside in Campbellsville, Ky.



MR. AND MRS. GAIL HOLLIS

Thom and Gail Hollis, members who attend the Albuquerque, N.M., church, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Feb. 8. They have been Church members since 1964. The Hollises have six children and nine grandchildren. Family members and friends gave a surprise party in their honor.



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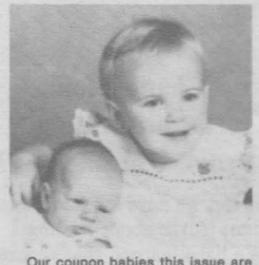


MR. AND MRS. W. TOWNSEND

Fredda Suelynn Beam, daughter of Sandra Meyer of Piquette, Miss., and William Perry Townsend, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Townsend of Laurel, Miss., were united in marriage Dec. 20 in Laurel. The ceremony was performed by Thomas Damour, pastor of the Meridian, Miss., and Laurel churches. George Townsend, brother of the groom, was best man, and Melanie Townsend, sister of the groom, was maid of honor. The couple reside in Hattiesburg, Miss.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

We'd like to let the readers of *The Worldwide News* know about your new baby as soon as it arrives. Just fill out this coupon and send it to the address given as soon as possible after the baby is born.



Our coupon babies this issue are Amber Dawn and Krystle Marie Kostura, children of Emory and Dolores Kostura of Orfield, Pa.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
"THE WORLDWIDE NEWS"
BOX 111
PASADENA, CALIF., 91129, U.S.A.

Please write your *Worldwide News* subscription number here:

Last name		Father's first name	
Mother's first name		Mother's maiden name	
Church area or city of residence/state/country		Baby's sex <input type="checkbox"/> Boy <input type="checkbox"/> Girl	
Baby's first and middle names		Date of birth Month: Date:	
Time of day <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.	Weight	Number of children you have* Boys: Girls:	

*Including newborn 3-88

ANNIVERSARIES



THOM AND GAIL HOLLIS

Thom and Gail Hollis, members who attend the Albuquerque, N.M., church, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Feb. 8. They have been Church members since 1964. The Hollises have six children and nine grandchildren. Family members and friends gave a surprise party in their honor.

Mr. and Mrs. William Galloway celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary Feb. 26. The Galloways have one son, one grandson and three great-grandchildren. The couple attend the Tallahassee, Fla., church.

Porter and Margaret Beane of Palestine, Tex., celebrated 40 years of marriage March 20. They have three children and six grandchildren. The Beanes attend the Tyler, Tex., church.

OBITUARIES

KLEIST, Ida W., 72, of Appleton, Wis., died Feb. 24 after a long illness. She has been a Church member since 1970. Mrs. Kleist is survived by her husband, Mearl; a daughter, Dorothy Skinner; three sisters; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. William Miller, pastor of the Appleton and Green Bay, Wis., churches, conducted funeral services.

BRANDT, Valerie D., 44, of Littleton, Colo., died Dec. 9. She has been a Church member since 1982. Mrs. Brandt is survived by her husband of 16 years, William H. Funeral services were conducted by Douglas Horchak, pastor of the Denver, Colo., North and South churches.

TAYLOR, Annie Mae, 81, of Richmond, Calif., died Jan. 2 after a long illness. She has been a Church member since 1958. Mrs. Taylor is survived by a daughter; two grandchildren, Gary Ford and Linda Sooch, both Church members; and several great-grandchildren.

PRITCHARD, Frank, 66, of Nassau, Bahamas, died Feb. 16 of a heart attack. He has been a Church member since 1973. Mr. Pritchard is survived by his wife, Mary, a Church member; three daughters, Margaret, Heather and Frances and their husbands; and five grandchildren. Graveside services were conducted by Kingsley Mather, pastor of the Nassau, Freeport and Marsh Harbour, Bahamas, congregations.

FINKELSTEIN, Jessie, 78, of St. Petersburg, Fla., died Feb. 15. Mrs. Finkelstein, a widow for the last 25 years, has been a Church member since 1985.

BUSBICE, Ivie, 88, of Quitman, La., died Jan. 13. She has been a Church member since 1972. Funeral services were conducted by George Pinckney, pastor of the Monroe and Alexandria, La., and Natchez, Miss., churches.

TOMASEK, Ardith L., 68, of Bellevue, Neb., died Jan. 30 of a heart attack after a series of strokes. She has been a Church member since 1966 and served as a deaconess. Mrs. Tomasek is survived by her husband, Frank; her mother; and two sons, Richard and Roger, a Church member. Memorial services were conducted by Terry Swagerty, pastor of the Omaha and Lincoln, Neb., and Sioux City, Iowa, churches.

HOPKINS, Walter J., 87, of Milan, Ill., died Feb. 9. He has been a Church member since 1982. Mr. Hopkins is survived by a daughter, Doris Marshall; two sons, Leo and Gilroy; 10 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren. Memorial services were conducted by John Knaack, associate pastor of the Davenport, Iowa City, Mason City and Waterloo, Iowa, churches.

MCLOUD, Edith, 68, of Mount Clara, W.Va., died Dec. 27 after an extended illness. She has been a Church member since 1975. Mrs. McCloud is survived by her husband, Woodrow; one daughter, Ann Simms; and three sons, Scott, a Church member, Neil and Woodrow Jr. Funeral services were conducted by Charles Grimm, a minister in the Clarksburg, W.Va., church.

JONES, Stella M., 90, of Salem, Ore., died Feb. 16. She has been a Church member since 1966. Mrs. Jones is survived by three sisters; one daughter, Audrey Bates, a Church member; and three grandsons. One grandson, Jeff Bates, is also a Church member. Funeral services were conducted by Donald Hanson, assistant pastor of the Salem and Albany, Ore., churches.

LANNOM, James "Eric," 28, of Clarksville, Tenn., died Nov. 5 when he was electrocuted at work. He has been a Church member since 1985. Mr. Lannom is survived by his wife, Pamela; two sons, Jeremy, 10, and Cody, 2; and 25 relatives who attend the Clarksville church. Funeral services were conducted by Stephen Elliott, pastor of the Bowling Green, Ky., and Clarksville churches.

COOPER, Martin A., 44, of Orlando, Fla., died Feb. 9. He was shot and killed in a robbery attempt at a pizza parlor where he was working. He has been a Church member since 1972. Mr. Cooper is survived by his wife, Virginia, a Church member; three daughters, Rebekah, 12, Sarah, 10, and Leah, 2; and one son, Dana, 8. He is also survived by his mother, brother and sister. Funeral services were conducted by Randal Dick, pastor of the Orlando A.M. and P.M. churches.

MCINTYRE, Beatrice, 87, of Vulcan, Alta., died Feb. 6. She has been a Church member since 1968. Mrs. McIntyre was predeceased by her husband, Billy, in 1975.

BAILEY, Pearl, 74, of Franklin, Pa., died Feb. 8 after a prolonged illness. She has been a Church member since 1980.

MURPHY, Otye, 87, of Tupelo, Miss., died Feb. 17. She has been a Church member since 1970. Mrs. Murphy is survived by two daughters, one son, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. One daughter, Irene, is a Church member. Funeral services were conducted by John Cafourek, pastor of the Tupelo and Columbus, Miss., churches.

STURGILL, Suzannah, 97, of Lexington, Ky., died Feb. 16. She has been a Church member since 1965.

BICKERS, Louella, 54, of Lexington, Ky., died Jan. 20. She has been a Church member since 1985. Mrs. Bickers is survived by her husband, Gilbert; a son, Gilbert Lee; and a daughter-in-law, Debbie; all Church members. She is also survived by another son, two sisters, two brothers and four grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by David Havis, pastor of the Lexington and Mount Sterling, Ky., churches.

ARCHER, Matthew, 17, of Pilot Knob, Mo., was killed instantly in an automobile accident Feb. 2. He attended the Cape Girardeau, Mo., church with his parents since infancy. Matthew is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Archer, both Church members; one brother, David; three sisters, Becky, Beth and Lori, all of whom attend church services; his paternal and maternal grandparents; and several aunts and uncles. Funeral services were conducted by Arnold Clauson, pastor of the Paducah, Ky., and Cape Girardeau churches.

PETET, Pauline, 79, of Grand Island, Neb., died Jan. 7. She has been a Church member since 1963. Mrs. Petet was predeceased by her husband, Grant, in 1983. She is survived by her mother, Stella Hall, and two daughters, Maxine Hohnhalt and Shirley Kale, all Church members. Other survivors include one son, two other daughters, 21 grandchildren, some of whom are Church members, and 22 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Fred Davis, pastor of the Grand Island and North Platte, Neb., churches.

HOLLOWAY, Virgil E., 68, of Eima, Wash., died Jan. 3 of a stroke. He was baptized in 1980. Mr. Holloway is survived by his wife, Bessie, one son, two grandsons and two brothers. Funeral services were conducted by Paul Shumway, associate pastor of the Tacoma and Olympia, Wash., churches.

HASHA, Lorraine T., 64, of Eagle Point, Ore., died Feb. 23. She has been a Church member for just more than one year. Mrs. Hasha is survived by her husband, Wilmer, also a Church member, four daughters, two sons, two stepdaughters and three stepsons. Funeral services were conducted by Jeffery McGowan, pastor of the Medford and Klamath Falls, Ore., churches.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

Brethren, I wonder if we really understand the full significance of that instruction. Are we making a part of our lives the kind of "unfeigned love for the brethren" that Jesus and the apostles taught?

The apostle Paul corrected the Corinthians, explaining that they were missing the point of the Passover. Their conduct showed Paul that they did not grasp the full implications of the Passover in the practical Christian life—they lacked understanding of why Christ had to die, as well as for whom He died.

They were divided (I Corinthians 11:18). They were despising the Church of God by shaming those that were poor (verse 22). The actions and attitudes some had toward others demonstrated that they did not understand the connection between Jesus' sacrifice and the Church of God of which they were called to be a part (verse 29).

In the previous chapter, Paul had reminded them that the bread and wine taken during the Passover service symbolize the body and blood of Christ that make possible the unity and oneness of the members of the Body of Christ—the Church (I Corinthians 10:16-17).

Chapter 12 further illustrates the oneness to which God has called His people: "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many" (verses 12-14).

In verse 21 Paul admonishes, "And the eye cannot say unto the

hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you." Yet this is an attitude that was being exhibited among some of the Corinthian brethren, and it is an attitude that is sometimes displayed even among some of God's people today.

Vanity and arrogance are attitudes that are common to mankind. But as members of the Body of Christ, we should be growing in our ability to recognize these attitudes in ourselves and be repenting of them.

Verses 25 through 27 are paramount: "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular."

The indication is that they were guilty of neglecting the needs of fellow members of the Body of

Christ. As a result of such neglect of the Body of Christ, God had withdrawn His blessing of healing from them as a punishment to help them come to repentance (I Corinthians 11:30-32).

But what about us, today? Are any of us guilty of a superior, arrogant attitude toward any of our fellow Christians? Do we also neglect the care of brothers or sisters in need?

Just as Paul admonished the Corinthians to "let a man examine himself" as he prepares to partake of the symbols of Christ's suffering and death, so should we.

But let's not permit that examination to be merely a once-a-year event! Such examination ought to be a continual process in the life of any Christian. And brethren, much of that examination should revolve around how we treat one another, how we get along with one another, how we LOVE one another!

Paul follows I Corinthians 12 with the well-known love chapter, chapter 13. It is in the light of this

telling "spiritual looking glass" that we need to regularly examine the fruit of our Christian lives.

The apostle James also gave correction about despising the poor (James 2). He warned in chapter 3 about envying and strife (verses 14 to 18). In chapter 4 he cautioned against speaking evil of one another and against boasting.

In chapter 5 he condemns the holding of grudges and admonishes Christians to care for and pray for one another in times of illness. He also instructs us to straighten out any wrong attitudes we may have against one another, and to pray for one another in that regard.

I will not take time to go into the other admonitions we are given by Paul, James, Peter, John, Jude and Christ about the supreme importance of learning how to love one another according to the will of God.

But suffice it to say that we must strive continually and wholeheartedly to grow in our relationships with one another, thereby demonstrating our grasp of the full significance of the Holy Days we observe each spring in commemoration of Jesus' sacrifice and of our deliverance from the bondage of sin.

We must be asking God daily to open our minds to see ourselves as He sees us. We should ask Him for understanding to see where we may be allowing a personal weakness to go unchecked. Is our personal manner and example a help to our families and to our brethren, or is it too often a hindrance? Are we in better control of our problems and shortcomings than a year ago? Are we growing in patience, in mercy, in love?

What about our family lives? What is the state of our marriages? Have we faced any problems in those areas and are we working on them? How about our relationship with our children? Are we spending enough time in conversation with them?

We should each also ask ourselves: What is the state of my relationship with God? Is prayer the regular part of my life that it should be? Am I taking the time I should to study the Bible for personal correction and instruction? When was the last time I fasted? Is fasting a regular part of my life?

How about my emotional state? Am I depressed or discouraged? If so, have I taken steps to find out why? Have I asked God for faith, for confidence in His power to cause all things to work together for good?

Am I truly looking to God for all my needs? Is "true religion" a part of me, or am I just a Christian in name only?

At this time of year the need for such introspection should be all the heavier on our minds.

And the encouraging thing is that when we recognize our sins and shortcomings, and go to work on them, God is faithful and just to forgive us of them. A Christian doesn't need to fear to face his problems. When he does face them, he is that much closer to having the burden removed. And God will help you see them, face them, work on overcoming them, and He will forgive them.

Brethren, we have a long way to go. Like the Corinthians, we have not yet come to the place where we all can say that we truly exhibit the love of God for one another that we should. But as His begotten children let's put our hearts into the calling He has given us. Let's grow in faith and love toward the wonderful unity that is in Jesus Christ!

As we take spiritual inventory, we can rejoice and thank God for His unspeakable mercy and love in making possible our deliverance from the bondage and corruption of our own natural—and sinful—way of life. How wonderful it is to understand that no matter how bad things may look, there is hope! And that hope is a sure hope.



CHINESE VISITORS—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach greets representatives from the Chinese Ministry of Culture in his office March 9. Plans are under way to build a national theater in Beijing, China, and a technical team, including architects and specialists, came from China to look at American performing arts halls. The group, accompanied by representatives from the Chinese Consul General's office, toured the Los Angeles (Calif.) Music Center, facilities in San Francisco, Calif., and the Ambassador Auditorium. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Healing

(Continued from page 5)

though this one statement appears on the surface to be written without qualification, it sits amidst the rest of the Bible and is, of course, qualified by it. Every verse of the Bible must be read in the context of the whole Bible—not in isolation.

It is thus plain that here, as in every other case of a request for answered prayer, is the implied condition of healing being in the best interest of the party. It is an implied condition here, but one nonetheless expressly stated by the Bible to apply to all prayer! "If we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us" (I John 5:14). So realize this: The condition of God's will is as relevant here as the condition of obedience, the other necessary condition also not mentioned here!

Further, the word translated *save* in James 5:15 is a Greek word that is used only a few times in the Bible in reference to a person being made well from sickness (e.g., Mark 6:56). The vast majority of times this word is used in the New Testament, it is used in the sense of spiritual salvation. Likewise, the word translated *raise* in this same verse can mean "to rouse from sleep or lift up as from a bed or floor," but most often is used in the New Testament to represent the resurrection from the dead (see Matthew 10:8, 11:5, 14:2, 16:21, etc.).

Thus James in this verse speaks not only of physical healing upon the implied condition of God's will, but also about the spiritual resurrection from the dead (also based upon conditions unstated here but found elsewhere in the Bible). The verses have a double meaning.

We must here address another, related point. Some, in an effort to

explain what they thought was an unconditional promise to heal every time when experience showed otherwise, have noted that God of course will heal every true Christian, but that the healing will in some cases be at the resurrection of the dead. This is of course true, and James 5:14-16—with its dual meaning—corroborates this.

But it is not the right way to explain why God does not heal every time. For, as an explanation of why all are not always healed, it labors under the false impression that God's healing promises are unconditional. Further, eventual healing of the body by the resurrection is categorically not what a sick person is asking for when he prays to be healed. He automatically assumes he will not be sick in his resurrected state.

By now it has become quite clear that healing for sickness is simply God's miraculous answer to prayer for the sick person, usually, in our day, requiring faith and obedience, and always based upon what is best for the party in the long run. God has promised to heal us, but has set conditions upon such healing—the possible conditions of faith and obedience, and invariably the condition of God's will.

On the surface these conditions seem easy to understand. But when a person becomes ill, these simple concepts can become confused. Usually the confusion is over the matter of faith, although it may be stated in the form of questions such as, "If God loves me, how can He see me suffer and not intervene?" Or, "How can I have faith that God will heal me if I don't know whether it is His will to do so now?"

To answer these important questions, we must briefly examine the oft-misunderstood but vital connection between faith and healing.

(To be continued)

ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH

Youth hosts and hostesses accent formal affair

Twenty-eight youths from the Boise, Idaho, church attended a formal dinner Jan. 31 at the home of Lawson Tuck, pastor of the Baker and Ontario, Ore., and Boise churches, and his wife, Joan.

The young men wore dark suits

Seminar discusses marriage in Bible

About 130 brethren from Darmstadt, Duesseldorf, Bonn and Stuttgart, West Germany, attended a marriage seminar in Wolfstein, West Germany, Feb. 12 to 14. Visitors from the United States and England also attended.

Members filled out a survey rating their marriages, and the problems that were most often mentioned were addressed in four two-hour lectures, which covered marriage in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and Christian masculinity and femininity.

Winfried Fritz, pastor of the Bonn-Duesseldorf and Darmstadt churches, instructed all the married people to give their mates a list of what they appreciated most about them.

Other activities included an evening of entertainment Saturday, Feb. 13, that included dancing, musical performances and games. The weekend ended with a one-hour hike followed by coffee and cake. Frankie Weinberger.

with bow ties, and the young women wore formal evening gowns. Two weeks before the event, the youths received instructions on proper table manners and what to expect during the dinner. Instructions were also given to parents who served the dinner.

Four tables were set with china, crystal stemware, silver and candles. A YOU host and hostess were designated for each table. The

host's job was to keep conversation going in an uplifting manner, and the hostess was to set an example in using the right silverware.

The meal included sparkling fruit compote, beef consomme, sirloin steak, baked stuffed potatoes, green beans almondine, green salad, non-alcoholic wine and cocoa cake role. The group used finger bowls, and demitasse and after-dinner mints were served. Joan Tuck.



SYMMETRY IN MOTION—Glendora, Calif., cheerleaders demonstrate their skills at a district cheerleading jamboree in the Pasadena Ambassador College gymnasium March 13. [Photo by Charles Feldbush]

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

UPDATE

VANCOUVER, B.C.—A Canadian Summer Educational Program (SEP) will be conducted July 12 to 26 at Lake Shawnigan on Vancouver Island, about a 45-minute drive north of Victoria, B.C.

The camp, owned by the British Columbia Lions Society for Crippled Children, features a clear-water lake, "ideal for swimming, waterskiing and canoeing," said evangelist **Colin Adair**, Canadian regional director.

Activities will include water sports, tennis, basketball, volleyball, photography, archery, softball, riflery, Christian living, newspaper production and a wilderness hike.

The camp, which will accommodate about 90 campers plus staff members, will be open only to Canadian Church youths and will help ease the numbers at the Orr, Minn., and Big Sandy SEP camps.

Douglas Smith, pastor of the Edmonton, Alta., North and South churches, has been appointed camp director, and **John Stryker**, associate pastor of the Courtenay and Victoria, B.C., churches, is assistant director.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—A better time slot has opened up for the *World Tomorrow* telecast on Sky Channel in Europe. The program was aired on Sundays at the end of the normal broadcast day—about midnight Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). It now airs at 7:30 a.m., Sundays, according to evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

The telecast also airs on Super Channel at 12:30 p.m., Sundays.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Church Administration released the following ordination.

Virgil Gordon, a deacon in the San Diego, Calif., church, was ordained a local church elder on the Sabbath, Feb. 27.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Pastor General **Joseph W. Tkach** announced several personnel changes in the Pasadena area at afternoon Sabbath services in the Ambassador Auditorium March 13.

Clint Zimmerman, pastor of the Auditorium A.M. church, now serves in Church Administration, and **Victor Root**, associate pastor, replaces Dr. Zimmerman as pastor.

Curtis May, formerly associate pastor of the Imperial A.M. church,

is associate pastor in the Auditorium A.M. church, and **Thomas Pickett**, who has worked in the Security & Safety Department for 18 years, is Auditorium A.M. assistant pastor.

Warren Zehrung, an assistant in the Auditorium A.M. church, is now assistant pastor of the Imperial A.M. church.

Donald Contardi, associate pastor of the Glendale and North Hollywood, Calif., churches, was transferred to Imperial P.M., to serve as associate pastor.

Steven LeBlanc, who was Imperial P.M. associate pastor, now assists **Dennis Van Deventer**, director of Security & Safety.

In addition, Mr. Tkach announced that the boundaries of the Pasadena churches have been extended and the North Hollywood and Glendale churches will be combined as one congregation.

These transfers and changes were effective March 20.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—*Plain Truth* senior writer **Keith Stump** joined **John Halford**, associate producer of the *World Tomorrow* telecast, and a film crew, in Washington, D.C., March 13 to 16 to interview experts on the Middle East for the telecast.

Mr. Stump interviewed **Robin Wright**, senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and author of *Sacred Rage—The Wrath of Militant Is-*

lam; **Joyce Starr**, project director for Near East programs at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; **Yahya Sadowski**, a specialist on Syrian and Egyptian affairs who is a research associate at the Brookings Institution; and **Mohammed Kamal**, Jordanian Ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Stump said they "all spoke forcefully and candidly in appraising the seriousness of the Mideast crisis."

Selected portions of the interviews will be included in the first of a two-part telecast on the Middle East, scheduled to air in May.

★ ★ ★

AUBURN, Wash.—The Wetmore Medical Fund, set up to assist the family of **Bryan and Sharon Wetmore**, whose daughters **Erin**, 5, and **Crystal**, 8, died in a home fire Feb. 2, has reached capacity, according to **Richard Parker**, pastor of the Auburn and Bremerton, Wash., churches. No further contributions are necessary.

"The Wetmores are somewhat overwhelmed with the concern the brethren have shown and would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers and assistance," Mr. Parker said.

"This has been quite a witness to the people who are handling the fund. They were astonished by the response of the Church."

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—The *World Tomorrow* telecast, "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," presented by evangelist **Richard Ames**, which aired March 19 and 20, produced 53,759 responses, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Mail Processing Center.

This is the fifth highest response

to a telecast and the second program in 1988 that brought in more than 50,000 calls.

★ ★ ★

MANILA, Philippines—The regional office here announced that the Feast of Tabernacles will take place in Tacloban, Philippines. This is the fifth Philippines site.

Tacloban is on the northeast side of the island of Leyte. This site, where U.S. Gen. **Douglas MacArthur** fulfilled his World War II

promise to return to the Philippines, will accommodate 600 Feastgoers.

International guests will be housed at the Baluarte San Jose beach resort. Services will be in a hall overlooking the beach and Leyte Gulf.

Temperatures during the Feast should range from 23 to 35 degrees Celsius (73 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit) with rain showers possible. Tacloban is served daily by Philippine Airlines jets.



15TH ANNIVERSARY—As *The Worldwide News* marks 15 years of service to the brethren of God's Church, it will continue to help bind Church members together in unity as it publishes news of the Church, its work and the brethren scattered worldwide. The staff appreciates the support of you, the members of God's Church, in helping to make the paper possible. Front row, from left, Kerri Miles, associate editor; Dawna Borax, typesetter; Lana Walker, proofreader; Ronald Grove, layout editor; Tony Styer, typesetting supervisor; Dexter Faulkner, editor; back row, Marie Myers, staff writer; Sheila Graham, senior editor; Peter Moore, proofreader; Jeff Zhorne, news editor; Marianna Laursen, typesetter; and Thomas Hanson, managing editor. Mr. Hanson, Mr. Zhorne, Mr. Grove, Miss Miles and Miss Myers work primarily on *The Worldwide News*, while the other employees divide their time among several of the Church's publications. [Photo by Warren Watson]



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

PASADENA—Because of political unrest, Sabbath services were canceled March 19 in San Salvador, El Salvador.

Herbert Cisneros, pastor of the Guatemala City, Guatemala, and San Salvador churches, in a telephone conversation with Dionisio Velasco, an employee of the Spanish Department in Pasadena, requested prayers for the protection of God's people in Central America, where the situa-

tion has deteriorated.

Mr. Cisneros also canceled a scheduled trip to Honduras.

March 17 he and another member barely escaped harm as they prepared to exit the building where the church meets in San Salvador. A student protest was in progress, and police were ready to confront the group.

About that time the police began hurling tear-gas canisters, so Mr. Cisneros and the other member took refuge in the building. During the commotion they heard some agitators cry, "Burn the automobiles" and expected that their vehicle, parked just outside, would be set ablaze.

As the two prayed for protection the rioters passed by the building.

After a few minutes Mr. Cisneros felt it was safe to exit the building. Finding the car untouched by the rioters, they quickly drove away from the area. About a block away they spotted several burning vehicles but were able to stay clear of the disturbance.

Rationing in Peru

"The situation in Lima [Peru] has worsened considerably," reported Mario Seiglie, pastor of the Santiago and Temuco, Chile, churches, after a trip to Peru and Bolivia, March 4 to 13.

"There was rationing of the simplest consumer food items: milk, beef, chicken," Mr. Seiglie said. "It is hard to find certain food items to buy right now."

March 12 he conducted the first Sabbath service in La Paz, Bolivia.

About 15 attended. "The brethren there are very gung ho, very enthusiastic," he said.

In La Paz, Mr. Seiglie and his wife, Catalina, could hear gunshot pellets flying by from their 10th floor hotel room.

While walking down a street, Mr. Seiglie encountered an oncoming group of demonstrators being tear-gassed and driven back by police. The crowd and the police forced Mr. Seiglie to change direction and start running.

Although Bolivian brethren are little affected by the events in La Paz, they and the ministers "appreciate the prayers of the brethren for the day-to-day situations that they find themselves in," he added.

Newsstand vandalism

Plain Truth newsstands have been vandalized in Britain, reported the British Office.

Magazines have been found littering Oxford Circus in London. A stand in Croydon, England, has been "repeatedly knocked down, and other stands around the country have been either stolen or broken," said evangelist Frank Brown, regional director.

The British Office has looked for ways to protect the magazines from rain and wind, including putting a box-shaped dispenser at London's Piccadilly Circus outlet.

The office also reported that French, German and Italian *Plain Truths* are available together on a specially designed newsstand at London's Leicester Square underground (subway) station. The headboard to the stand advertises the magazine in each language.

Baptisms in Cameroon

During a trip to Cameroon in February, Bernard Andrist, pastor of the Geneva and Neuchatel, Switzerland, churches and Geneva Office manager, baptized two people, blessed four children and made several visits.

Jean-Paul Njamta in Cameroon "has been facing several problems at his work in one of the national

banks in Cameroon," said evangelist Dibar Apartian, French regional director.

Even though Saturday is a non-work day in Cameroon, Mr. Njamta was threatened with being fired for not working on the Sabbath.

"Mr. Njamta, who has held a very responsible post in that bank, was forced to take a demotion," Mr. Apartian said.

Mr. Apartian also said that in one village in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu two members supervised 30 people in constructing a building with bamboo walls and a corrugated steel roof.

"This meeting hall will give the brethren . . . a place to gather and play cassettes on the Sabbath," said the regional director.

Ordained

(Continued from page 3)

capacity. Mr. Wright said, "The experience gained from my six-year tenure in Europe has served me well both in the financial and publishing areas of God's work."

Mr. Wright said of his wife, whom he became friends with in high school: "My wife has been an incredibly positive and inspiring example for me. She has supported me in every endeavor I have put my mind to. She is the perfect mate."

Mrs. Wright graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor of fine arts degree in theater. She worked through college by singing with a dance band, modeling and doing television commercials. After college she worked in New York, performing in musical comedies, summer stage productions and television commercials.

While she was performing with the Chicago company of *How to Succeed in Business Without Re-*

ally Trying, Mr. Wright happened to be in Chicago on business.

One evening "I pulled up to a red light, and there she was in the car next to me. I didn't even know she was in Chicago," he said. They stopped and talked. Two months later they were engaged and a year later, Nov. 26, 1966, they were married.

The Wrights have one daughter, Tanya, 17, who is a high school junior. "We have a very close family," said Mr. Wright. "I have a wife who means everything in the world to me and a daughter I think the world of. We have a good relationship."

Mrs. Wright was hospitalized last summer with an abdominal mass. Doctors gave her only a few days to live. Since then doctors have concluded that the mass may not be cancerous, but her weak immune system and low blood level continue to place a severe strain on her heart.

"Her condition is still very serious. It goes up and down," Mr. Wright said. "We are praying for God's complete healing."

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