

The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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Redesign of The Plain Truth dignified, thoughtful, friendly

Update maintains simplicity and dignity; illustrations colorful and appealing

By Sheila Graham

The Plain Truth has been redesigned "cover to cover," according to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, publisher of the magazine. The February issue will be the first issue with the new design.

In his February "Personal," Mr. Tkach talks about the magazine's new emphasis and introduces readers to the new design.

"Though the gospel of Jesus Christ has always been the driving force in the magazine, we have become even more focused on that vital message and what it means for us in today's society," he wrote.

"We have renewed and updated the graphic look of The Plain Truth. We hope you like the changes you see. Our artists have tried to maintain the simplicity and dignity of the subject matter while illustrating the articles with colorful and appealing graphics throughout."

Last redesign in 1988

The magazine was last redesigned five years ago in 1988, with the first fully redesigned issue appearing in February of that year.

Supporting Mr. Tkach's desire to emphasize the biblical and religious focus of The Plain Truth, Bernie Schnippert, Media Operations director, began discussing ideas for a redesign with Mr. Tkach in late 1991.

In January, Greg Albrecht, Plain Truth editor, showed preliminary designs to Ronald Kelly, manager of Editorial Services, and to Mr. Schnippert.

Mr. Albrecht said the new design "firmly positions the magazine with our readers as a religious magazine with a dignified, thoughtful, friendly approach, while avoiding an overly dogmatic feel."

New columns

New columns are "A Closer Look," where Church booklet material will be excerpted, and "About This Issue" a behind-the-scenes look at how some of the articles are researched and written.

"Cornerstones," a collection of helpful and interesting statistics, quotes, anecdotes and trends relating to the Bible and Christian living, replaces "Biblical Workshop."

According to Monte Wolverton, design director, the project coincided with a changeover in technology from the Bedford typesetting system to the desktop Macintosh computer system.

"Editorial designers have traded in their drafting tables for computers," Mr. Wolverton said.

According to Randall Cole, art director: "The switch to the Macintosh computer and desktop publishing opened up to us a much broader range of options. The computer made me a better designer."

"Now I can experiment with graphic elements in ways I wouldn't have even tried before because it would have meant hours and hours of darkroom time. We used this new technology in our redesign of the magazine."

Editorial designer Rex Pieper created many of the cover designs presented to Mr. Tkach. Also assisting Mr. Cole was Dene Dietrich, another designer in Editorial.

Mr. Cole worked on the redesign while maintaining the regular monthly production schedule of the magazine.

"Part of the goal of the redesign," he said, "was not to lock ourselves into a particular format, but to allow ourselves the flexibility to develop and update the magazine as we go along."

Dr. Albert to take post as college instructor

Ambassador can offer psychology major

By Becky Sweat

Evangelist David Albert, known for the past six years as one of four presenters for the World Tomorrow telecast, will soon take on a new role.

Dr. Albert and his wife, Simone, will transfer from the Television Department in Pasadena

and sophomore level) courses in psychology, and there is no psychology major.

Psychology major at Ambassador

With the addition of Dr. Albert to the faculty, Ambassador will be able to offer a major in psychology.

To grant psychology majors, a college needs to offer upper-division psychology courses, and before a person can teach such courses, he or she must have a doctoral degree.

Dr. Albert has both a master's and doctorate in psychology from the University of Oregon, in addition to a master's in theology from Ambassador College.

"For me and my wife, going to (See ALBERT page 6)

Church representative attends Sabbatarian leaders conference

By Oleh Zajac

UKRAINE—When I was asked to represent the Church at an organizational conference of Sabbath-keepers in western Ukraine, I knew this would be an exciting and challenging assignment.

After ministers Victor Kubik and John Karlson visited some Ukrainian Sabbath-keepers (see Oct. 6

WN), they were asked to send a representative to the conference.

I was selected because I am fluent in the Ukrainian language and have been employed at headquarters for 10 years, working on projects with various departments.

Oleh Zajac is an assistant to Ralph Helge in Legal Services.

The conference took place Nov. 1 and 2 in the House of Prayer in the town of Rokosovo. All the Sabbatarians treated me with warmth and hospitality, and they appreciated the Church sending a representative to the conference.

I was always referred to during the conference as the "Brother from America." To the Sabbatarians the concept of a brother or a believer in God is much broader than that found in a typical Western Christian organization.

The Sabbatarians had organized the conference to unify scattered congregations of Sabbath-keepers throughout Eastern Europe and the republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The CIS consists of 12 of the 15 republics that once made up the Soviet Union. About a third of the 200 in attendance were from out- (See LEADERS, page 4)



SIMONE & DAVID ALBERT

na to Big Sandy, where he will teach four new upper-division (junior and senior level) psychology courses at Ambassador College.

Presently, Ambassador College offers just lower-division (fresh-

Dear Brethren,

In my last letter we looked at the outward aspect of proclaiming the gospel and how the public service program helps us get collectively and personally involved in the kind of life God has called us to in Jesus Christ.

I concluded by saying that I would write more about how such programs present opportunities to proclaim the gospel.

In nearly every area of life, we come into contact with other people. As Christians, our contacts with others should reflect

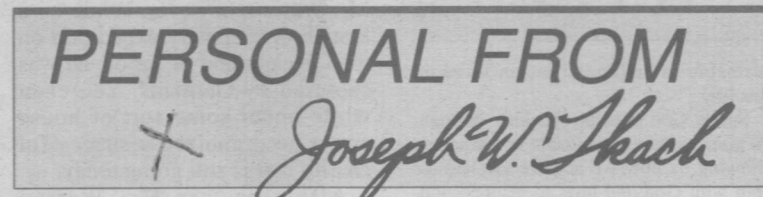
the light of Jesus Christ, who lives in us.

The way we conduct ourselves in the home, on the job and in public places should be different from what is typical among those in the world at large.

All our dealings should be honest. We should always be considerate, thoughtful and kind. When we run into problems and challenges, we confront them with faith, patience and diligence.

All these things we do because Jesus Christ lives in us, and it is for this reason that Jesus calls his people the light of the world.

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SONGS FOR STRINGS—Members of an ensemble sing and play mandolins and other instruments during services Oct. 31 in the House of Prayer in Rokosovo, Ukraine. [Photo by Oleh Zajac]

Violence challenges global peacekeepers

We've passed through another Christmas season, with the customary appeals to "peace on earth." Yet the world is anything but peaceful. Instead we witness an escalation of anarchy, violence and cruelty.

Somalia and Bosnia provide the most vivid examples. American-led multinational forces opened up the first overland supply routes to Somalia's drought-stricken interior.

Even so, their arrival will not stop thousands of Somalis, too weakened by famine, from perishing.

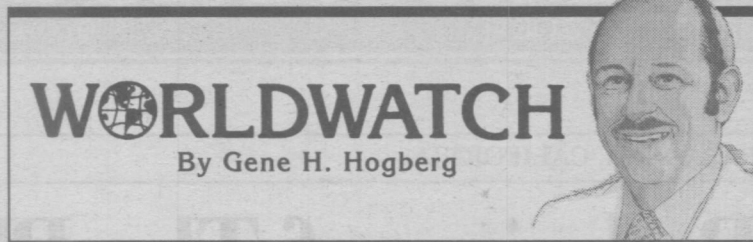
The grim sight of pencil-thin villagers is sobering enough to the soldiers. Even worse are the stories of warring clans who have heartlessly looted warehouses of food, and the so-called "technicals," with their machine-gunned trucks, who have extorted vast sums of money from international relief agencies for escorting food shipments.

Sad-eyed Somalis are grateful for the "American miracle," as some call it. But they also fear that the technicals may be only marking time until the thousands of interventionary forces return home.

Bosnia's rape camps

Conditions inside the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina are no less grim. Bosnia, says its foreign minister, Haris Silajdzic, has been "one big bleeding place for almost a year."

During this time, an estimated three million people, in the former Yugoslavia, have been dis-



placed, driven from their homes under the policy of ethnic cleansing. Deaths now total 100,000, according to one estimate.

Mid-20th-century Europe witnessed the phenomenon of the death camps in which millions of Jews, other minorities and political prisoners perished. Now, nearly 50 years later, come reports of Bosnia's rape camps.

"What is happening in Bosnia and Herzegovina to Muslim and Croatian women seems unprecedented in the history of war crimes," reported the Dec. 13 *New York Times*.

"Women are raped by Serbian soldiers in an organized and systematic way, as a planned crime to destroy a whole Muslim population, to destroy a society's cultural, traditional and religious integrity."

The numbers are chilling. "In October," continued the *Times*, "the Ministry of Interior of Bosnia and Herzegovina estimated that 50,000 women and girls had been raped, and many impregnated on purpose. It is feared that since then the number has risen even further."

The inhumanity on display in both Somalia and Bosnia makes one reflect on Psalm 74:20: "For the dark places of the earth are

full of the habitations of cruelty" (New King James).

Religious cleansing too

If the fratricide inside the former Yugoslavia is because of ethnic cleansing, then what happened in India might be described as religious cleansing.

On Dec. 6 tens of thousands of frenzied, militant Hindus stormed and demolished a disputed 16th-century mosque in the city of Ayodhya.

Fundamentalist Hindus claim the mosque had been erected over the birthplace of Lord Rama, a legendary Hindu demigod.

Over the next several days, violence between Hindus and Muslims, with an orgy of mutual destruction of temples and mosques, spread across India and into neighboring Pakistan and Bangladesh. A conservative estimate placed deaths at 1,200.

The Ayodhya incidents threaten to rip the delicate fabric of India's secular democracy. It is not widely known that even though Hindus make up 83 percent of its population, India contains the second largest Islamic community in the world, exceeded only by Indonesia. About 100 million Muslims live in India.

Religious turmoil, of course, is not confined to Europe or the Asian subcontinent. Shortly after the uprising at Ayodhya, Israel expelled more than 400 Palestinians, belonging to the extremist Hamas organization, who were implicated in murders of Israeli soldiers and civilians.

The expulsion drew worldwide criticism, but the media paid less attention to an even more drastic crackdown on Islamic fundamentalists by Egypt a few days earlier.

Both Israel and the largely secular Arab governments face a common threat from the fundamentalists, though the countries don't acknowledge this publicly.

Where next to intervene?

The world is becoming such a disorderly place that the resources of the United Nations are being stretched thin.

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



No ordinary lives

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Years ago, Max Gunther (long-time American writer) advised budding journalists to read newspapers from cover to cover including the obituaries. Ever since, I have been an avid newspaper reader.

But why read obituaries?

The Oct. 19 London *Times* carried the death notice of John Warren, someone previously unknown to me.

In March 1942, during World War II, he was in a cinema in Dover, England, when the port was shelled by Germans.

The Conservative Party headquarters in Dover was hit and a woman inside was trapped under the fallen masonry. Mr. Warren was just small enough to wriggle through a gap in the burned-out building.

Burrowing his way through 10 feet of rubble, he reached the woman. He used two car jacks dropped down to him to lift a beam that threatened to suffocate the woman.

Then he periodically injected her with painkiller and wiped her face until workmen freed her five hours later.

The heroics were not over for Mr. Warren, however. While on a British diversionary expedition on the Greek island of Leros, he was captured by Germans. Yet, even while under some sort of house arrest he organized a successful charity that is still going today.

After the war Mr. Warren turned to farming, and in the mid-'60s met and married his "one and only": a school teacher. "He courted her with fresh farm cabbages on his regular milk round"—a detail of human interest about an extraordinary life.

Beauty and tragedy

Another *Times* obituary also caught my eye. This time it was of the beautiful and talented author and painter, Gael Elton Mayo. She was born in Sydney, Australia, brought up in America and educated in England.

But her beauty was more than skin deep. "Her beauty was somehow connected to her intellectual as well as her physical qualities," according to the obituary.

"It went beyond her famously

In addition to Somalia, the U.N. has 14,000 troops in Cambodia and will soon be sending 7,500 troops and civilians to Mozambique to monitor a cease-fire and elections.

The U.N. already has 20,000 personnel in ex-Yugoslavia, mainly Croatia. Others may be sent into Macedonia and later the Kosovo region.

Some sort of involvement in Bosnia now seems a foregone conclusion. Initially, it could be to enforce an aerial blockade over Bosnia to clear the skies of Serbian warplanes.

But experts agree that full-scale military intervention in Bosnia would be many times more risky than in Somalia, where no enemy confronted the U.N. forces.

Many impending U.N. operations will require American forces, because only the United States has the global reach and can respond with sufficient strength.

"Already there are concerns," reported the Dec. 12 issue of *The* (See VIOLENCE, page 3)

Letters to the Editor

Letters for this section should be addressed to "Letters to the Editor." The editor reserves the right to use letters so addressed in whole or in part, and to include your name and edit the letter for clarity or space. We welcome your comments.

Spiritual immaturity

As I was reading *The Worldwide News* a few weeks ago, I wondered how anybody could think that you would call Herbert W. Armstrong "dumb."

I know in my heart that you would not say such a thing about Mr. Armstrong. You respected him very much, as we all did.

I'm very sorry that some took your comment wrongly, but why can't people who complain about every little detail that you say or write just give you the benefit of the doubt?

It's as if they are waiting for you to make a mistake so they can jump on it. I'm not saying this was the intention of those who thought you were referring to Mr. Armstrong, but sometimes I feel when you have to backtrack and restate yourself so many times that it is wasting time. Please don't get me wrong, I believe that repetition is a very good teaching technique.

You will make mistakes because you are human, and no human is infallible. And if others expect you to be perfect, they really need help.

I know God is in charge, and, like you and Mr. Armstrong have said so many times, if you do something wrong God will deal with you on that matter.

I know you have a good, loving heart, and I'm deeply concerned when you have to explain again some point or points because a few people make waves.

May God help us all to see how much time and energy we waste by doing such. I can see the frustration expressed by you when the same problems resurface. It must be very disappointing for you, but please remember that the majority of us are behind you.

I respect you very much and pray for you and your family often. I love you as a big brother and as God's chosen leader. Thanks for your wisdom, strength, energy, straightforwardness, kindness, gentleness and spunk.

May God continue to give you courage to go forward. Keep up the fine work.

Joan L. Clark
Pasadena

☆☆☆

Takes time to teach

Yesterday our minister read parts of [Mr. Tkach's] recent letter to the ministry, and your apology. I, for one, was certainly not offended by what Mr. Tkach said. However, it takes time to reeducate one's conscience, and I respect others according to their understanding.

If Christians could be like a beautiful fruit tree: The sweet blossoms as the fragrance of the Spirit, the fruit as a taste of love and the leaves for comforting and healing and healing relationships.

Family and friends could rest with joy and peace under it, the presence of the

tree would burst forth with an aura of godliness in a dark forest.

Jean Lyman
Caputa, South Dakota

☆☆☆

Seeing through paradigms

About the Nov. 17 "Personal." I've never been offended by anything you've said, but in no way do I judge those who misunderstand.

We all have our own paradigms that cause us to see things in a certain way and that can lead to misunderstandings. I pray for them and that after reading the "Personal" they can see where they misunderstood (and that I take heed lest I fall).

It's great, too, to reach out to people in the world, to show our love. I'm sure I'm not alone in having wanted to do that for a long time. But God knew when the time would be right to do the most good.

The real healing, of course, will be when Christ returns, but in the meantime we can be applying our Band-aids.

Christina M. Ellis
Longview, Washington

"Into all the world..."

Your involvement in the Work produces fruit. In this column prospective members, co-workers, subscribers to the Work's publications and viewers of the *World Tomorrow* telecast express their views and opinions.

Still some good people left

Today I had the privilege of viewing your program, and I want to thank you for the help you gave me. I have recently lost a loved one, and had nobody to empathize with me, to comfort me or help me.

Today, however, your program inspired me, gave me hope, that there are still some good people left in the world. I would like a copy of *The Plain Truth*. If it is anything like your program, it will be a joy to read. I hope your broadcasts continue here in Turkey. I pray for all of you involved in this program and its work, and a better, peaceful world.

Z. al M.
Izmir, Turkey

☆☆☆

Helping people through life

I would like dearly to thank every one of the people who write for *The Plain Truth*. The wealth of knowledge is inde-

scribable in helping a person through this life.

Surely God must be speaking through all your writers, as valuable instruments, showing us how we acquire a relationship with God and how to respond and yield to God through his Son. Many, many thanks. Through your articles you have brought me to yield my life to God.

G.S.

West Calder, Scotland

☆☆☆

Fortified by life guide

I am from India, but I live in France, with my wife, her daughter and her family. All of us are practicing Catholics, yet I can unhesitatingly say—nay, assert—that all of us feel very much fortified in our prayers and pursuits of a real Christian life with reading every month your life guide, *The Plain Truth*.

Indeed, our faith and belief have undergone a change in that our Christian convictions are now deeper and stronger.

Thank you for this wonderful free gift of a veritable mine of invaluable eternal verities we have missed understanding, the way we do now.

S.J.

Cergy, France

Mr. Tkach visits Washington D.C.

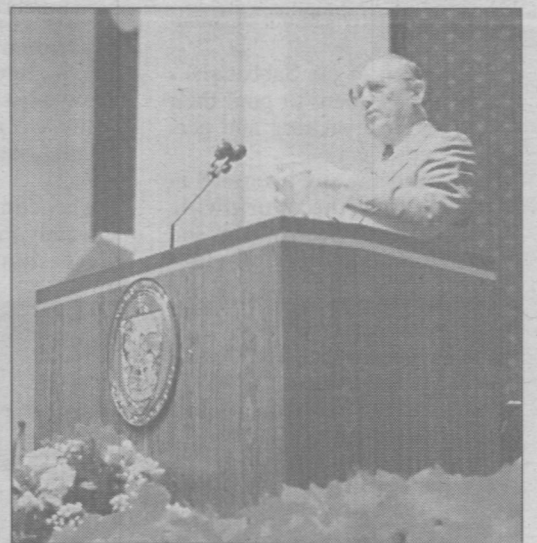
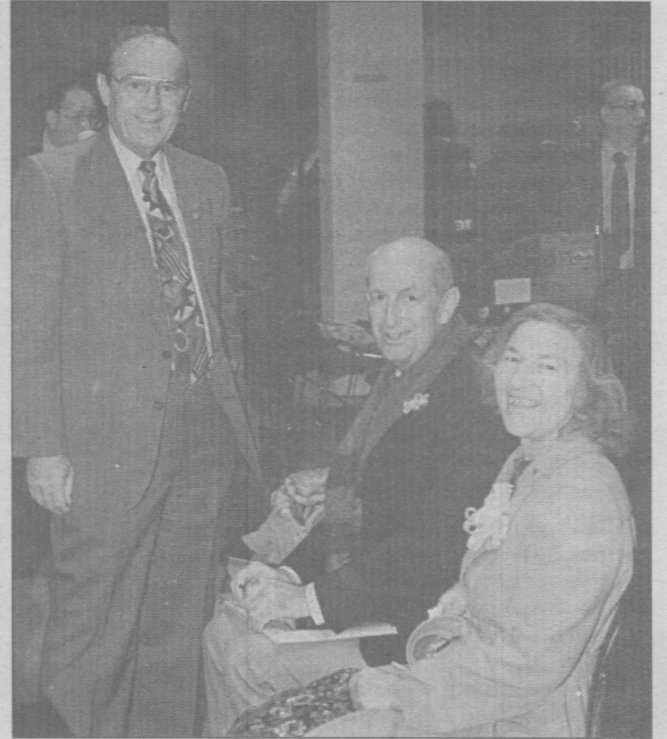


TRIP OVERVIEW

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach spoke to 3,204 brethren Dec. 5 from churches in Washington, D.C., North, South and Central; Cumberland, Frederick and Baltimore East and West, Maryland; Front Royal, Norfolk, Richmond and Roanoke, Virginia; Wheeling, West Virginia; Harrisburg, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Brick, Trenton, Vineland and Union North and South, New Jersey; and Seaford and Wilmington, Delaware.

Hosts for the visit were John and Christine Comino, Washington South and Central; John and Ann Adams, Union South; George and Jackie Affeldt, Huntingdon and Indiana; Arthur and Linda Dyer, Vineland and Philadelphia; Robert Jr. and Dorothy Flores, Seaford and Wilmington; John and Susan Foster, Harrisburg and Lancaster.

Willard and Brenda High, Washington North; Robert and Mary Jones, Norfolk; James and Diane Rosenthal, Trenton and Brick; Gregory and Marian Sargent, Union North and Jersey City; James and Judy Servidio, Baltimore East and West; Ron and Mary Smith, Richmond; Britton and Donna Taylor, Roanoke; and Peter and Charlotte Whitting, Frederick, Cumberland and Front Royal.



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PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

That kind of conduct, when it is real and not just a pretense or a show, tends to stand out as different.

As we all know, light permits people to see what they could not otherwise see, and God often uses the light he shines through us as part of the process of calling people to Christ.

An answer for our hope

Likewise, when God's people are involved as a group in a project that reflects the light of Jesus Christ, there are bound to be people who will begin to inquire about the reasons behind such a labor of love.

That is the time when God's people should be spiritually ready and confident in faith to give an answer for the hope that lies within them (1 Peter 3:15).

And that hope does not lie in "just wanting to do our part" or in "just being good neighbors" or in "trying to get a good reputation in the community."

Our hope lies in our personal and collective faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, who died for our sins, and that is the kind of answer we give to those who ask. The inward hope of Christians is demonstrated by outward actions. Because we are Christ's, we do the things of Christ.

Because he loved us, we love our neighbors. Because he is the original Good Samaritan, we are led by the Holy Spirit to "go and do likewise."

Someone might wonder: "Well, since it is God who calls

people, are we not infringing on his prerogative if we share our faith with someone or invite someone to attend a service?" The answer, of course, is no.

We all should fully understand that it is God, and God alone, who calls people to Jesus Christ. Jesus made that plain in John 6:44 and 6:65.

And just as plain is the New Testament record that God works through his people to pre-

answer to everyone who asks about the hope that is within them (1 Peter 3:15) and that he will be ashamed of anyone who is ashamed of him (Luke 9:26).

Honestly, not dogmatically

It is true that trying to talk to uninterested people about spiritual things can be like casting pearls before swine. But we need not be afraid to talk freely and honestly—with wisdom,

that Paul tells us that God has not given us a spirit that is fearful, cowardly or timid, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).

We need the courage and wisdom that only God's Spirit can provide, because in such matters we are participating in God's work, not our own pursuits.

How can you know whether God has been working with individuals, preparing them so that they will begin to think about the things concerning the gospel you share with them?

The answer is, you can't always know. That is why prayer for God's guidance, wisdom and good judgment are so important.

But one thing is for sure, when a person asks, we should not be ashamed of the One who has given us life, and it should be our greatest thrill to be able to share his good news with another human being!

Next time, I plan to write more about the Christian responsibility to do good works, and how it applies to the Church and to each of us individually.

The inward hope of Christians is demonstrated by outward actions.

sent the gospel to others. God moves his people through his Spirit to share the gospel, and God calls those whom he decides to call.

God definitely wants his people involved in that work, the most important work on earth, of sharing with others the glorious good news!

Jesus told his disciples to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in his name to all nations (Luke 24:47-48). The first chapters of Acts record the preaching of the apostles and the response of those "who were being saved" (Acts 2:47).

The people of God rejoice in the privilege their heavenly Father has given them to participate in sharing his truth with others, and they do not have any misconceptions about who does the calling.

Jesus told his disciples that they are his witnesses (Luke 24:48), that they are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14), that they should be ready to give an

sensitivity and love—to those who are interested.

We should never, of course, try to push anything on anyone. We should never make ourselves obnoxious or get into a self-righteous or "I'm-better-than-you" frame of mind. We should use good judgment and lots of prayer.

Remember, a person cannot come to Jesus Christ unless God is drawing him or her by the Holy Spirit. And also remember

Violence

(Continued from page 2)

Economist, "that America risks over-extending itself on humanitarian missions to the detriment of its national security."

Yet, the list of trouble spots continues to grow. Where will the call for help come from next? Liberia? The Sudan? South Africa? Or from the "more than 150 ethnic clashes at varying stages of violence" in greater Europe, including the for-

mer Soviet Union, as reported in the Dec. 14 Wall Street Journal.

To better face the tumultuous future, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali wants to create a standing United Nations army. Yet, while the big powers are reluctant to commit national forces to a permanent U.N. force, accelerating world chaos may force them to change.

Thus, as violence fills the earth, recalling the days of Noah, the tasks facing the world's peacekeepers grow ever more demanding.

Leaders selected

(Continued from page 1)

side the Transcarpathian region of Western Ukraine.

Most delegates were from various regions of the CIS, including Ukraine, Moldova, Tadjikistan, Kazakhstan and Russia.

A delegate from Poland, Robert Kisiel, represented a group of about 200 Sabbath-keepers known as the Polish Brethren Unity or better translated, the United Polish Brethren.

This group's history in observing the Sabbath goes back several hundred years, and they even had a school for training people more than 200 years ago.

Operating without persecution

Until now, most of their congregations have operated independently, because of persecution under the former communist regime. It was also illegal to be a minister.

With the formal abolition of communism, and the republics' independence, religious groups can now operate without persecution.

Unification of the Sabbatharians would enable them to pool their resources in preaching and performing good works.

Their leaders were interested in knowing how the Worldwide Church of God is organized and how our headquarters provides

overall goals and objectives, leaving daily decision-making in the hands of regional offices.

They agree with our interpretation of the Bible on most issues. In spite of doctrinal differences, such as their understanding of speaking in tongues, they consider us to be fellow believers because we look to the Bible as the authority on all doctrinal and theological issues.

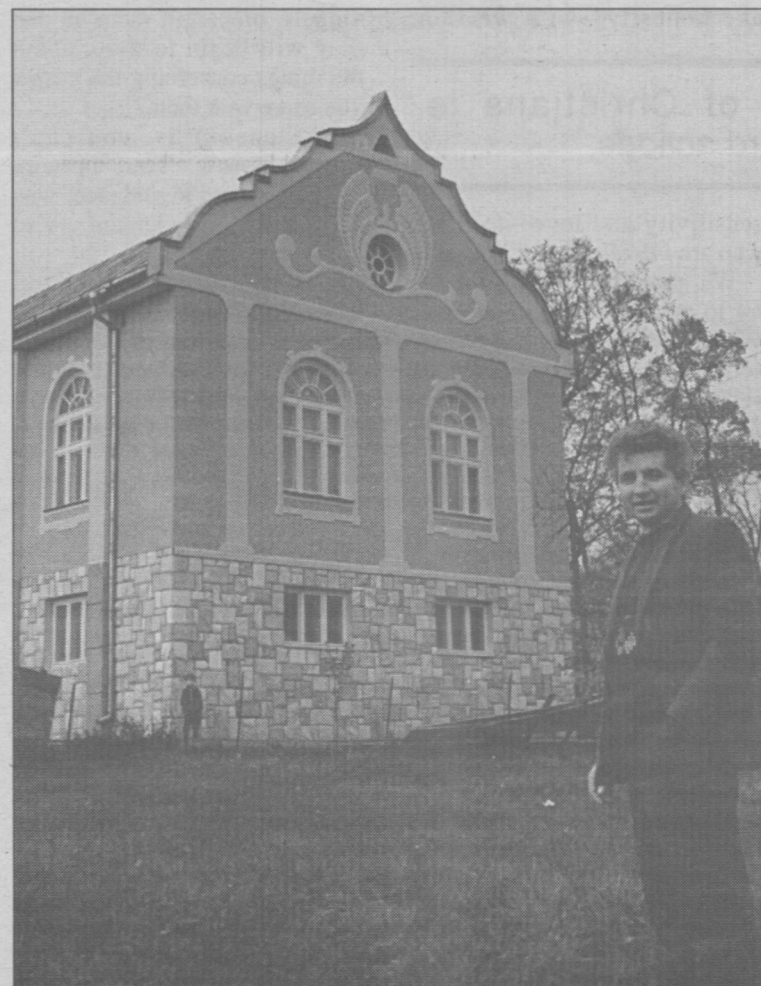
Learning about how we collect and disburse tithes on a regional basis, with overall budgetary guidance from Pasadena, was important to them.

Also of interest was how we divide job responsibilities in Pasadena among the various operations and departments. For example, they wanted to know what department titles we use such as Church Administration and Media Operations.

The conference went fairly smoothly, but with a great deal of discussion and controversy on



PICTORIAL BACKDROP—Oleh Zajac (second from right) stayed in Kushnyche, Ukraine, one night en route to the conference in Rokosovo. From left: Sabbatharians Michael and Julia Rad; Dymtro Padron, pastor of the Kushnyche church; and Michael Kostraba, who owns the house.



CONFERENCE VENUE—Ivan Pavliy, a leader in the Rokosovo, Ukraine, church, was the architect for the House of Prayer. The building is in the final stages of construction. [Photo by Oleh Zajac]



SPECIAL SERVICE—The Ukrainian Sabbath-keepers met for a special church service Oct. 31 to open the leadership conference inside the House of Prayer in Rokosovo. Men and women sitting separately is just a tradition, not a teaching. [Photo by Oleh Zajac]

how to resolve certain issues.

Once, when the group couldn't agree, they prayed and appealed for divine guidance about the situation. As is their custom, they all got down on their knees and prayed out loud.

Differing interpretations

There are differences of interpretations among the congregations.

For instance, they were concerned about whether people should travel to services on the Sabbath, and whether or not people can heat food on the Sabbath for consumption that day.

The delegates implemented several important resolutions. They agreed to work together in a loosely structured union of all the congregations represented.

They formed seven regions, and picked representatives from each region for a coordinating council. The representatives from a region are in proportion to the number of congregations.

They also chose a coordinator and two assistants to serve year-long terms.

Tithing will begin in each of their regional areas. Only a few congregations had been tithing before, and none of their pastors or ministers have been paid by the congregations. They all had other jobs.

The next conference, in May, will address theological and doctrinal issues.

The leaders of the Union of Sabbatharians will have a hard time communicating effectively with the various scattered congregations because of the lack of adequate and reliable telephone and mail service.

Most projects, such as aid to needy congregations, will have to be handled on a congregational or regional basis.

Aiding those less fortunate

After the conference about 20 of us met Volodymyr Kaschuk, the mayor of Khust, a town of about 40,000 and close to Rokosovo. The mayor complimented the high ethical and moral standards of the Sabbatharians and their work in the community helping the needy.

The economy is in turmoil, as hyperinflation, devalued currencies and chronic shortages make life difficult.

The Ukrainian Bibles I brought with me were much appreciated, and they asked for more, along with some Russian Bibles.

They are anxiously waiting to

read any of our literature. We are now translating about six of our booklets into Ukrainian and Russian.

The Sabbatharians don't have much and have sacrificed to aid more needy brethren in war-torn Moldova. They will probably

have to send relief to their brethren in Tadjikistan, where a civil war is raging.

In spite of economic and personal hardships, the Sabbatharians there are fervent, zealous and dedicated in their belief in and worship of God.



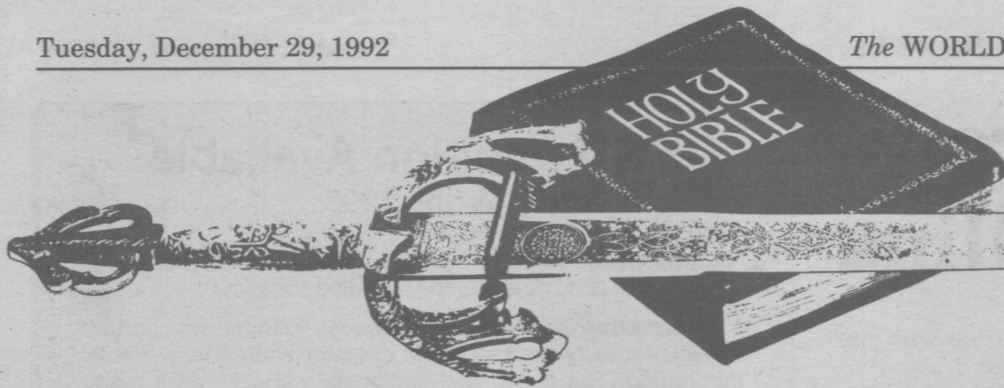
NEW LEADERS—From left: Vasil Mondich, pastor of the church in Khust; Khust mayor Volodymyr Kaschuk; Franz Klaussen, from Tadjikistan, newly elected leader of the Union of Sabbatharians; and Edgar Mertke, an assistant to Mr. Klaussen. [Photo by Oleh Zajac]

1992-93 Ministerial Transfers

| Name | Transferred to |
|-----------------|---|
| Dexter Faulkner | Kansas City South and Topeka, Kansas (associate) |
| Steve Gerrard | Michigan City and Plymouth, Indiana (new church pastor) |
| Ken Graham | Chicago West and Joliet, Illinois (associate) |
| Randy Hall | Frederick and Cumberland, Maryland, and Front Royal, Virginia (associate) |
| Vernon Hargrove | Hammond, Indiana (pastor) |
| Ron Laughland | Nashville, Tennessee (associate) |
| Jeff Molnar | Denver and Lafayette, Colorado (associate) |
| Bill Rogers | From Denver and Lafayette, Colorado (associate) Voluntary quit |
| Warren Zehrung | Little Rock and Pine Bluff, Arkansas (associate) |

Retirements

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Al Mischnick | From Little Rock and Pine Bluff, Arkansas (associate) |
|--------------|---|



IRON SHARPENS IRON

From birth to inheritance: entering the kingdom of God

By Ted Johnston

"This is it," you scream out in joy, "it's really happening," as you feel your body being transformed, as you rise in the air, toward the clouds. Your mind is racing, tears of joy streaming down your face.

Ted Johnston pastors the Grand Junction and Craig, Colo., churches.

This is THE day, the day of Christ's return and the first resurrection. Here you are, crossing the threshold into immortality.

"Daddy," your daughter cries as she walks in on you as you're praying, "I hurt myself."

Her voice pierces through your deep meditation in prayer as you intently ponder the wonderful future in God's family—it's back to reality.

You're still very much flesh and blood. A quick glance in the mirror painfully reminds you of that. No, this is not the resurrection. And so your mind is jolted back to the here and now.

And that could be distressing, couldn't it? But it need not be—if we realize that the kingdom, with its vivid message about our future inheritance, is also a present reality.

Participants now

We are privileged to participate in the kingdom of God now as we journey from our birth to inheritance.

Peter summarizes that journey: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us [already] new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you (1 Peter 1:3-4).

The end of the journey, our inheritance, is yet to be given and is now reserved in heaven for each of us. This journey includes trials, but we rejoice because we are God's children.

"For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God" (verse 23).

The journey begins with a new birth, a remarkable, wonderful step that we can lose sight of, if we're not careful. And as his newborn children, God intends us to be actively moving forward.

"Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation" (1 Peter 2:1-2).

We are not fetuses in a womb, waiting for birth. We have been born into God's family now. And as his children we are to be active, growing, feeding and participating. We are to grow up!

This is all part of God's great plan, the great evidence of his love for us:

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the

world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:1-2).

We often dream about that full revealing in the resurrection. What a fabulous step that will be—grown up, changed and presented to Christ!

But in our envisioning, let's not lose sight of the priceless opportunity we have now. We are God's children now.

And that wonderful family relationship brings obligations to the children: "No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God" (1 John 3:9).

Yes, in a real and important sense, the kingdom is here now. It can be experienced by us now.

That was one of the points that Christ made: "When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he returned to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum... From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near'" (Matthew 4:12-13, 17).

Was Christ 2,000 years in error? No. In one sense, the Bible speaks of the kingdom being visible and accessible now, but only to certain ones: "In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again'" (John 3:3).

Those who are born again—those who have been converted—can see, can participate in that kingdom now: "From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful [energetic] men lay hold of it" (Matthew 11:12).

Are you laying hold of God's kingdom? Or are you passively waiting thinking that it is something only in the future?

This changes everything

When we realize the astonishing truth that we are God's children and citizens of his kingdom, everything changes. When we are born again, everything about our thinking—our whole perspective on life changes.

Because we have been born again, we are no longer limited to the fleshly perspective.

We have entered God's kingdom, and it absolutely changes our perspective.

We mature spiritually—not remaining babes in Christ, but growing up into him (Ephesians 4:11-13).

"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir" (Galatians 4:6-7).

We are now children, and as children we are heirs. The final step in our journey is to receive, at the resurrection, our full inheritance.

The Bible consistently speaks of this final step: "The meek shall inherit the earth" (Psalm 37:11 and quoted by Christ in Matthew 5:5).

Paul described our inheritance: "But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you" (Romans 8:10-11).

"I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed" (1 Corinthians 15:50-51).

The final change

For us to partake of this final step into the kingdom in all its fullness requires a final change,

described in the Bible as receiving our inheritance. It's also referred to as our glorification.

Do you see why this understanding is so important? It reminds us of the tremendous calling we have now. It tells us where we stand before God now.

He has inducted us into his family—put us into his kingdom. He loves us, and he has expectations for us, his children.

"The night [Satan's kingdom of darkness] is nearly over; the day [God's kingdom of light] is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

"Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature" (Romans 13:12-14).

With this perspective, we long for the future return of Christ even more and "look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.... So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with

him" (2 Peter 3:12, 14).

Reaching out in love

Back to your meditation on the resurrection where we began. Our vision of that time was so inspiring, so clear and compelling. Your daughter interrupted your intense dream, calling out to you, "Daddy, I hurt."

She brought you back to the here and now. But you don't react in anger; you're not discouraged to face today with its inconveniences, difficulties and trials.

You know where you're going and who you are: a child of God, part of God's family and kingdom. God loves you. You know that and are motivated to reach out in love to others.

That is your calling, that is how your Father wants you to be. That's how you move forward from your new birth, maturing under the watchful care of your heavenly Father.

Until one day you'll arrive at the final step—full inheritance of God's kingdom in the first resurrection when Christ will speak those awesome words:

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

Lasting commitments

By Dexter H. Faulkner

A Paris merchant sued a Greek shipowner over a broken contract. The shipowner had signed the contract in disappearing ink and when the ink faded he no longer honored the contract.

Sometimes the commitments we make to God, his Church, our families and other people are like that. We may boast of our commitments and promise loyalty to those obligations, but as the figurative ink fades, as the thrill dies out, so does our commitment.

An interesting statement about commitment goes as follows: "Consider the postage stamp, my son. Its usefulness consists in its ability to stick to one thing until it gets there."

A godly quality

King David speaks of the one who is fit to dwell in the tabernacle of God as one "who keeps his oath even when it hurts" (Psalm 15:4).

Words are powerful, and how we use them reflects our relationship with our Creator. This helps identify us as Christians: our ability to control our speech—telling the truth, refusing to slander, and keeping promises and commitments.

Yet how often do we break appointments or cancel engagements at the last minute? Of course, sometimes this may be unavoidable. But has it become a habit for us? The rule rather than the exception?

This is more important when we remember that we are to reflect the life and character of Jesus Christ. How important are his promises to us? That we can rely on his promise to return, that he will forgive, that he will resurrect us?

Truthfulness in today's society is rare and we sometimes feel we must end some of our statements with "I promise." If we tell the truth consistently as a way of life, this is unnecessary. We should be known as people of our word.

We sometimes make casual promises: "I will send you such-and-such," "I will write or phone you tomorrow," "I will pray for you." But such promises are only good if we keep our word. Next time we promise to give or send something to someone, remember Proverbs 25:14: "Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of gifts he does not give."

If you make a pledge to do something, anything, make every effort to keep your promise. "Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'" (Matthew 5:37).

Fear of commitment

We live in a time when *commitment* is not a popular word in our vocabulary. Many people find it difficult to go forward in a relationship because they are afraid of commitment. They feel

it will limit their freedom, tie them down. That commitment is somehow bad, like a prison.

Many married couples are not committed to their marriage—as the climbing divorce rate proves. And companies fail because other companies with whom they do business do not honor their commitment to pay.

How about our commitments to God? Jesus Christ, our elder brother, committed his life to the will of God the Father (1 Peter 2:23). He expects the same from us. Peter said Christians should "commit themselves to their faithful Creator" (1 Peter 4:19).

Understand brethren, that making commitments and fulfilling them is an essential part of a healthy, righteous life.

Think of a project or promise in which you are involved right now. Have you committed it to God in prayer? We should try and fulfill to the best of our ability every aspect of our Christian commitment.

We must not be like the shipowner who broke his contract. God does not expect us to break our part of the new covenant agreement. Why? Because we are like a letter, "written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God" (2 Corinthians 3:3).

What is one of the things people should "read" in us? Paul answers that in 1 Timothy 3:11. He says we should be "trustworthy in everything" or "faithful in all things" (New King James). God has called us not to fade, but to bring light and hope to a needy world.

As we continue to examine ourselves throughout the year, consider personal reliability. It takes effort to be reliable but it is one way in which we can better reflect the mind and character of our Creator.

Just one more thing

New computer system improves flexibility, efficiency, handling

By James Peoples

U.S. members have probably noticed changes in their donation receipts. We've made the new form easier for you to read and for us to get donation information to you faster.

James Peoples is director of Computer Information Systems (CIS).

These are the first receipts produced by our new IBM AS/400 Worldwide Circulation and Support System (WCSS).

The return coupon at the bottom of each receipt will eventually have the U.S. Postal Service Postnet bar code, giving the Church additional mailing discounts and assuring more-timely delivery.

These bar codes, members' 11-digit personal identification (PIN) numbers, will be printed on coupons, which will make handling and sorting much easier for the Mail Processing Center.

We have nearly finished converting to the AS/400 (moving applications off our IBM mainframe computer to other systems).

We expect to complete the U.S. conversion within a few months, and the changes for the regional offices will follow.

We have transferred virtually all the accounting applications to Software 2000, a set of purchased financial programs.

We moved the circulation system to the AS/400 and transferred many of the smaller, departmental applications to personal computer (PC)-based systems on a local area network (LAN).

The Church's worldwide high-volume mail-order operation is such that not many pieces of integrated commercial software can handle the job.

Therefore, software unique to the Church is largely programmed in-house for most of the systems maintaining names and addresses.

But we buy software where possible. For instance, software purchased from Group 1, a software company, is used to reformat U.S. addresses to post office requirements and sort mailing labels into the bags and bundles needed to achieve maximum postal discounts.

Since we are a worldwide organization, another complication is handling so many address formats. The software being written is initially for the United States but will be flexible enough to serve all countries.

A major benefit of the AS/400 is that it can run identical software both on a computer large enough for the U.S. operation and on one about the size of a personal computer, in a smaller regional office.

This was impossible with the mainframe computer.

Replacing mainframe computer systems, which have been customized and enhanced for 20 years, has been a challenge to the project team—especially running existing systems partly on the mainframe and partly on the AS/400 during the conversion.

Once we stop using the mainframe, the programming staff will concentrate on enhancing the new AS/400 system to provide information needed to operate the Church in a constantly changing business environment.

The AS/400 is well-suited for this task. CIS needs and appreciates the prayers of the membership for a successful completion of the conversion to the AS/400.

Automation saves time and money

New bar-code technology and computerized mailing equipment speeds mail sorting, reduces repetitive tasks and increases efficiency

By Darrell A. Hartsock

Advanced bar-code technology and computerized mailing equipment enable the Work to save time and money in preparing and processing its mail.

Over the past several months, the Mail Processing Center (MPC) has been studying ways to expand its use of bar codes to automate the processing of return mail as much as possible.

"Our goal is to eventually bar code anything that we send out that could be returned to us," said Eric Shaw, supervisor of Mail Administration.

New technology

New computerized mailing equipment is making this goal a reality. For example, in November Postal Services purchased an Ektajet 5100 ink-jet addressing system. It prints addresses and bar codes from the AS/400 computer directly onto items as they are being prepared for mailing.

Darrell Hartsock is projects administrator in Mail Administration.

This also reduces the need for paper labels that have to be glued onto each item.

Two types of bar codes are used to automate mail processing functions. The first, called Postnet, represents the zip code of the item being addressed. Postnet bar codes are printed as part of the address to allow the post office to sort mail on high speed equipment. This saves

time and money.

A substantial portion of the savings are passed on to the mailer (in this case, the Church) in the form of postage discounts.

Also, Code 39 bar codes, about a half inch tall and three inches long, are printed on response devices such as literature request cards. This bar code represents the subscriber's PIN number (personal identification number).

Donation records

When the cards are returned to MPC, a Duplo bar-code reader scans the bar code on each item. This allows literature requests to be entered into the computer by automation instead of manually by a keyboard operator. This frees up the keyboard operators to perform more important tasks.

Presently, bar codes are being used on *Plain Truth* renewal cards, literature request cards and promotionals and certain types of return envelopes such as tithe envelopes.

Plans are to begin bar coding Holy Day offering envelopes this coming spring.

When they are received at MPC, a bar-code reader will scan the bar code on each envelope to access the individual's donation record on the computer. Terminal operators will have to key in only the contribution amount.

How you can help

You can help MPC save time and money by using the bar-coded Holy Day offering and other contribution envelopes. This will also help ensure that your records are properly updated.

Also, you should not use the envelopes with the Postnet bar code for personal mail such as letters or bills.

The Postnet bar code means only one thing to post office sorting equipment: "Send this item to the zip code in Pasadena, California represented by this bar code." And that's exactly what will happen.

Placing an address label over the Church's address will not be sufficient, because post office sorting equipment sorts mail according to the bar code, not the printed address.

Statistics at a Glance

| | United States | International | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| Members | 68,861 | 30,129 | 98,990 |
| Congregations | 468 | 369 | 837 |
| Full-time ministers | 480 | 276 | 756 |
| Local church elders | 765 | 260 | 1,025 |

How to double your contributions

(without giving one dime more)

It's no gimmick. It's possible. You might be able to double your tithes and contributions and yet not give one more dime of your own money.

The answer is found in a tax benefit the Internal Revenue Service grants certain companies when they donate to a nonprofit educational or cultural organization. Because of this, many companies have set up what is generally called a gift-matching program for their employees. Under these programs employers match donations of their employees to nonprofit educational or cultural institutions.

The procedure is simple but highly beneficial to God's Work. You need only ask your employer if he has such a gift-matching program. If he does, obtain a gift-matching form and mail it to us.

This form would merely request verification of your contributions. After we return this verification, your company would contribute a matching amount. It's just as simple as that, and yet you have in effect doubled your tithes and contributions.

If your company does have such a program, please be certain to write and inform us immediately. To aid in the processing of your letter, please write to Ralph K. Helge, Legal Office, 440 W. Green St., Pasadena, California, 91105.

Dr. Albert to college

(Continued from page 1)

Big Sandy is a wonderful opportunity," Dr. Albert said. "From the time we first discussed it, Dr. Michael Germano [dean of academic affairs] made it clear they'd be proud to have me on their faculty.

"There are a lot of really choice upper-division courses they'd like to offer, courses I have dreamed about teaching for years."

Dr. Albert will not start teaching until the fall semester (beginning in August) or the spring of 1994.

During the months until then he will be busy preparing the courses, deciding what should be taught and how.

He will teach psychology courses such as personality development, abnormal psychology, history and systems of psychology, and issues in psychology.

Richard Walther, associate director of the Ambassador College library, also will teach psychology courses. Dr. Walther has a doctorate in education with specialties in counseling and personnel administration.

Dr. Albert hopes to move to Big Sandy sometime in the next few months but is unsure exactly when.

"It all depends on how long it takes to sell our house," he said. "If it sells right away and we get everything else done we need to do to move, then perhaps we could be in Texas sometime in February."

He continued: "Once I've arrived in Big Sandy, my task will be to prepare the syllabi and course work for three or four courses that I've never taught before and that have never been offered at Ambassador. So I'll have my work cut out for me."

Teaching not a new role

Teaching is not a new role for Dr. Albert. He was an Ambassador College instructor in Pasadena from 1968 to 1974, and from 1978 until 1990, when the college moved to Big Sandy.

From 1974 to 1978 Dr. Albert pastored the Eugene, Oregon, church, while studying at the University of Oregon.

The transfer does not mean Dr. Albert will be giving up television altogether. He will present

occasional *World Tomorrow* telecasts on-call, possibly doing some shoots on-location from Big Sandy.

He may also guest lecture at the television production class at Ambassador.

"I have learned certain presenting techniques in the studio here in Pasadena, as well as interviewing techniques on location, and that has been quite an education for me," he said.

Dr. Albert said his biggest challenge, once in Big Sandy, will be getting reoriented.

"It will be quite a transition going from *World Tomorrow* television production, and all that goes with that, to working in an academic community and gearing up for teaching.

"I don't foresee having any great problems or difficulties, but I know from experience that it takes time in your mind to wind down from one kind of busy and intense activity to another."

He added: "I'm pleased to not have to go straight into a teaching situation cold turkey, where you arrive one day and the next day you're teaching.

"There will be several months to gear up for all this and get courses ready. After all, we're breaking new ground."

Staff Position Available Spring 1993

Ambassador College invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for the following vacancy:

Information Systems Services: A full-time position in administrative computing as an operator-analyst is available this spring. The successful candidate will work as a team player in serving our computing community.

Technical skills should include an understanding of relational database concepts, experience with IBM AS/400 hardware and software and familiarity with programming in CL and RPG. Responsibilities will include computer operations, user support of administrative computing systems and limited systems development.

Applications must include the following:

- A letter of application
- A current resume and salary history
- The names of three references with phone numbers
- Applications must be submitted before Jan. 30

Applications and inquiries should be sent to:

Personnel Services
Ambassador College
Big Sandy, Texas 75755

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

BETSCHART, Alois and Verena (Kurmman) of Zurich, Switzerland, boy, Ben Josef, Nov. 10, 2.9 kilograms, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

BREEDLOVE, Tim and Lisa (Walton) of Lafayette, Louisiana, boy, Caleb Rieley, Nov. 29, 4:22 a.m., 9 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

CHOINIÈRE, David and Karen (Hoffman) of Kingsport, Tennessee, boy, Michael Thomas, Nov. 10, 8:20 a.m., 8 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

COLLINS, Alford and Linda (Ritz) of Canton, Ohio, boy, Andrew James, Oct. 9, 5:45 a.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

CORSIGLIA, Tom and Candy (Skipper) of Schererville, Indiana, girl, Kaila Marie, Sept. 20, 3:30 a.m., 9 pounds 3 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

DILLER, Jim and Mindy (Gray) of Denver, Colorado, boy, Jared Leif, Nov. 24, 11:40 a.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, first child.

FULLER, Robert and Judy (Roach) of Columbia, South Carolina, girl, Monique Yonnette, Sept. 14, 11:51 p.m., 6 pounds 6 1/2 ounces, now 2 girls.

GOVENDER, Raymond and Priscilla (Subiah) of Johannesburg, South Africa, boy, Timothy, Sept. 11, 4.2 kilograms, now 4 boys, 2 girls.

HANSEN, Bruce and Linda (Lee) of Salem, Oregon, boy, Luke Anders, Nov. 28, 8:09 a.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, first child.

JACQUES, Fred and Angelina (Gonzalez) of Albuquerque, New Mexico, boy, Caleb Fredico, July 17, 3:19 p.m., 6 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

JOHNSON, Richard and Julie (Lehman) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, girl, Erica M.B., Sept. 29, 8:33 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 2 girls.

JONES, Samuel N. and Ruth Ann (Shadoan) of Douglasville, Georgia, boy, Samuel Nathan, Oct. 30, 12:50 p.m., 6 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

KNOWLES, Steve and Keri (Soustek) of Escondido, California, girl, Alexandria Rae, Nov. 17, 10:45 p.m., 7 pounds 7 ounces, now 3 girls.

KRANICH, David and Anita (Peine) of Pasadena, boy, Daniel Robert, Oct. 4, 11:55 p.m., 9 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

PERRAULT, Jean and Yolanda (Gare) of Escondido, California, girl, Kelsey Lynne, Oct. 29, 3:06 a.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 2 girls.

ROBERTS, David L. and Laura L. (Lancaster) of Roseburg, Oregon, girl, Alexandra Kathryn, Sept. 9, 10:49 p.m., 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 1 boy, 5 girls.

ROCHELLE, Christopher and Stefanie (Miller) of White Oak, Texas, boy, Brandy Christopher, Nov. 16, 8 pounds 7 ounces, first child.

RUSSELL, Doug and Liz (Stewart) of Arcadia, California, boy, Wesley Stewart, Nov. 26, 3:30 p.m., 8 pounds, first child.

SCHININA, George and Anne (Young) of Toronto, Ontario, girl, Lisa Rebecca Anne, Aug. 25, 6:42 p.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

STAPP, Edwin and Gina (Savoia) of Plymouth, Massachusetts, girl, Haley Elizabeth, Nov. 1, 4:03 a.m., 5 pounds 15 ounces, first child.

VAN SISE, Mark and Joanne (Wilcox) of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, boy, Christopher Michael, Nov. 23, 7 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

VESTAL, Robert and Rena (Clements) of Birmingham, Alabama, girl, Allison Mikal, Sept. 18, 3:01 a.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

VUKELIC, Kres and Donna (Chvojka) of Kelowna, British Columbia, boy, Jason Marko, Oct. 5, 4:25 p.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

WEDDINGS



RANDY & NAOMI ASSELIN
Naomi Saucedo and Randy Asselin were united in marriage July 25. The ceremony was performed by Felix Heimberg, Albuquerque, New Mexico, pastor. Liz Saucedo, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and David Curry was best man. The couple live in Albuquerque.



MITCHEL & RACHEL WILLIAMS
Rachel McElroy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George McElroy of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and Mitchel Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Williams of Midland, Texas, were united in marriage Sept. 6. The ceremony was performed by Roger Widmer, a faculty member at Ambassador College. Rebekah McElroy, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and the groom's father was best man. The couple live in Midland.



AARON & CARYN TAYLOR
Caryn Curry, daughter of William Curry of Clesea, Missouri, and Maryl Curry of Dunnedin, Florida, and Aaron Taylor, son of Leona Taylor of Odessa, Texas, were united in marriage Oct. 4. The ceremony was performed by Don Billingsley, Stockton, California, pastor. Sandra Bernight was matron of honor, and Jeff Taylor, son of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Denver, Colorado.



CHARLES & CINDY BAKER
Cindy Ohnemus and Charles Baker were united in marriage Oct. 3. The ceremony was performed by Bill Quillen, Las Vegas, Nevada, and Kingman, Arizona, pastor. The couple live in Kingman.



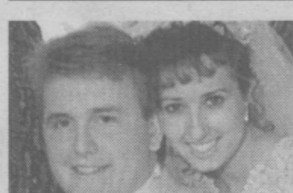
MIKE & EDITH ABUGOH
Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Okoli of Ukor, Nigeria, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Edith to Mike R. Abugoh, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Abugoh of Avlora, Nigeria. The ceremony was performed Sept. 6 by Josef Forson, Lagos, Benin, Enugu, Owerri and Jos, Nigeria, pastor. Angela Ukepor was maid of honor, and Joe Boso-Ojih was best man. The couple live in Lagos.



PAUL & DEBORAH CORR
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Peoples of Pasadena are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Deborah Leann to Paul Thomas Corr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Corr Jr., of Arcadia, California. The ceremony was performed July 12 by the bride's father, a minister and director of Computer Information Services. Kim Stone was maid of honor, and Steve Rovarino was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



HANK & NELLIE TRUJILLO
Nellie Chavez and Hank Trujillo were united in marriage Sept. 20. The ceremony was performed by James Friddle, Reseda, California, pastor. Marion Snyder was matron of honor, and Richard Snyder was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



TODD & TRACY HERLOFSON
Luanna K. Guy of Visalia, California, is pleased to announce the marriage of her daughter Tracy K. to Todd I. Herlofson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Herlofson of Post Falls, Idaho. The ceremony was performed Aug. 30 by the groom's father, Coeur d'Alene and Lewiston, Idaho, pastor. Kim Gilbert was maid of honor, and Erik Herlofson was best man. The couple live in Denver, Colorado.



STEVEN & CAROL CAMPBELL
Carol Anne Cady and Steven Patrick Campbell, children of Mr. and Mrs. Ken

Horton of Boulder, Colorado, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Campbell of Hennessey, Oklahoma, were united in marriage May 25. The ceremony was performed by Doug Horchak, Denver North and Lafayette, Colorado, pastor. Anne Stapleton, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Sam Bossa was the best man. The couple live in Topeka, Kansas.



MATT & THERESA FEAKES
Theresa Ann Abbas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Abbas of Latimer, Iowa, and Matt Feakes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Feakes of Winnipeg, Manitoba, were united in marriage Sept. 6. The ceremony was performed by David Gilbert, Waterloo and Mason City, Iowa, pastor. Michelle Abbas, twin sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Terry Howell was best man. The couple live in Winnipeg.



GARY & JEANNIE WELDON
Jeannie Roeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Roeth, and Gary Weldon, son of William Weldon and Ron and Carolyn Walters, were united in marriage July 19. The ceremony was performed by Dale Schurter, Tipp City, Ohio, pastor. Amy Sargent was matron of honor, and Jay Richie was best man. The couple live in Tipp City.



JON & YVONNE HAAPASAARI
Yvonne Dilts, daughter of Gail Wolstenholme, and Jon Haapasaaari, son of Allen and Lori Haapasaaari, were united in marriage Sept. 6. The ceremony was performed by Paul Butler, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and Alamosa, Colorado, pastor. The couple live in Colorado Springs.



ROGER & CINDY BELLAMY
Cindy Plese, daughter of John and Nickie Plese of Sacramento, California, and Roger Bellamy, son of Gerald and Bonnie Bellamy of Ontario, California, were united in marriage Dec. 21, 1991. The ceremony was performed by John Elliott, Palm Springs and San Bernardino, California, pastor. Lizz Allison and Larinda Negri were maid and matrons of honor, and Chris and Samson Bellamy were best man. The couple live in Rancho Mirage, California.

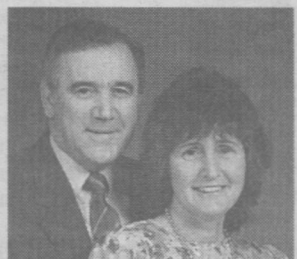


DARWIN & CHERYL SANOY
Gerald and Joan Piotrowski of Schwenksville, Pennsylvania, are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter Cheryl Ann to Darwin John Sanoy, son of Bill and Jean Sanoy of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The ceremony was performed July 12 by Larry Woodbridge, Souderton and Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, pastor. Christine Piotrowski, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Clayton Houghton was best man. The couple live in Big Sandy.



GEORGE & RITA BURNETTE
George and Rita Burnette of Springfield, Tennessee, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Oct. 20. They have eight children, George III, Michele, Kim-

berly, Sheila, Mark, Pam, Jeff and Candy; and five grandchildren, Joshua, Jeffery, Stacie, Charles and Matthew.



BARRY & THELMA BOURNE
Barry and Thelma Bourne of London, England, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Oct. 28. They have two children, Alison Caroline and Malcolm. Mr. Bourne is the pastor of the London North and Basildon, England, churches.



GENE & PAT MORRIS
Gene and Pat Morris of Los Gatos, California, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Oct. 19. They have two children and two grandchildren.



BOB & RANDENA ROLLER
Bob and Randena Roller of Tulsa, Oklahoma, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Oct. 26. They have five daughters, Dena Tremble, Esther Myers, Debbie Andrews, Sarah and Daretta; one son, Bryce; three sons-in-law, Steve Tremble, Robert Myers Jr. and Douglas Andrews; and three grandchildren, Andrew, Joshua and Elizabeth.



CHARLES & NADINE KNOWLTON
Charles and Nadine Knowlton of Marietta, Ohio, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary Oct. 18. They have two sons, Brent and Ron; three daughters, Sherry, Charla and Merry; and seven grandchildren. Mr. Knowlton is pastor of the Marietta and Athens, Ohio, churches.



PAUL & JANE SUCKLING
Paul and Jane Suckling of Borehamwood, England, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Oct. 15 at the Feast in Ulladulla, Australia. They were joined by family members, Arthur and Marsha Suckling and John and Fiona Larkin. The Sucklings have one daughter, Sarah; one son, Andrew; and one son-in-law, Grant.



RON & DORIS HAINES
Ron and Doris Haines of Wellington, Kansas, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary Nov. 1. They have four children, Beth Holm, Barbie Campbell, Steve and Mark; and seven grandchildren.



STEPHEN & CHARLENE SEACHORD
Stephen and Charlene Seachord of Plano, Texas, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Sept. 30. They have two daughters, Melissa and Donna Marie; one son, Stephen Jr.; one son-in-law, Philip Renshaw; and one grandson, Thomas. Mr. Seachord is a deacon in the Dallas, Texas, North church.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

We'd like to let readers 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. Baby announcements should be no more than six months old.



Our coupon baby this month is Joshua Ludvig Carson, son of Andre and Lisa Carson of Raleigh, North Carolina.

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

Please write your *Worldwide News* subscription number here:

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|---|--------|---|--|
| 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 12-92

ANNIVERSARIES MADE OF GOLD



BRUCE & LILA COULSON
Bruce and Lila Coulson of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 23. They have one daughter, Sharon; one son-in-law, Archie; and two grandchildren, Sarah and Kirah.



ARTHUR & ROSE BERNARDINO
Arthur and Rose Bernardino of El Monte, California, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Dec. 17. They have six children, 14 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.



KLEM & ZILPHA RANDALL
Klem and Zilpha Randall of Le Sueur, Minnesota, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Nov. 20. They have five children, 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



JACK & FRAN STOREY
Jack and Fran Storey of Odessa, Ontario, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 5. Kingston, Ontario, brethren surprised them with a party following Sabbath services Oct. 31. Mr. and Mrs. Storey serve as local church elder and deaconess in the Kingston church.



AMALIA HERNANDEZ
HERNANDEZ, Amalia, 75, of Pasadena, died Nov. 9 of complications following a heart attack she suffered in late September. She is survived by two sons, Manuel Cisneros and Herbert Cisneros, pastor of the San Salvador, El Salvador, church; two daughters-in-

law; and seven grandchildren. MACLIAM, Patricia Noreen, 52, of Nottingham, England, died Oct. 14 after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by one brother, Terry; one sister, Maureen; and one daughter, Sharon.

COMPTON, Francis Milton, 88, of Big Sandy, died Oct. 28. He is survived by his wife, Ethelyn.

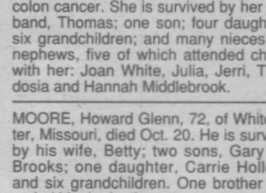
JOHNSON, Dorothy G., 79, of Houston, Texas, died Oct. 2 of a massive brain hemorrhage. She is survived by five children, one daughter-in-law, one son-in-law and 14 grandchildren. Her husband, George, died in 1978.



HELOISE BORST
BORST, Heloise, 72, of Cable, Illinois, died Oct. 20 after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by three daughters, Phyllis Reed, Janet Fox and Linda Hall; one son, Leon; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; her mother, Blanche Woolley; and one brother, Wilber Woolley.



MARINUS KOEKOEK
KOEKOEK, Marinus, 79, of Brantford, Ontario, died July 25 of a massive heart attack. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Johanna; 11 children; 31 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; eight in-laws; three brothers; and five sisters.



EATON, Shirley, 56, died Aug. 29 of colon cancer. She is survived by her husband, Thomas; one son; four daughters; six grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews, five of which attended church with her: Joan White, Julia, Jerri, Theodosia and Hannah Middlebrook.



FILOMENA ANNIBALE
ANNIBALE, Filomena, 80, of Orangeville, Ontario, died Oct. 26. She is survived by four sons, Giovanni, Ugo, Giosue and Franco; three daughters, Italia, Brigida and Elena; and Emma; three sons-in-law, Divinangelo, Giuseppe and Luke; 21 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Domenico and Alessandro Ragni. Her husband, Domenico, died Nov. 28 of lung cancer. He is survived by three daughters, Rosemary, Jean and Cecil; and one sister, Margaret. Two sisters preceded her in death.

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

UPDATE

Southeast ministry attends conference

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas—Ministers and wives from the south-central region of the United States met for a conference here Dec. 15 to 17.

Speakers were **Joseph Tkach Jr.**, director of Church Administration; **Dean Blackwell** from Church Administration; **Victor Kubik**, an assistant director of Church Administration; **Bill Jacobs**, YOU coordinator; **Michael Feazell**, executive assistant to the pastor general; and **Ronald Kelly**, manager of Editorial Services.

Ministers and employees honored for quarter century of service

Two ministers and three employees received plaques and watches Dec. 3 at a Ministerial Refreshing Program banquet in Pasadena.

Honored for 25 years of service to the Church were **Clarice Crossen**, who works in the Legal Office; **David Dixon** and **Roger Lippross**, employees of Computer Information Systems; **Earl Roe-**

mer, Tulsa, Oklahoma, A.M. and P.M. pastor; and **Hugh Wilson**, Fort Collins, Colorado, and Cheyenne, Wyoming, pastor.

Four ministers received 25-year plaques and watches at the Southwest regional conference in Palm Springs, California, in November.

They are **Jerold Aust**, Garden Grove, California, associate pastor; **Judd Kirk**, Long Beach, California, pastor; **Michael Swagerty**, Sacramento, California, North and South pastor; and **Larry Walker**, El Paso, Texas, and Las Cruces, New Mexico, pastor.

In addition, **Lowell Blackwell**, a local church elder in the Plymouth, Indiana, church, received his 25-year plaque in Pasadena Nov. 14.

Grover C. Petty, a local church elder in the Uniontown, Pennsylvania, church, was presented his plaque in Morgantown, West Virginia, Sept. 28.

Boston church to celebrate 25th anniversary

BOSTON, Massachusetts—Brethren who have previously attended the Boston church are invited to attend the 25th anniversary of the church here April 10.

Scheduled activities are an

afternoon Sabbath service with a guest speaker from headquarters, hors d'oeuvres, a picture show of 25 years of Boston church activities and an evening dinner dance at the Sheraton Tara in Framingham, Massachusetts.

For further information and dinner dance reservations, write to **Gary McConaughy** at 7 Maid Marion St., Oxford, Massachusetts, 01540, or call him at 1-508-987-1998.

If you have any photos or slides of Boston church activities that could be used for the picture show, please call **John Gordon** at 1-603-889-1958.

Springfield young adults hosts at social

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts—The Springfield young adults group invites singles, YOU members age 16 and over, and married couples to "Mix '93," Feb. 20 and 21 at Bellamy Middle School in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

Saturday activities are Sabbath services, dinner and dancing. Sunday activities are a continental breakfast followed by a question-and-answer Bible study, entertainment, lunch and co-ed volleyball, board games and fellowship until 3 p.m.

The cost is \$20 a person or \$35 for a newly married couple, not including hotel and travel expenses.

Send payment by Feb. 6 to **David Gartska**, 41 Cold Spring Rd., Southampton, Massachusetts, 01073. Checks should be made

payable to the Springfield Activity Fund.

If you are interested in member housing, maps, sign-up lists, schedules and a list of hotels, please call **Ed Zuzgo** at 1-413-567-0169.

Member Lloyd Hayden honored for community service

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania—Member **Lloyd Hayden**, 71, became the first recipient Sept. 22 of the Caring Award, presented by the Allegheny County United Way.

Tom Beaver, IBM's (International Business Machines) area community relations manager, created the award after meeting Mr. Hayden Sept. 1 at the United Way's Day of Caring, when volunteers helped others.

Mr. Beaver and his volunteer group of IBM employees painted a 198-unit county housing complex at Sheldon Park.

Mr. Hayden, chairman of Sheldon Park Residents Council Committee, is a member of the Allegheny Valley YMCA board of directors.

"He made an impression on me and on my volunteer group in the six hours we were there," Mr. Beaver said. "Guys like Lloyd go unsung day after day."

If something needs to be done there, he takes the initiative to do it, whether it's painting and repairs or helping building a true community, said **Dauphin Rowda**, a community services educator for Family Services.

"They always say it only takes one person to get something going," Ms. Rowda said. "Sheldon Park should be happy they have Lloyd to get things going."

Chris Jasper inducted into Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

WESTCHESTER, New York—**Chris Jasper**, a member here, was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in January for his accomplishments as a former member of the recording group, The Isley Brothers.

Mr. Jasper, now a solo artist, has released his first gospel album titled, "Praise the Eternal," on his record label, Gold City Records.

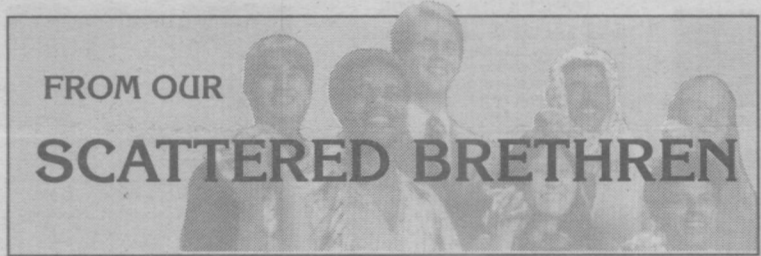
The album features a rendition of "Holy Mighty Majesty," a song composed by **Dwight Armstrong** for the Church's hymnal.

Mr. Jasper has performed selections from his album for special Sabbath music for congregations in the New York City area.

Freshman class leaders named at Ambassador

BIG SANDY—Ambassador College announced freshman class leaders for the 1992-93 academic year.

They are **Tom Young**, president, from Montgomery, Alabama; **Daniel Meek**, vice president, from Lawton, Oklahoma; and **Karen Bhagan**, freshman Women's Club representative from Port of Spain, Trinidad.



FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

"That He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

Home of the kiwi: brethren hopeful despite tough times

For New Zealand residents, being isolated from the rest of the world has its pluses and minuses. The country lies in the South Pacific Ocean, 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) southeast of its nearest neighbor, Australia.

"It's a plus in the sense that we're insulated from a lot of the problems in the world because we are a long way from them," said **Dennis Richards**, pastor of the

world plus pay for the cost to ship the products long distances. As a nation, we have to be extremely efficient."

He continued: "Because we are exporting to distant countries, we have to be aware of what is going on in a lot of different markets."

"Our news media contain a good deal of international news and as a whole, New Zealanders are quite knowledgeable about what's happening in other parts of the world."

Geography separates brethren

New Zealand is home to 1,100 Church members and families, and 13 congregations. Ten churches are on New Zealand's North Island, and three are on the more sparsely populated South Island.

With the exception of Auckland, most of the churches in New Zealand are in cities with populations around 10,000 to 50,000 people. Congregations average between 25 and 100 people.

Other than at the Feast of Tabernacles, brethren from the various congregations in New Zealand are rarely able to fellowship with one other.

It's a long drive between church areas, often with huge expanses of mountains in between.

"Going from the North Island

to the South Island can be especially difficult," said **Neville Fraser**, pastor of the Tauranga, Hamilton and Rotorua, New Zealand, churches.

"The water separating the two islands is an expensive piece of roadway as we say in New Zealand. It's only a few miles distance, but because of a monopoly in the ferry service, the prices are pretty high."

"To take a car across with a family will cost at least a couple hundred dollars. And it usually takes about four hours to cross."

Home of the kiwi

In Tauranga, kiwi fruit orchards dot the landscape. "A lot of our members here have part-time jobs on kiwi orchards, trimming the vines, picking the fruit and packing it," Mr. Fraser explained.

"It's been a good source of income for our YOU group. They've been working with several orchards in the area, earning money for SEP camp, and we've built a pretty good rapport with a couple of the farms."

New Zealand has a temperate climate, without extremes of heat or cold, or distinct wet and dry seasons. "Our temperatures, at least in the populated areas, are never extreme," Mr. Richards said.

Much of New Zealand's landscape is pastoral, and sheep outnumber humans 20 to one.

"One of the beauties of New Zealand is you can drive half an hour and the scenery completely changes many times. You go from a plain to gently rolling hills to a thermal area to a wooded forest, and then it becomes almost desertlike," he said.

Impact of unemployment

New Zealand has been in a serious economic recession since the mid-1980s. The cost of living is steadily increasing. The unemployment rate, which in years past had

been at zero or one percent, is around 11 percent.

"It's had quite an impact on people here. For years we always had full employment because of the government running most of the major commercial enterprises," Mr. Fraser explained.

"In the last few years that has dramatically turned around. The government has corporatized a lot of these enterprises and of course one of the first things new management did was lay off staff."

"Nobody feels secure about



NEVILLE & CAROL FRASER

their jobs anymore," he added. "It used to be that when you started your job, you knew in 40 years you'd get a watch when you retired. That is no longer always the case."

As a means of coping economically, more and more New Zealanders are becoming part-time farmers.

"Quite a number of brethren live on what we call life-style blocks, where a couple has about 10 acres of land and a house, not with the purpose of totally supporting themselves, but just to supplement their main income," Mr. Fraser said.

"Normally the person has a full-time job in town, and then ducks out to the country when he goes home at night. It really does enhance your life-style because you have fresh milk, vegetables and meat, and you get to live out in the country."

The elderly are especially con-

cerned about their economic futures. Because of government finances, the national pension program started in New Zealand during the 1950s, is gradually being done away with.

That has our elderly brethren quite concerned, Mr. Fraser said. "You go through life working, depending on this pension when you retire. People in their late 40s and 50s are worried because they know their pension will not be there for them, yet they do not have enough working lives left to make any sort of investment to keep them in their old age."

"So economic concerns are by far the biggest concern for our brethren, but so far, everyone seems to be managing."

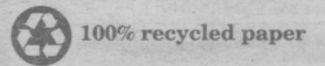
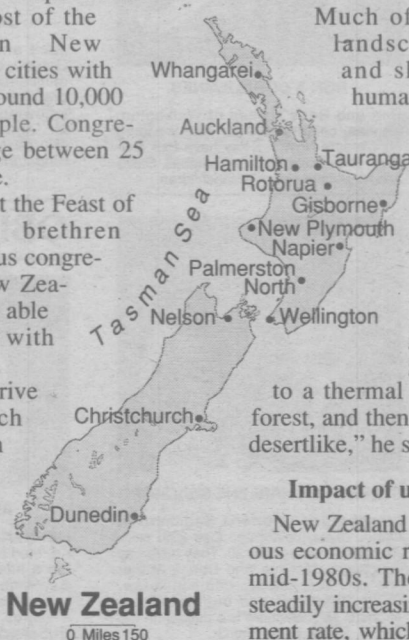


SUSAN & DENNIS RICHARDS

Palmerston North, New Plymouth and Napier, New Zealand, churches.

"Sometimes people move to New Zealand because they want to get away from a potential nuclear holocaust, which they think will happen in the Northern Hemisphere, and New Zealand's about as far away as you can get."

Being isolated makes life more difficult for trade, Mr. Richards said. "New Zealanders have to undersell products to the rest of



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