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Evangelical Visitor - August 10, 1974 Vol. LXXXVII. No. 15.

John E. Zercher

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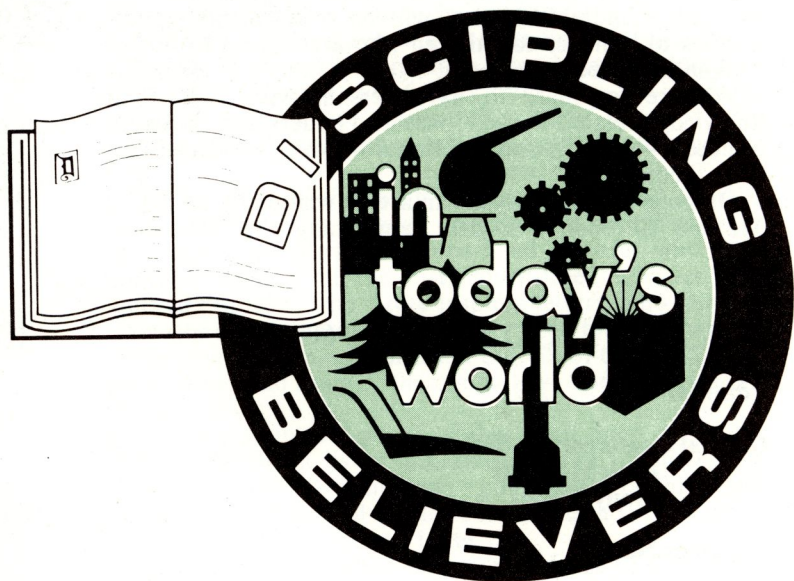
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Messiah University is a Christian university of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. Our mission is to educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society.

Evangelical VISITOR

August 10, 1974



**1974
BIENNIAL
CONFERENCE**



From the Editor

The editor assumes, rightly or wrongly, that congregational delegates to the General Conference have already reported to the congregations. So we have not used the *Visitor* as a medium for the reporting of the business of the Conference.

We have by means of photographs attempted to capture some of the "feel" of the Conference, some high moments, and some of the people.

Almost hidden in this issue (page 11) is a report on the enlarged ministry of the Messiah Children's Home. We need not repeat the statistics nor reiterate the facts which reflect the disintegration of the American family. Any public school teacher or any case worker can document that it is the children whose "teeth are set on edge" because their parents have "eaten sour grapes."

All of this means that Christian institutions, like Messiah Children's Home, will have increasing opportunities to minister to children who are victims of homes broken by divorce or death.

We are fortunate to have persons with vision and knowledge related to the Home who understand the depth of need — spiritual and emotional — which children bring with them.

On page ten there begins an article written by a Form 3 Matopo Secondary student concerning the Mtshabezi

Youth Camp. Unfortunately most of the readers of this article will be unable to visualize the setting of this camp. One reaches the site over rough, narrow, and winding road (as is the case for most good camping sites) and across several stream beds. And there it is — a large open space surrounded on three sides by large rock outcroppings that tower high over the area. The fourth side is open for a distance but has a range of mountains (hills) as a not too distant backdrop.

Within this camping area was a round thatched roof structure that was the meeting house for the camp. It was one of the most beautiful buildings Mrs. Zercher and I saw during our last summer's trip. Patterned after the round thatched roofed huts, traditional to the culture, supported by huge timbers that converge at the 25 foot peak; and covered with six-inch thatching; this building belonged there in a way that a traditional western church structure did not.

It would have been a great place for a Central Conference Youth Retreat — if we could somehow overcome the logistics!

COVER: John Schock, Chairman of the Conference Entertainment Committee, presents a plaque to Moderator Bishop Charlie B. Byers in the opening session of the Conference.

The plaque reads:

Presented by the Canadian Conference to Bishop Charlie B. Byers, Moderator of the First Biennial General Conference Brethren in Christ Church.

June 29-July 4, 1974 Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada

Bishop C. B. Byers installs Bishop Roy V. Sider as moderator for the 1974-76 Biennium in the closing session of the Conference.

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Editorial | 3 |
| General Conference Is Business | 4 |
| High Moments | 5 |
| Many Things | 6 |
| Religious News | 7 |
| The Mini-Missionary | 8 |
| Leoda Buckwalter | |
| I am Fifteen Months Old | 8 |
| Carty Young | |
| Bus Tour Reflection | 9 |
| Verna Mae Ressler | |
| Soul Food | 9 |
| Lorne Ruegg | |
| The Other Missionary | 10 |
| Miriam Stern | |
| Mtshabezi Youth Camp | 10 |
| Thando Dube | |
| Children's Home Enlarges Ministry | 11 |
| James Leshner | |
| Growing a Sunday School | 12 |
| John Arthur Brubaker | |
| The Younger Generation at Conference | 13 |
| Church News | 14 |
| General Conference Is People | 16 |

Evangelical Visitor

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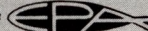
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The Real Proof

OVERZEALOUS preachers and writers have tended to convey the impression that the infilling of the Holy Spirit will equip us to preach like Peter and pray like Paul. And if we cannot or do not, we have not really been filled with the Spirit.

The argument is familiar enough. Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Look at the sermon he preached. Look at the three thousand converts. Don't *you* want that same anointing?

And multitudes of people, lacking Peter's ability to preach or restore lame men or invoke a Gentile Pentecost, have concluded that for some reason God has bypassed them in the giving of the Spirit's fullness.

We would not encourage mediocrity in the Christian life. It is probably accurate to say that many who seek the fullness of the Holy Spirit are not filled. They will be well advised to continue their quest.

At the same time there is benefit in putting the Acts account into perspective so that we are not reading more into it than we should.

Jesus had twelve disciples. Their names are recorded by Matthew (10:2-4), Mark (3:16-19) and Luke (6:14-16; Acts 1:13). They were:

- Simon Peter
- James, son of Zebedee
- John, son of Zebedee
- Andrew, brother of Peter
- Philip
- Bartholomew (Nathanael?)
- Matthew
- Thomas
- James, son of Alphaeus
- Thaddaeus Lebbaeus Judas, son of James
- Simon the Zealot
- Judas Iscariot

All twelve had at least two and a half years of close fellowship with Jesus Christ while He was on earth. They listened to His discourses. They saw the miracles He performed. They heard Him pray. They were with Him in the climactic week of His passion. Except for Judas, who by then had died a suicide, they were present when He appeared after His resurrection. They saw Him ascend into heaven.

They were in the upper room together, continuing with one accord in prayer and supplication, waiting for the promise of the Father. They were together in one place when the Holy Spirit descended on the day of Pentecost.

Each of them was filled with the Holy Spirit. Each began to speak with another tongue as the Spirit gave him utterance.

Simon Peter is well known. He figures prominently in the Acts of the Apostles. He is mentioned by Paul in his letter to the Galatians. He is the human scribe of two New Testament letters bearing his name. He probably supplied much of the detail in Mark's Gospel.

James, son of Zebedee, was the first apostolic martyr. He died by Herod's sword (Acts 12:2) in A.D. 44.

August 10, 1974

John, son of Zebedee, is well known. From him we have not only the fourth Gospel but the three letters under his name and the Revelation. Tradition links him with the church at Ephesus and claims he died a natural death there at a very ripe age.

Matthew, though not mentioned after the first chapter of Acts, appears again as the writer of the first Gospel. We know nothing more of him.

Of these four — and Judas Iscariot — we have some knowledge. The other seven are alluded to only one more time in the Acts. In Acts 8:1 we learn that "the apostles" remained behind in Jerusalem when the rest of the church was scattered abroad following Stephen's martyrdom.

There are, of course, traditions. Andrew allegedly was crucified in Achaia on an X-shaped cross; hence, "Saint Andrew's cross." There are confused and contradictory reports concerning Philip. Thomas may have gone to what is now Iran. Later tradition places him as far east as India.

The silence of the Scriptures concerning the acts of these other seven apostles cannot be interpreted to mean that they did nothing. It is reasonable to assume that they had a supportive role in the Jerusalem church and probably in some of the Gentile churches as well.

But neither can we assume that all of them became firebrands like Simon Peter or beloved elder statesmen like John.

We can find in the Book of Acts Spirit-filled apostles who spoke with tongues, Spirit-filled apostles who preached great sermons, Spirit-filled apostles who were effective winners of the lost, Spirit-filled apostles who worked miracles, who wrote inspired letters, who founded churches and witnessed before rulers and faced a martyr's death. But there is no indication that all of them did all of these things and some of them may have done almost none of these things.

The one scriptural proof of the Spirit-filled life is the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22, 23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Peter enumerates a similar list in chapter one of his second letter.)

These qualities are the ultimate evidence of the Spirit-filled life.

—The Alliance Witness
H. Robert Cowles, Editor

Messiah Home

Open House—Chicken Barbecue

August 31, 1974

2:00 p.m.: Tour of Home and visiting of friends and relatives.

3:00 p.m.: Program of Information and Music:
Board of Trustees Chorus
Messiah Home Chorus
Information—Carlisle Site

4:00 p.m.: Auction of quilts, antiques, and other items.

5:00-6:30 p.m.: Chicken Barbecue (free will basis).

(Baked goods and crafts from Creative Therapy will be on sale all day.)

RAIN DATE—SEPTEMBER 7

General Conference Is . . .

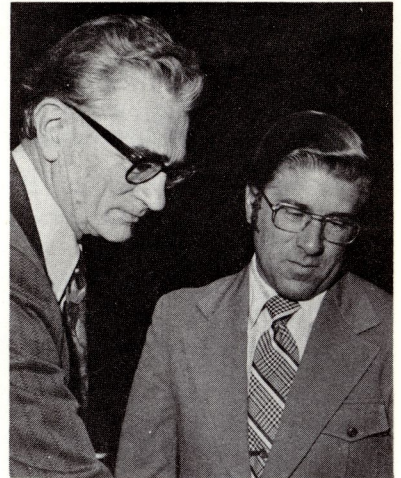


The Conference staff, reading left to right: Moderator Byers; Assistant Moderator Lehman; Paul Hostetler, Convention Director; Arthur M. Climenhaga, Conference Secretary; Robert Climenhaga (standing), Reading Clerk; John A. Byers, Recording Secretary; Jim Ernst, Assistant Recording Secretary; Fred Holland, Compiling Secretary.



Bishop C. B. Byers (right) Moderator, welcomes Simon Lehman, Jr., as the Assistant Moderator.

BUSINESS

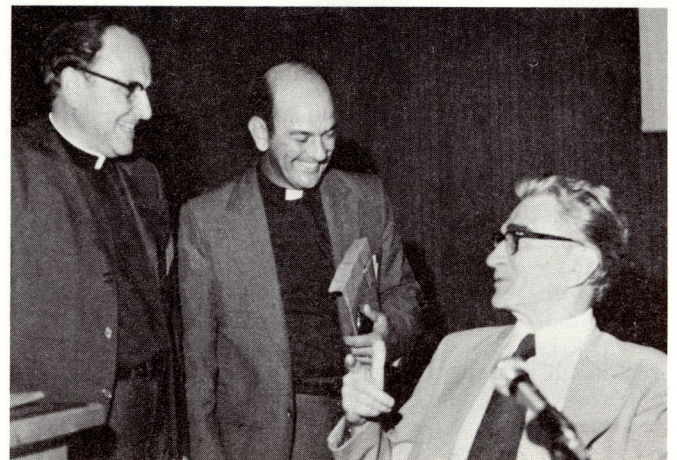


Arthur Climenhaga (left) checks an item with Ray Musser, Secretary of the Commission on Stewardship and Finance, elected at the Conference as Treasurer, Board of Administration.



Office Staff: (left to right) Joyce Ginder, Dorothy Fries, Ethel Bundy, and Lona Climenhaga.

Moderators Byers and Lehman with Secretary Climenhaga during one of the lighter moments.





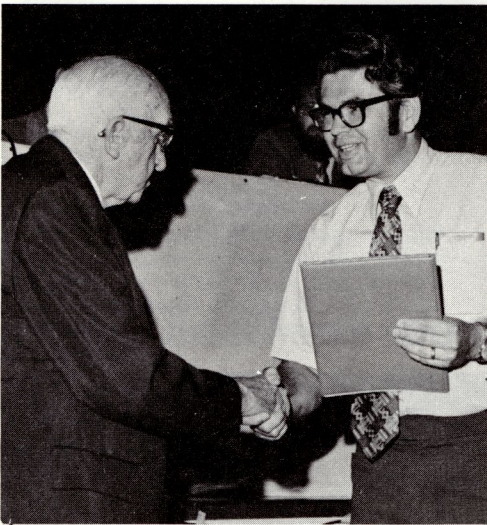
Don Shafer, Bishop of the Midwest and Pacific Conferences, brings the Conference Sermon on the Sunday evening of Conference.



Present at the Conference were the men who have served as bishops since the reorganization in 1957.

Front row, left to right: Present Bishops Charlie B. Byers, Henry A. Ginder, David Climenhaga, Roy V. Sider, R. Don Shafer.

Back row: E. J. Swalm, Carl J. Ulery, Arthur M. Climenhaga, Alvin C. Burkholder, J. N. Hostetter.



Bishop E. J. Swalm's retirement from the Transportation Committee marked the completion of 50 years during which he had served on a denomination board or committee. A spontaneous response by younger members of the Conference to Bishop Swalm's long service to the church and his influence resulted in a tribute read and presented to him. Keith Ulery read and presented the tribute.

"No man is an island" wrote John Donne. "We are one in the Spirit" says an unknown songwriter. "Where two or three gather together in my name, there I am in the midst" said Jesus.



HIGH MOMENTS



Music — congregational and special — was a high light of the Conference. Here members of the Common Bond share with the Conference.

General Conference Is . . .

Testimony and Song



The congregation from Messiah College presented "Come Together" on Sunday afternoon.

The Laying on of Hands



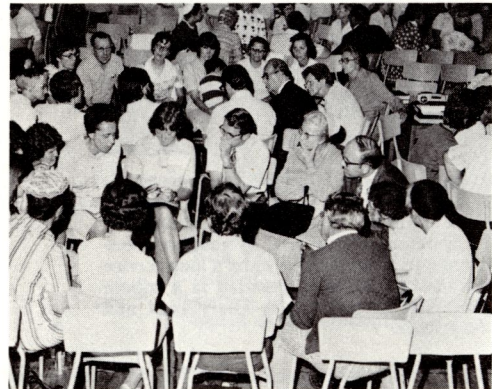
Missionaries under appointment and present at the Conference had hands laid on them by representatives of their home congregation in a consecration service planned by the Board for Missions.

Workshops



A panel of pastors and laymen share in an Evangelism Workshop on Tuesday afternoon.

Discussion Groups



The emphasis was on involvement rather than passively listening. Here are discussion groups as part of the session on "The Role of Women."

Lively Issues

A panel gave input into one of the "Lively Issues" — "The Role of Women." From left to right: Dorothy Gish, Lucille Dayton, Eva Byers, Alice Buckwalter, Ruth Schiedel, Dorcas Climenhaga, and Wilmer Heisey.



Religious News

Bibles for Airliners

A program to put free Bibles on board every commercial airline in the United States has been launched by former astronaut James Irwin.

In 1971, Irwin spent three days on the moon with the Apollo 15 space project. There "God touched my life in a very deep and meaningful way," Irwin was quoted in the Dallas Morning News.

Irwin came back to earth to find the flight "had changed my life."

In 1972, Irwin retired from the military to found an evangelistic crusade in Colorado Springs, Colo., under the name "High Flight." Irwin said he is now sharing the Word of God in various national meetings, plus the new Bibles-on-board aircraft project.

The New Testament in modern English is described as a colorful Bible called, "The Highest Flight." A Dallas couple underwrites cost of the airliner Testaments published by World Home Bible League.

Christian College Is Beneficiary

The late Agnes Moorehead, popular stage and screen actress, left the bulk of her estate to a school at Siloam Springs, Ark., according to officials of John Brown University, a nondenominational Christian institution.

The university has not determined the total inheritance value, but officials have been told Miss Moorehead's 310-acre farm near Rex Mills, Ohio is valued at \$250,000.

Miss Moorehead, a Los Angeles resident, heard about the school seven years ago when she listened to a school-owned radio station in Long Beach, Calif.

In recent years, Miss Moorehead was best known as "Endora" in the "Bewitched" television series.

Scientists Puzzled By Prayer for Plants

Scientists continued to be puzzled by seeming advantages of praying over plants and seeds, according to a story in the Pittsburg Press.

Two Sundays after a prayer circle prayed over a bottle of spring water then used on a pan of eight corn kernels, the participants saw a seven-to-three margin of growth over a similar planting where prayer had not been offered.

Three kernels sprouted in the un-prayed-for pan of eight corn kernels; seven of the eight kernels in the blessed pan were growing, the observers reported.

The controversy over significance of prayer for plants began in 1952 when the Religious Research Foundation of America, Inc., conducted an experiment along that line.

Scientists contacted were divided on the issue of whether the prayers are effective in themselves, whether the tone of praying

voice affects the plants or if there is some other explanation.

Alcohol Abuse Growing

A 219-page report on alcohol and health shows that the United States is losing more than \$25 billion a year on alcoholism and related problems. And student abuse of alcohol is accelerating.

Control laws are not effective in dealing with alcohol problems, added Dr. Morris E. Chafetz. He is director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, chairman of the task force which prepared the report.

Figures released show 36 percent of high school students indicate getting drunk a minimum of four times annually. One in seven high school senior boys claim getting drunk once weekly.

Several recent studies show that occasional teenage drinking is nearly universal, Dr. Chafetz said. A sharp increase in this trend has been recorded in recent years.

Urban Ministries, CME Church, Sign Literature Agreement

Urban Ministries, the first predominantly black-owned independent publisher of Christian Education literature, has entered into an agreement with the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church to supply curriculum literature.

Dr. William R. Johnson, Jr., newly-appointed General Secretary of the CME's Christian Education Division, said that under the agreement the church's 400,000-member body has endorsed and will distribute UMI products to its constituents for use in the church's 2,500 Sunday schools throughout the United States.

Officials called the UMI literature a "new concept in biblical study, utilizing biblical truths in the black idiom (which) merges the Christian faith with the black experience and speaks directly to you." They called it "biblically sound, set in our own heritage, and life oriented."

President of Urban Ministries, Inc., is Melvin E. Banks; board chairman is Tom Skinner of Tom Skinner associates. Richard Linyard, president of Seaway National Bank of Chicago, serves as treasurer of UMI.

Ultra-Orthodox Postal Workers Refuse "Missionary" Mailings

Postal workers in the northern Israeli town of Safad — most of them described as ultra-Orthodox Jews — have refused to distribute two bags of mail containing Christian "missionary" materials.

They have reportedly persisted in their refusal, with the backing of the town's chief rabbi, despite a direct order from the local postmaster that the mail be delivered.

Sydney Harris Questions Advice Of Doctor, Clergyman

People with emotional, marital or sexual problems are advised to "turn to your doctor or clergyman" for counseling and help.

Why? asks Columnist Sydney J. Harris, admitting he never knows whether to laugh

or cry when such advice is handed the disturbed.

Most doctors and clergyman in our society "are no more qualified by training or temperament to give such counseling than a plumber can fix a Eustachian tube," he argues.

"The suicide and divorce rate of doctors, dentists and other professionals is higher than that of almost any other occupation," Harris pointed out.

As for clergymen, he sees them "so spiritually minded that they tend to turn psychological problems into ethical problems, and usually propose 'faith' as futilely as the physicians propose pills."

Harris concluded that because of the obvious deficiencies in the medical and theological professions, millions of Americans have turned to a "wild variety of emotional nostrums, from yoga and meditation to transactional groups and sensitivity training." People are "desperate for help," he said, "and are willing to try any psychological cure."

Nurse Will Return To Help Her Captors

A 24-year-old woman who saw her companion shot and killed by guerrillas and was herself a prisoner for 26 days has announced she intends to return as a missionary nurse to Ethiopia.

Deborah Dortzbach, 24, of Philadelphia, Pa., said first she and her husband expect to spend a year in the United States. Her child will be born and her husband will return to seminary during that time, she explained.

"I hold nothing against those people," she was quoted in the Seattle Times. She said that "my time in captivity shows how much they all need help."

She was sustained by quoting Psalms after the guerrillas shot a 55-year-old woman companion in the head when she could not keep up with the band which had captured the two women.

Nation's Capital Gets A "First" Memorial Statue

The first memorial to a black American and a woman erected in a public park at the nation's capital honors the late Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune.

The bronze statue to the black educator and human rights champion was unveiled July 10 in Lincoln Park in Washington, D.C. She died in 1955.

She was a member of the United Methodist Women, an organization which gave \$100,000 of the \$400,000 memorial's cost.

Olympic Champion Makes Commitment to Christ

Blonde teenager Shane Gould, Australia's top woman swimmer and winner of three gold medals at the 1972 Olympics, has made a public declaration for Christ.

Retired from competitive swimming after her triumphs in Munich, Germany, Miss Shane said in a television interview that she believed "Christ's way was the right way."

The Mini-Missionaries

Leoda Buckwalter

THE Mother Superior of a Roman Catholic convent in Ranchi, Bihar, finished her letter. Then she addressed the envelope in a clear, firm hand — HOUSE OF JOY, BOX 6, NEW DELHI. With a smile of anticipation she placed the letter in its cover and posted it.

That letter came to my desk. A listener of Keyboard Melodies, my piano program, Mother Barbara expressed appreciation for the music and asked for a copy of the poem I had read. I answered quickly . . . her letter had touched my heart. I treasure the personal freedom which I have to read the Word of God, so with my letter I slipped in six small tracts — Ready References. And as the letter went into the mail I prayed that these mini-missionaries would do a maxi-work for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mother Barbara answered prompt-

Allen and Leoda Buckwalter, supported by the Board for Missions, work with the Far East Broadcasting Associates — India.

ly. She thanked me for the Ready References, mentioning that she kept one for herself and passed the others to the Sisters. But they had no New Testaments in which to paste the little reminders of what to find where and when. Please, she wrote, would I send six New Testaments to accompany the Ready References?

We had some pocket New Testaments on hand, so six of them went to Ranchi by the next mail. I wondered whether the story was complete.

Several months later another letter reached me. "Please allow me to introduce myself," wrote Sister Margaret. "I am one of the nuns who received a New Testament from Mother Barbara." In charge of a Teachers' Training College out in the district, she heads a staff of 13. The student body numbers well over a hundred girls. In the whole training college she was the only one who owned a New Testament! And many others, seeing her copy, asked for the

Word of God so that they, too, could read for themselves. So Sister Margaret wrote, asking me to please send her 162 New Testaments!

But I had only 12 left. No funds with which to buy more! I sent the 12, then told my friends. A missionary doctor with a kind heart heard the story, went to his storeroom and brought a box of 100 New Testaments. Off to the Training College they went.

We waited, and prayed. We weren't disappointed. Sister Margaret's letter contained an ecstatic response. "Thank you for the beautiful gift. God bless your Apostolate," said she.

A warm feeling welled up within me. Exposed to the warmth of the sun's rays, a seedling grows up into a tree, tall and strong. Who can tell what might happen to staff and students in this training college? They are now under the influence of the Word of God. Discouragement fled, as I was reminded of God's way with the mustard seed.

I Am Fifteen Months Old

Carty Young

I WAS A sinner for forty years. Twenty of these I was an alcoholic. I got started as a teen by having a beer a day. I carried a couple of pints of hard liquor in my car and drank up to three pints a day, five days a week. Over the weekends I couldn't keep count. I knew I was a slave. I tried AA and the medical profession, to no avail. I was in jail at least three times — driving while intoxicated and drunk in public. I "totaled" four automobiles. I paid taxes on \$18,000 a year but never accumulated a cent.

I gradually came to recognize I needed a change. However, I wanted both the old life and the new together.

I found that impossible, so I dropped the whole idea. I went to see a show on one occasion but Jimmy Swaggart was not altogether a "showman"; his testimony impressed me.

I finally had my last drunken spree. I began drinking on Friday and drank throughout Friday night. Despite a big hangover on Saturday, I decided to mow the lawn. My Christian wife had talked, cried, prayed, begged, and lived before me, but until now I had spurned God's love. While I was mowing, my wife put a record on the phonograph that could be heard outside where I was working. Andrae Crouch was singing "You don't know

what you're missing 'till you find the Lord" and I could stand it no longer. I parked the mower and made my way one block down to the Valley View Brethren in Christ Church where a spring cleaning was going on. There Calvin Hamblin, Jr. and Preacher White took me to the study and I found the Lord. That was on May 6, of 1973, and I went home to my wonderful wife a new man on our Anniversary Day.

I received assurance there in the pastor's study. I was completely delivered from drink. There I started living. Life took on new meaning. Heaven came into our "tottering" home. I am fifteen months old and two of my old buddies have come to know the Lord, too.

Now I'm trying to catch up at the church I love, Valley View. I serve as head usher, assistant superintendent, church secretary, and am on the church board.

All praise to Him Who reigns above!

Bus Tour Reflections

Verna Mae Ressler

June 1 . . . 6:30 a.m. . . . 44 people left on a chartered bus from the Cross Roads church. Destination: New York City — Fellowship Chapel and Spring Lake Retreat. The trip was planned by the Spring Lake Retreat board of directors and was hosted by Mahlon and Catherine Fry and Isaac Kanode.

We arrived at Fellowship Chapel about 10:30, with the staff giving us a tour of the mission and serving us a tasty lunch.

Then at 1:30 we boarded the bus with Alvin Book and Premnath Dick as guides for a tour of the city. They showed us some of the wealthiest, poorest, safest, and most wicked parts of New York City. Everywhere we looked we saw buildings, vehicles and people, people, people . . . all ages and races . . . some leaning out of windows of tall apartment buildings . . . children roaming the streets . . . everybody doing his own thing. The afternoon also included a boat ride around Manhattan, followed by dinner at a steak house.

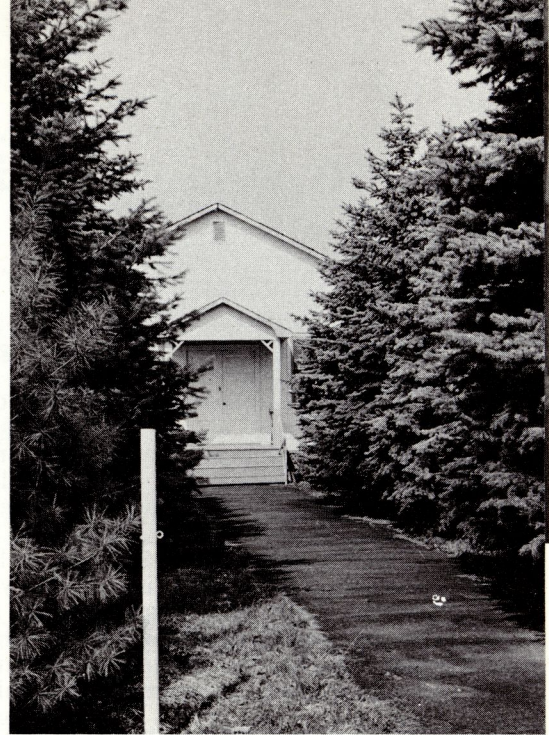
About 7:30 p.m. we headed out of the city toward Spring Lake Retreat. What a contrast to the city! Here the staff workers have the opportunity to get close to the New York City

children as they study the Word of God, eat, play, and sleep together. We were all impressed with the facilities and beauty of the camp.

We were housed in the Lodge, a building which can accommodate about 50 people, with a beautiful living room, spacious dining room and kitchen. (There are four dormitories in addition to the Lodge). We had Sunday school in the Lodge living room and a worship service in the Chapel — the first Brethren in Christ service held in the Chapel. Brother Arthur Brubaker, a tour member, challenged us with a message on the compassion of Christ for the multitudes. What about us? Do we care about the multitudes in New York City? Christ does. He died for them, too.

We returned home Sunday evening, thankful for the privilege of becoming more aware of the great harvest field, but saddened that much of the harvest is going to waste because the laborers are too few. What is our part? Certainly I cannot say the Lord didn't call me to pray for those who are there. Many can share financially, and no doubt the Lord will ask some to give themselves in service in New York.

Other bus trips are being planned to



The chapel entrance, guarded by tall evergreens, at Spring Lake Retreat.

acquaint people with the work and program in New York. If you have a chance to go, don't miss it. You will be glad you went.

Bus tours from central Pennsylvania to New York City are planned for Sept. 14-15 and 28-29. \$25 covers all expenses. For more information contact Mahlon Fry, R. D. 1, Elizabethtown, (717) 367-2468.

Soul Food

Lorne Ruegg

I'm involved in a feeding program. It was through this feeding program that I first met Mark. We have grown to be friends, and although our paths do not often cross, we are corresponding.

Compared to some African countries, there is no scarcity of food in Zambia. Our feeding program is not to feed the body, but the soul.

The writer with his family are completing a two and one half year VS assignment at the Choma Secondary School, Zambia.

August 10, 1974

Mark was a student at Monze Boys' School, a government school about 65 miles from Choma. I was asked to visit Monze on a monthly basis to conduct a short service and fellowship with the Brethren in Christ boys there. For many of them this was the only contact with the mother church. Among the young men was Mark.

Shortly after my visits started, Mark appeared at my door one day. After our greetings and salutations (which must not be overlooked or hurried in Africa), Mark got around to telling me that some of the boys had never been baptized, and as they had experienced salvation, they wanted to follow the teachings of Christ.

During the next several months extra trips were made to Monze. We spent much time studying the Word and when the time finally arrived for baptism, young men were ready to follow the example of Christ. Six of

the seven had attended our Brethren in Christ primary schools, but the other one had no Christian instruction or influence previous to his association with these Christian fellows at Monze school.

Mark and others of the group have now finished high school and are looking for work. Some have moved to distant cities for employment. Mark has found work in the capital city, Lusaka, and is aggressively seeking out people for Christian fellowship.

As our "feeding program" continues in a number of government schools here in Zambia, we do pray that those who leave school will find a place of Christian fellowship and and nourishment, that they will continue with their private worship and not starve for lack of spiritual pasture. Christ said, "Feed my lambs; feed my sheep." (John 21:15-17)

The Other Missionary

Miriam K. Stern

REMEMBER the first time you said goodbye to your family and left for an overseas assignment? Or perhaps you were one who stayed behind and with blurred vision watched the ocean liner or jet carry your loved one off to lands unknown to you. Whether going or staying, remember the tug at the strings of your heart — that lump of something in your throat which made speech difficult — eyes brimming with tears which you tried to hide by wearing sunglasses?

When loved ones separate for a long time, there is always that gnawing realization that you may never meet again on earth. With people in health and in the prime of life, the possibility of reunion is bright. But as the years pass and repeated departures become a part of one's normal routine, an awareness suddenly comes upon you that your parents are no longer young, their lifestyle has changed and old homesteads are exchanged for smaller, more convenient living quarters.

It is at this point that two Scriptures come conflicting into the missionary's mind: "He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me" (Matt. 10:37a), and "If any provide not . . . for those of his own house, he . . . is worse than an infidel" (I Tim. 5:8). It is not easy to balance the scales of your conscience as you seek to fulfill your duty both to God and your parents.

May I share a personal experience? I was last born in a family of nine children. My father, delighted with having a second daughter at last, said to my mother, "Someone to care for us in our old age." They were both 45 years at the time.

As is often the case with the youngers of a large family, I was granted wider educational opportunities than most of my siblings. When my parents realized we felt God's call to foreign service, my mother was especially happy as she

now began to see the fulfillment of *her* call which came a bit late — at the turn of the century, young people were not expected to live within hearing distance of the Lord's voice. Knowing that I had a loyal sister 15 years my senior who would "look after" the folks gave an added sense of peace to our decision.

Through the years I often pondered the thought that those people are also missionaries who enable us to follow our God-given urges to serve Him in other lands. But it was not until a year ago that I felt these thoughts merited being in writing.

You see, my only sister (Mrs. Eber Hess, New Guilford congregation) went to be with the Lord. When the news reached us in faraway Africa, it seemed that the mainspring had gone out in the family timepiece. The memory of my father's words at my birth returned to point an indicting finger at me. So it was with a sense of wondering "what next?" that I joined my family to share with each other in our time of loss.

One day while sitting quietly with father, he calmly reassured me in his wisdom of 91 years that "there will be a way," and there was. Brothers and their wives came forward to lovingly do for Dad what had not been necessary for them to do before.

As I think of our missionary family around the world, I think each must have someone who fills the role of "the other missionary." Maybe as you read this, *you* fit into this category. We thank God for you who "stay by the stuff." Your name may be unsung and you may not be known outside your own church circle, but our all-seeing Father has not overlooked your loving service right where you are. You too will have your reward. It means a lot when you assure us that we are not to worry — and we don't, because *you* are there.

Mtshabezi Youth Camp

Thando Dube

I ATTENDED the sixth camp for the Brethren in Christ young people at Mtshabezi Mission this past holiday. The camp started on the 2nd May and ended on the 6th. The younger people had camp before we did, from 26th April to May 1.

The camp was attended by almost sixty people including nine advisers, both African and missionary. Most of the campers were students from Matopo and Mtshabezi and school leavers (students that no longer go to school).

The writer is a Form 3 student, Matopo Secondary School.

Camp was set up as soon as campers arrived. This included preparation of sleeping quarters and collection of firewood. A few of us thought we would loaf a lot so we were rather jostled to find we had a few tasks of chopping wood and carrying it to the fire place. Sleeping out-of-doors was not very pleasant, especially since the nights were biting cold and our blankets were soaking wet with dew by morning. But some of the campers thought this was exciting.

Our guest speakers were Rev. L. L. Keefer from Ekuphileni Bible Institute and Rev. N. Mnkandla from New Life for All. Rev. Keefer specialized on the

Mr. Keefer spoke about the questions "Where do I come from?" "Why am I here?" I just felt every question I had was being answered.

I wanted to go to the camp to have fellowship with other young people and learn more about spiritual living with confidence. The camp helped me to understand why I am here and that I should live a balanced life.

—Georgina Moyo
Third-year English Course
Ekuphileni Bible Institute

youth and the Church. Rev. Mnkandla spoke about the traditional church, advising us it is time for a change. He pointed out that in the traditional church everybody who comes to church knows exactly what the routine will be — singing of choruses, song, prayer, Scripture reading, maybe a

to page fourteen



Children's Home Enlarges Ministry

MESSIAH CHILDREN'S HOME continues to be a very important benevolent ministry of the church. It provides care for children that are unable to live with their families for at least part of their early life.

The fifteen children, who range in age from 8-18, are unable to live with their families because of numerous problems, such as, marital conflicts, physical and emotional abuse, or some inadequacy by the parents. In some cases the family problem is only of a temporary nature. Other times it is a long-term problem.

All disruptive family situations leave a lasting effect upon the child. There are feelings of worthlessness, rejection, and anger that require much help for the child.

Messiah Children's Home exists to assist the children who find themselves in this situation and is attempting to provide therapeutic care. This care is being provided after an examination of the needs of the child and the setting of goals for the individual child. This is known as a "goal oriented program." It utilizes the training and experience of the psychologist, the social worker, and the child care workers, and brings them together for a united approach to aid the child in his adjustment.

Included with this is a Christian emphasis. A Christian staff brings the strength of a personal commitment to

Christ and a Christian example as a way of life to model after. The identification of the child with the Christian staff person makes a very profound influence on the child and especially upon the child going into adolescence.

In keeping with an enlarged service to children, the Messiah Children's Home must also plan for expansion of its facilities. The Board of Trustees have an option to buy additional land adjoining the present home. This vision for purchasing 4.5 acres for further expansion is in keeping with the times and gives opportunity for the church to share in a helping ministry. The ministry to children and adolescents becomes increasingly important in our society.

Contributions to Messiah Children's Home through individual gifts, wills, and annuities and congregational offerings have enabled a child care program to continue. In this present expanded program your contribution to enable the purchase of additional land is most necessary and important. To share in this or to have additional information, address correspondence to:

*James J. Leshner, Administrator
Messiah Children's Home
Route 1
Mount Joy, Pa. 17552*



Reaching out to others is a vital part of Sunday school. Many Sunday schools concentrate on outreach in the fall. The following article will stimulate your thinking as you make plans to grow.

Growing a Sunday School

John Arthur Brubaker

The summer months are the time to do strategic planning for your Sunday school. Here are some ideas to stimulate your thinking and to help you plan for Sunday school growth.

Within the past decade it was being predicted that we are approaching the end of the Sunday school era. Impressive reasons were cited to substantiate this view.

But it hasn't happened. In spite of the predictions Sunday school has continued to be an important part of congregational life in most churches.

Current trends indicate a renewed interest in Sunday school and the possibility of a new surge in growth.

It is a well known fact that many Sunday schools are growing and thus are demonstrating that it can be done.

Vergil Gerber in his book *A Manual for Evangelism/Church Growth* refers to Acts 2:41-47 as depicting a continuous growth cycle for the church.

Growth Cycle — Acts 2:41-47

They received the word (v. 41).

They were baptized (v. 41).

They were added to the Church (v. 41).

They were instructed by the Church (v. 42).

They continued in fellowship with the Church (v. 42-46).

They reached out into the community (v. 47).

They grew in numbers daily (v. 47).

This model of a growth cycle is certainly applicable to growing a Sunday school. It reminds us that two basic purposes of the Sunday school are: To TEACH persons a Christian way of life. To REACH persons for Christ.

"Growth is normal in an 'alive' Sunday school" states Kenneth Rice in his book *How Sunday Schools Grow*. He suggests five growth laws:

1. Train more workers.
2. Start more classes.
3. Provide more room.
4. Find more people.
5. Do more calling.

This order is significant. It suggests that *planning precedes calling*.

At times Sunday school growth might appear to be spontaneous but that is rarely the case. *Sunday school growth occurs when there is careful planning and diligent effort.*

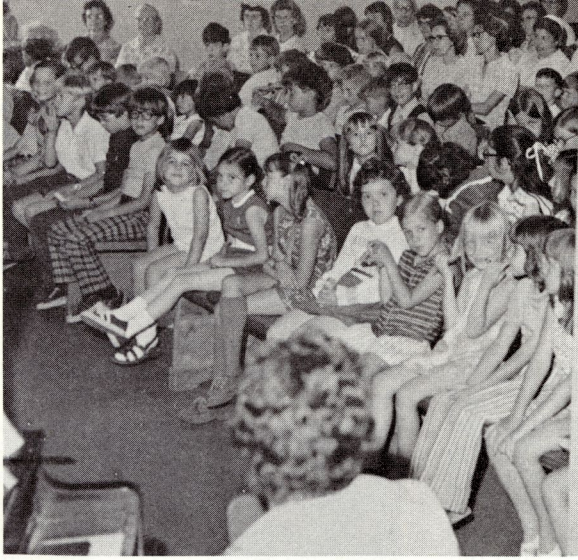
But, how do Sunday schools grow?

There are numerous answers to this question. And they would vary with persons and circumstances. However, certain guiding principles do emerge for those who are strategizing for growth.

1. *A Sunday school grows by meeting the needs of the persons in its community.* Alert Sunday school leadership needs to develop an awareness of these needs and keep them in mind as they plan.
 2. *A Sunday school grows by providing a program which attracts interest.* There will need to be the kinds of learning situations which appeal to people; which stimulate and maintain interest.
 3. *A Sunday school grows by demonstrating an awareness of its community* and by communicating in many different ways that it is a Sunday school for the community. Persons will come to a school if they feel welcome and wanted.
 4. *A Sunday school grows by setting goals and by careful planning.* It needs to have a clear understanding of what it intends to accomplish and how it will be done.
 5. *A Sunday school grows by exuding a friendly atmosphere, a vibrance, and an enthusiasm.* This is rather intangible but is felt quite keenly by a newcomer.
 6. *A Sunday school grows by being aware of persons;* teachers giving individual attention to pupils and superintendents giving personal attention to teachers.
 7. *A Sunday school grows by maintaining an active program of visitation.* Sounds familiar doesn't it? Perhaps we tend to resist the idea. True, it is hard work and involves consistent self-discipline but it is effective.
 8. *A Sunday school grows by equipping its staff through a continuing program of leadership training.* Abilities become effective skills through training. As teachers experience growth they become more excited about their task.
 9. *A Sunday school grows by developing a wholesome self image.* It needs a vision for growth. It needs to see itself as being bigger than it now is and plan accordingly.
- The list could go on. Select those guidelines from this list which are most pertinent to your school right now and concentrate on them.

Certainly in praying and planning for Sunday school growth the work of the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit your work is in vain. However, without your diligent efforts His ministry is hindered.

John Arthur Brubaker is Executive Director of The Board of Christian Education.



The children meeting in the basement of the Administration building.



Mary Fretz, Director of the children's activities at Conference, leading the children.

The Younger Generation at Conference

What General Conference Meant to Me

This year's General Conference was a real highlight of my summer. It was a good experience getting to know other young people and hearing the messages. Of all the activities, I liked the hike on Bruce Trail best, although we walked up to about 7 miles. I also really enjoyed attending one of the workshops. I'm really glad I attended conference this year.

Joyce Peterman

We really enjoyed the Christian fellowship with the youth at conference this year. The youth activities, like the trip to Niagara Falls and the afternoon at the youth center in New York, were fun too.

It was nice just being around kids and other people who all loved the Lord.

It was like everyone was one big family, and that's a nice feeling to have.

Kaye Byer, Larry Swalm, Kevin Tyrrell,
Larry Hogg, Craig Sider, Owen Heise

Youth waiting to board busses to go to the Buffalo Christian Center — a recreation center.



August 10, 1974

I enjoyed the singing of The Congregation and The Common Bond. One of the reasons I liked it was because The Common Bond went with us to the youth recreation center. There we learned to know them as real people, not just entertainers. This made their testimony and singing more meaningful. I also liked the Bible quizzing a lot.

Kevin Espenshade

I really enjoyed Conference at Niagara Christian College. It really is great to talk and experience Christ with youth your own age. It is a real blessing to have fine Christian friends. One of the most memorable events was when all the youth took a trip to the Falls. It is a real miracle to witness God's handiwork. The influence of the Brethren in Christ General Conference will stay with me for a long while.

Jay Engle

The Bible Quiz finals at General Conference. Grantham (Allegheny) on the left and Palmyra (Atlantic) on the right. The Grantham team was the winning team. Other teams in the play-offs were: Port Colborne (Canadian), Amherst (Central), and Rosebank (Midwest). The Grantham team will represent the Brethren in Christ at the World Bible Quiz tournament at Winona Lake, August 23-25.



13

YOUTH CAMP

from page ten

special song and sermon which is usually the same type — urging people to repent. Small wonder why some people fall asleep but still are able to tell exactly what happened in the service. There needs to be a change. The programme should be varied and lively. He also referred to the latecomers to church who walk in piously, sit down and pretend to be praying a few seconds to make an impression.

All the talks were quite beneficial, but the fruit of such inspiring talks only remains to be seen. The wonderful messages were punctuated with beautiful songs from trios, duets, solos and quartets. It was all most enjoyable.

The main purpose of the camp was for Christian fellowship and Bible

study. The Scriptures were discussed and simplified so that everybody understood. Our personal problems were also discussed in our groups. Then there were prayer groups where we prayed for our homes, schools and churches.

Some youth think this type of camp is boring because it's ALL religion and nothing else. How mistaken they are! There was a time for painting, pottery and nature study. An old lady taught us how to mould pots and vases. This was good and interesting, as it is a skill which we have laid aside though our forefathers were excellent at it. In painting, one could paint anything he liked. In the nature study groups, the campers went about in the bush observing and studying trees and learning their names.

We had a lot of fun playing volleyball. It encouraged a competitive spirit without violence or bodily contact.

On Sunday there was a hike to some ancient ruins that are similar to the Zimbabwe Ruins. There is the Umthangala kaMambo (acropolis of Mambo), situated about three to four miles from Mtshabezi Mission. This hike was most exciting. On the hill of the ruins, one could clearly follow the course of the Mtshabezi River from the northwest to the southeast. This was made possible by the tall gum trees that were planted along the river. At the ruins there were grain bins which had traces of corn which may have been left by the VaRozwi (a tribe of people).

We were well fed spiritually, intellectually, and physically. We had a well-balanced diet. Who can fail to grow with such a diet!

Church News

MISSIONS

Mrs. Jesse Lady arrived in the States July 13, having completed a three-year Voluntary Service term at Matopo Book Centre.

Robert and Carolyn Mann and family were scheduled to leave for Rhodesia July 30, to assume the responsibilities of Field Secretary and Youngways Hostel parents.

Lorne and Lois Ruegg and family planned to arrive in Toronto August 2 from their 30-months of Voluntary Service at Choma Secondary School, Zambia.

Velma Brillinger returns to Zambia, leaving Toronto August 8. She will be secretary to H. Frank Kipe, Bishop.

Carl and Eleanor Ginder and family (Rhodesia) plan to arrive home for furlough on August 23.

Kenneth and Elva Bulgrien and family plan to begin a four-month furlough as they arrive in Detroit August 24.

Carlsons to TWR— Swaziland

David and Florence Carlson and their eleven-year-old daughter Karen (members of the Upland congregation) have been assigned to Trans World Radio's South African regional office located in the city of Roodepoort, Transvaal, near Johannesburg.

The Carlsons arrived on the field June 25th, to begin their fourth term of service with Trans World Radio. They have served

since February, 1963 at TWR's station in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

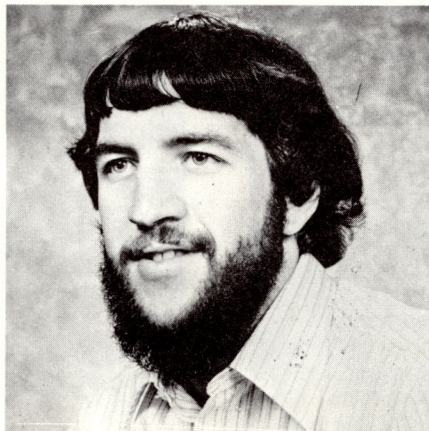
During the past year they have helped Dr. Stephen F. Olford, one of TWR's key broadcasters, establish his radio-TV office in Holmes Beach, Florida.

Trans World Radio is building a new missionary station in Swaziland. It will beam Gospel programs in English, Afrikaans, and a number of tribal languages to an area of more than 3,000,000 square miles — from the Equator to the Cape — with a population of approximately 100 million.

Bishop Charlie B. Byers has announced that the Carlsons have been appointed official representatives of the Gospel Tide Hour at TWR to coordinate introductory and closing announcements for the Swaziland release of the program, and to edit-in the messages that will be recorded by various of African brethren in Zambia and Rhodesia.

Dan Ebersole to Atlanta

Daniel Ebersole has begun a two-year term of service with MCC in Atlanta, Ga.



He is serving as legislative assistant to city councilmen. "I am serving with MCC because MCC affords the best opportunity for me to utilize my talents in serving the Lord by serving people," said Daniel. Daniel received a B.A. in political science from Messiah College. He is the son of Wayne and Alma Ebersole, Palmyra, Pa., and a member of Palmyra Brethren in Christ Church.

CONFERENCES

Allegheny

The **Big Valley congregation** held an installation service for their new pastor, **Rev. John Rosenberry**. The service was conducted by Bishop Henry A. Ginder. A carry-in lunch was held following the service in honor of the Rosenberrys.

Atlantic

The ladies of the **Manheim congregation** held an evening of fellowship on Tuesday, June 25. Ladies from the Master-sonville, Mt. Pleasant, and Speedwell Heights congregations were also invited. Mrs. Pauline Allison spoke on "Living Creatively as a Christian Woman." Rev. Harry D. Bert is the pastor at Manheim.

On Sunday, June 23, a noon fellowship meal was held by the **Pequea congregation** in honor of **Rev. George Bundy** who served the congregation as interim pastor for the past ten months. A photograph album with pictures of the congregational families and a love gift were presented to the Bundys. On Sunday, July 7, Bishop Charlie B. Byers installed **Rev. Gerald Wingert** as pastor. In the evening an informal service was held for the Wingerts. A food shower and a photograph album of congregational families was presented to the Wingerts.

On Sunday, June 23, the **Souderton congregation** received twelve persons into church membership and eleven persons were baptized. Rev. John A. Byers is the pastor.

Canadian

The **Bertie congregation** held an outdoor service on Sunday, July 14, at the home of Ernest Climenhaga. Bill and Betty Sherk presented special music. The pastor is Rev. Wilbur Benner.



Bishop E. J. Swalm, right, retiring pastor of the Collingswood Brethren in Christ Church, and Rev. Charles Baker, a former pastor of the church, break ground for the congregation's new church building. Bishop Swalm has been serving as interim pastor of the congregation. Rev. Dale Shaw is the newly appointed pastor.

Central

The **Christian Union congregation** reports Daily Vacation Bible School held the week of June 17-21 with an average attendance of 59 students and teachers. Their offering of \$105 was sent to help run a jeep for our missionaries in India. Harold Diehl directed the school and Rev. H. Melvin Boose is the pastor.

Midwest

On Sunday, July 21, an installation service was held in the **Zion church** for **Rev. Paul Hess**. Bishop Don Shafer installed Rev. Hess.

Pacific

The **Labish congregation** sent a group of girls to deliver gifts of food and clothing to the Navajo Mission during the week of June 9. The purpose of the trip was to expose the young people to missions.

August 10, 1974

Judith Angell and Wilma Ford planned the trip as part of a Sunday school missions emphasis. Rev. Art Cooper is the pastor.

Births

Boyer: Ryan Charles, born to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Boyer, Amherst congregation, Ohio.

Esbin: Dale Jacob, born June 22 to Mr. and Mrs. Don Esbin, Refton congregation, Pa.

Garner: Sheree Danielle, born June 28 to Mr. and Mrs. David Garner, Mechanicsburg congregation, Pa.

Miller: Marcy Lynn, born June 5 to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Miller, Refton congregation, Pa.

Mummau: Christopher Nelson, born June 24 to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Mummau, Mt. Pleasant congregation, Pa.

Reinhardt: Nathan Charles, born June 6 to Dr. and Mrs. Charles Reinhardt, Uniontown congregation, Pa.

Rosado: Jason Brent, born June 17 to Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Rosado, Mechanicsburg congregation, Pa.

Wenger: Jessica Suzanne, born June 17 to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wenger, Mechanicsburg congregation, Pa.

Wysong: Marcia Sue, born July 21 to Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wysong, Union Grove congregation, Ind.

Weddings

Bennett-Lehman: Cathy Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Lehman, Manheim, Pa., and William, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bennett, Culver, Ind., June 15 in the Mt. Pleasant Church with Rev. Harry Bert officiating.

Gearhart-Dutweiler: Dawn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay N. Dutweiler, Cleona, Pa., and Dennis G., son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Gearhart, Duncansville, Pa., June 23 in the Fairland Church with Rev. John Yeatts officiating.

Harting-Finnegan: Sheila Finnegan, Buffalo, Ont., and Edward Harting, Crystal Beach, Ont., June 10 in the Bertie Church with Rev. Wilbur Benner officiating.

Kipe-Woods: Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Woods, Boiling Springs, Pa., and H. Franklin, son of Bishop and Mrs. H. Frank Kipe, Zambia, Africa, July 7 in the Five Forks Church with father of the groom and Rev. James Esh officiating.

Kreiser-Buck: Linda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Buck, and Ken Kreiser, June 22 in the Skyline View Church.

Puttman-Jones: Diane, daughter of Mrs. Phyllis Jones, and Kenneth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hershell Puttman, both of Fort Erie, Ont., June 22 with Rev. Wilbur Benner officiating.

Correction: The date of the **Collins-Dohner** wedding, reported in the June 25 issue, should have read: May 11.

Obituaries

Book: Russell E. Book, born July 30, 1907, in Walker Twp., Pa., died June 21, 1974. He was the son of William and Melissa Hackenberger Book. He was married to Esther Gutshall Book who survives. Also surviving are two sons: J. R., and Leroy W.; one brother; five sisters; and four grandchildren. He was a member of the Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church. The funeral was held in the Stuck Funeral Home, McAlisterville, Pa., with Rev. Eugene M. Heidler officiating. Interment was in the Thompsontown Lutheran Cemetery.

Nye: Bertha S. Nye, born Nov. 12, 1902, in Dauphin Co., Pa., died May 23, 1974, in Lititz, Pa. She was the daughter of Harry and Barbara Stauffer Nye. She is survived by one niece. She was a member of the Manheim Brethren in Christ Church. The funeral service was held in the Spacht Funeral Home with Rev. Isaac S. Kanode officiating. Interment was in the Mastersonville Cemetery.

Slagenweit: Fred Ezra Slagenweit, born May 1, 1923, in Martinsburg, Pa., died May 29, 1974, in Baltimore, Md. He was the son of David A. and Cora Slagenweit who preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by a brother, David. He is survived by his wife, Velma; two daughters: Mrs. Judy DeSantas; Mrs. Sylvia Sellers; three sons: Fred, Jr.; Dwight, and Andrew; and four grandchildren. Also surviving are three brothers and three sisters. The funeral service was held in the Edgemere Free Methodist Church with Rev. Charles Browne officiating.

Spangler: Michael Spangler, born Aug. 11, 1958, died April 12, 1974, in York, Pa. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snook who survive. Also surviving are three brothers and a sister. He was a member of the Locust Grove Brethren in Christ Sunday school. The funeral service was held in the Locust Grove Church with Rev. Charles Lehman officiating. Interment was in the adjoining cemetery.

Sullivan: David H. Sullivan, age 76, died June 14, 1974, in the York, Pa. Hospital. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sullivan. He was married to Amanda Seegar Sullivan who preceded him in death. He is survived by one daughter; three sons; eleven grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren; and two brothers. He was a member of the Locust Grove Brethren in Christ Church. The funeral service was held in the Etzweiler Funeral Home with Rev. Charles Lehman officiating. Interment was in the Greenmount Cemetery.

Wyld: Edwin Wyld, Sr., age 87, born in South Wales, England, died May 1, 1974, in Des Moines, Iowa. In addition to his wife he is survived by two sons: Edwin, Jr., and Ernest; two daughters: Mrs. Anna Cober and Lily; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Brethren in Christ Church and served as a deacon for several years. The funeral service was held in the Dallas Center Church with Rev. Harold Jackson and Rev. Millard Haldeman officiating.

General Conference Is . . .



Overseas Missions Director Earl Musser visits with Stephen Ndlovu, Overseer Mtshabezi District, Rhodesia, and presently a student at Messiah College.



The meal line was the place to visit with friends old and meet friends new.



Norman A. Wingert, "retired" MCC worker.



Dorothy Gish, Messiah College, leads one of the Lively Issue Sessions.



Frank Peters, College President and Mennonite Brethren Minister, brings greetings.

PEOPLE



Bishop and Martha Ginder share with Clarence Musser.



The Pennsylvania Bus was a useful means of transportation for Conference activities and an experience in togetherness.

The Archives
 Messiah College
 Grantham, Pennsylvania
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