



# CHURCH of GOD

# News

Southwest District

VOLUME I, NUMBER 4

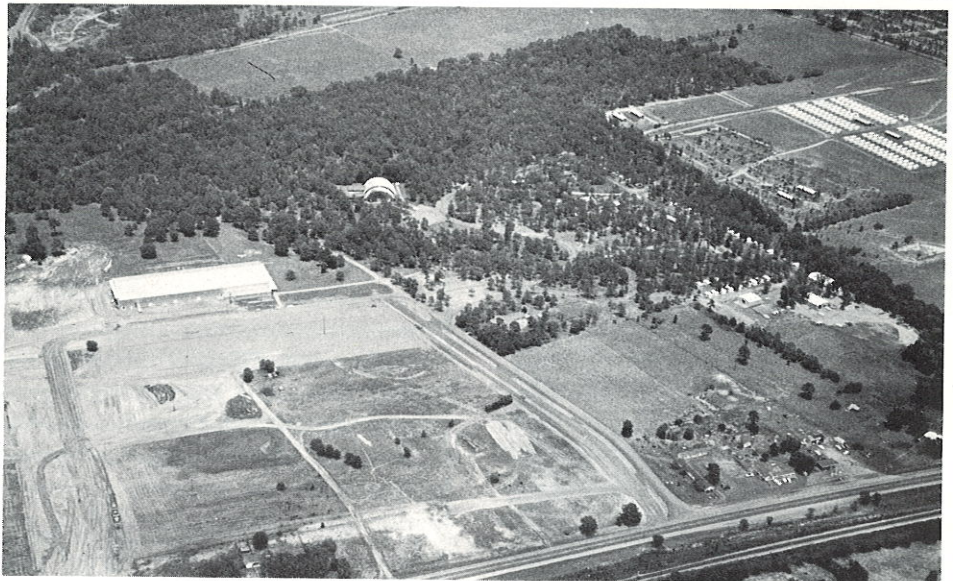
NOVEMBER, 1964

## Concert Enjoyed By Thousands

The Feast of Tabernacles 1964 was a resounding success! Music, fun and gaiety sparked this feast providing a good balance in social, physical and spiritual activities.

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**Auf Weidersehn, Herr Strauss!**  
**(Mr. Leon Ettinger)**



Aerial view of Festival Grounds showing Tabernacle, Dining Hall, Booth City and Pine Orchard.

## Blessings Abound at Feast

“Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavend bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in THE FEAST OF

TABERNALES: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty” (Deut. 16:16).

So thundered the Omnipotent God  
*(Continued on Page 6)*

## Mr. Meredith Visits South Texas

The brethren in the South Texas area were very blessed to have Mr. Roderick Meredith and his family in Alice, Texas, for the Day of Atonement.

Many from San Antonio first became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Meredith in the summer of 1955 when the evangelistic campaigns were held. It was a special pleasure for these brethren

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Supt. over U. S. Churches, Mr. Meredith





## CHURCH of GOD

### News

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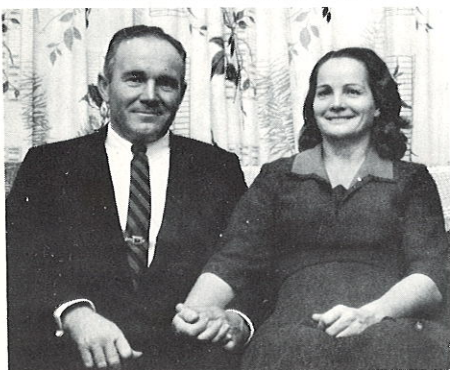
## First West Texas Deacon Ordained

The first—and thus far the *only*—deacon to be ordained in the West Texas Churches is Mr. Dave Hammond of Odessa. Mr. Hammond and his wife Louise have been members of God's Church since Mr. Wayne Cole baptized them in 1953. Mr. Hammond's dedication, zeal, and service in the Midland-Odessa area for the past ten years have paved the way for his further service in God's Church.

The history of God's Church in the West Texas area has been a stormy and turbulent one with most members remaining faithful and a few forsaking their calling. The Hammonds' stability and faithfulness during this time has been a real inspiration and source of

*(Continued on Page 5)*

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hammond of Odessa



### Editorial

## Can You Be INSPIRED?

by

David L. Antion

When the name of Barry Goldwater was put in nomination at the Republican convention, a mass demonstration followed. Thousands waved banners and posters, screamed and cheered and whistled hysterically. All this was accompanied by a marching band. A flurry of ticker tape belched into the air. The wild frenzy continued for some time under the throbbing beat of the band's bass drum.

At Atlantic City during the Democratic convention, Bobby Kennedy was introduced to the convention as "the man closest to his brother, Mr. John F. Kennedy." At that moment the crowd erupted in applause, whistles, screams and cheers. This ovation of approval lasted *twelve minutes!*

These crowds certainly seemed inspired. But, by what? Inspired by selfish interests! Inspired by lust for personal gain! Inspired by partisan views!

God's people meet every Sabbath—not to "nominate a candidate" or to wave banners and posters, or to scream, cheer and whistle hysterically— but, *TO WORSHIP GOD!* Can WE BE INSPIRED? Rightly inspired? Not by selfish interests, lust for personal gain or partisan views, but by God's Spirit! Not inspired to wild demonstrations of frenzy, but to an emission of sincere love and praise to God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

Will God's people *show the same enthusiasm and zeal* in "cheering" for God *through praises in the song service?* Can we *SING* with deeply felt emotion of *PRAISE* and *GRATITUDE* toward the greatest of all—*GOD ALMIGHTY!*

It seems that at regular intervals God's people have to be admonished to *SING*. It's commanded of you! *It's a sin not to sing praises to God.* Still, the real gusto is not always there.

Why is it that people can be so enthusiastic for conventions, sports events, riots in the streets and public mass demonstrations for civil rights? But take *some* of those same people—which some of us were—put them in God's Church, ask them to sing praises to the God of heaven, and what happens? What happened to you?

Brethren, is it true that in us resides so much of the *carnal mind* that we show this *HOSTILITY*—hate—toward God *through not singing* praises to His name!

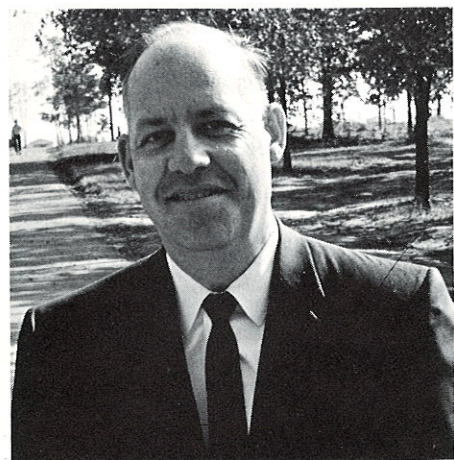
Each Sabbath let's show the world that we have much more zeal for Jesus Christ than they do for their worldly nominees. Let's follow Paul's admonition: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in (through or by means of) psalms and *HYMNS* and *SPIRITUAL SONGS*, *SINGING* with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Col. 3:16). Yes, teach and admonish others through your example of zeal and enthusiasm in the song services of God's True Church!

# Presenting the Big Sandy Ambassador College Faculty

Ambassador College is one of the nation's newest colleges—actually less than two months old—yet the semester opened with a fully competent and veteran faculty. Classes began with 109 students enrolled and a faculty that numbers 14, plus five part-time college instructors who also teach in Imperial School. This ratio presents a top-level student-teacher rating.

By means of this article we want to acquaint you briefly with the Ambassador College Faculty. Space would not permit an interview with the entire faculty, but their names, positions, and subjects taught have been included.

**Mr. Leroy Neff**, Deputy Chancellor



A little more than a year ago, Mr. Neff and his family were transferred to Big Sandy. Leaving his home in Oregon, Mr. Neff attended Ambassador College from 1955 to 1959. He received his Masters Degree from Ambassador College in 1962.

While in Pasadena Mr. Neff was in charge of the Mail Receiving and Special Services Departments. After graduating, he taught public speaking in Ambassador College and pastored the Long Beach Church for two and one-half years.

In addition to the pressing responsibilities of Deputy Chancellor, Mr. Neff is also Business Manager of God's work in this area, pastor of the Big Sandy Church, and District Superintendent. Moreover, Mr. Neff teaches world history, speech, Old Testament survey, and principles of living in Ambassador College.

**Dr. Charles Dorothy**, Dean of Instruction

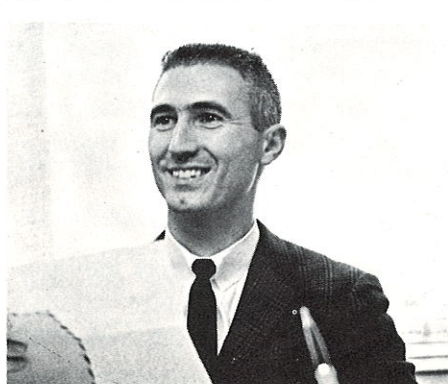


Dr. Dorothy came to Ambassador in 1955, as a college graduate from the University of Washington. With a degree in political science and a lieutenant's commission, his ambitions pointed toward a career in the air force. The next few years brought changes beyond expectation.

After graduation from Ambassador in 1958, Dr. Dorothy's first assignment was to pastor the Salem and Eugene, Oregon, Churches. After six months another change brought him back to Pasadena where he was vitally needed to teach several classes in the college. After four summers of hard work at the Inter-American University at Saltillo, Mexico, he acquired a doctorate in Spanish.

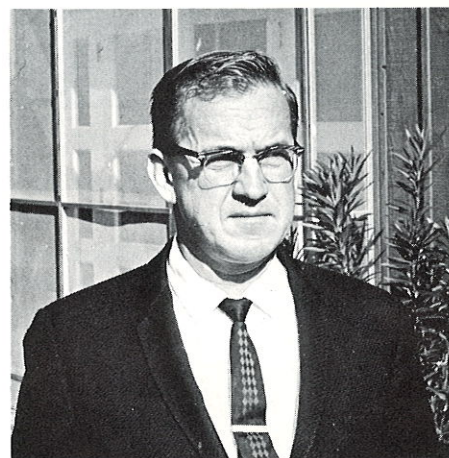
Presently, Dr. Dorothy is Dean of Instruction at Ambassador College, Big Sandy, and teaches Spanish, international relations, two Bible classes and classical literature. He also is pastor of the Houston Church. He and his wife now have three children and the fourth on the way.

**Mr. Ronald Kelly**, Dean of Students



After graduating from Ambassador College in 1960, Mr. Kelly was sent to pastor the Sacramento and Fresno Churches in northern California. Later he was recalled to Pasadena where he served as an executive assistant to Mr. Ted Armstrong and also taught several classes in the college. Another major change brought Mr. Kelly here to Big Sandy as Dean of Students. He teaches two Bible classes, three German classes, and two speech classes. Mr. Kelly, now a family man with two children, pastors the Dallas and Fort Worth Churches.

**Mr. L. E. Torrance**, Registrar



If we would look back ten years, we would find Mr. Torrance as a pioneer instructor in the Imperial School at Big Sandy. After one year at Big Sandy, he was transferred to Pasadena where he continued teaching in the newly established Imperial School. For the past six years Mr. Torrance has been a full-fledged faculty member of Ambassador College in Pasadena.

Graduating from Colorado State University and Colorado State University of Education, both Mr. and Mrs. Torrance taught several years in public schools. They now have three children. Besides his duties as Registrar, Mr. Torrance teaches English, typing, and etymology.

The *Church of God News* in later editions will introduce other Ambassador college personnel.

## News Flashes from District Churches

### District Superintendent Visits West Texas Churches . . . Two Weddings in Dallas-Ft. Worth Area . . . Oklahoma Church Holds Kosher Party

Dr. Charles Dorothy delivered the main sermon at Houston Sabbath services October 10. In a vitally important message which captivated the Houston brethren, Dr. Dorothy admonished them to look realistically and unflinchingly at the self-pictures we all have of ourselves. His trip marked the first time Dr. Dorothy has flown on a commercial airliner to minister to brethren in Houston on the Sabbath. He returned to Big Sandy by a private plane piloted by Mr. Tom Ramsey of Houston.

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*The Odessa teens enjoyed a "Teen Night" at the Albert's home while the men were in Spokesman Club. Mrs. Albert played hostess to the area teenagers. It was an evening of fun as the young men and women talked, ate and played some hilarious and some puzzling party games. This was another function sponsored by the Spokesmen who have set the goal of one youth activity per month. So far they have done an excellent job. Who knows what they'll come up with next?*

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Brethren are happy to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Prince and family are now settled in an apartment in Pasadena, California, and are now occupied with new duties and activities of college life.

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*In recent weeks, brethren from Church areas near and far have moved to the Gulf Coast and will be attending Houston Church services and functions. Welcomed from the Dallas Church are: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cochran and son, Scott Eugene, age 4; and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Cochran and son, Allen Dale, age 7. Also, Mr. Gary Miller from the St. Louis Church; Mrs. Shirley Cooper, Negro member from the Seattle Church, and her daughters*

*Cheryl, age 3, and Angie, age 2; Miss Rose Mary Boehler from the Big Sandy Church; Mrs. B. G. Wright from the Springfield Church; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Morgan from the Corpus Christi Church; Mrs. and Mrs. James W. Marion and children—Julie, age 2, and Jimmy, age 4—from the Birmingham Church.*

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All of the West Texas brethren were very pleasantly surprised by the unannounced visit of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Neff, our district superintendent. Mr. Albert had been informed earlier in the week of the proposed visit, and he was no less surprised. No one expected visitors from our "area headquarters" before the Feast of Tabernacles. What made the event even more thrilling was the ordination of Mr. Dave Hammond of Odessa to the rank of deacon in God's Church. Mr. Neff added meaning to the occasion by giving a sermon concerning the laying on of hands. In Amarillo he spoke on the much-needed virtue of wisdom. The brethren of the West Texas Churches are very thankful for the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Neff.

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*Two weddings highlighted the Dallas and Fort Worth scene recently. On the Sabbath just before the Feast of Tabernacles in Fort Worth, Miss Fay Dean of Sherman, Texas, was married to Mr. Elbert White of Dallas, Texas. After the morning services in the Dallas Church on October 10, Mrs. Olga Mae Richey of Waco, Texas, was joined with Mr. F. G. Chapman of Forney, Texas. Mr. Benjamin Chapman was the minister who performed the ceremony.*

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At least eighty persons from the regular Duncan Bible study, plus an influx of hikers from Oklahoma City, sent

over one hundred zealots up the 2,467 foot peak of Mount Scott on October 18. The activities for the morning included volleyball and football, followed by a tantalizing pot-luck lunch. In the mid-afternoon a Bible study was held in the beautiful and inspiring Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge.

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*On October 10, the Houston brethren were very happy to meet Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Walter. Mr. Walter motored to Houston from the college at Big Sandy to deliver the sermonette. An additional blessing was provided when Mrs. Walter, an accomplished pianist, played for the song services.*

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Hot dog!—a real Jewish feast! The Oklahoma brethren have enjoyed two such fire-side roasts with wholesome, luscious all-beef weiners as the main treat. The first was a deacon's meeting on October 7 at the home of Mr. Les Pope in Oklahoma City. On October 14, the Tulsa Church headed to the forty-acre retreat of Mr. Durkee's farm for another kosher party. Guitars and a ukulele accompanied the happy sing-along for another hot-dogging good time.

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*As if a "grab-bag" session would not provide enough excitement, eager spokesmen invited their wives and guests to a dinner meeting on the evening of October 7. The event launched the Houston Club's first social event of the winter season. Following the business portion of the meeting, spokesmen who drew assignments exemplified real growth. Mr. Harold Treybig conducted a brief Bible quiz, and Mr. Paul Flatt, the director, gave the over-all evaluation. All agreed it was a very entertaining and educational evening.*



Houston on way to second consecutive championship!

## Festival Volleyball Tournament

Volleyball play-offs to determine area champions were held during the Feast, September 23, at the Tabernacle at Big Sandy. Sixteen teams matched

skills, and in the final round Houston edged Corpus Christi for the championship. This was the second consecutive year of victory for Houston.

## Know Your Brethren

God's Church continues to grow as more are baptized. Here are those added to the Houston congregation just before the Feast. Left to right: Mrs. Yvonne Francis, Mrs. Vera Mae Hatchett, Mr. Robert Doss, Mrs. Mildred Ward, Mr. Cleveland Nickerson, Mr. Charles Landwehr, Mrs. Sam Duncan, Jr., and Miss Gloria Hood. Others baptized include Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Roden, and Mrs. A. T. Walker.



## New Deacon

(Continued from Page 2)

encouragement to their brethren.

Naturally after the Church was raised up here last fall, the Hammonds continued serving and helping—their service being characterized by radiant smiles. Their home is always open to the brethren, and many enjoy their warm hospitality.

Mr. Hammond works as the operator of an oil well servicing unit. Over the years other members have worked with him as helpers including one who is now an ordained minister! The brethren find the Hammonds easy to know and love as a brother and sister in Christ. We are all very happy Mr. Hammond has been ordained to this position of service in the Odessa Church!

In the early days, people were flabbergasted when somebody drove 15 m.p.m. They still are!

"Hear about the expert who plans to cross foxes with kangaroos?"

"What's his objective?"

"Fur coats with built-in pockets."

Tomorrow I'll reform, the fool does say; Today itself's too late; the wise did yesterday. —Benjamin Franklin



Young and old alike enjoy homemade ice cream.

## Houston Club Sandwiches Party into Schedule

Taking advantage of one of the "free-time" periods during the Feast of Tabernacles in Big Sandy, the Houston Thursday Spokesman Club invited Houston area campers and widows to be guests at an ice-cream party on Fri-

day afternoon, September 25.

The event, held in a beautiful ravine past the spring on the Tabernacle grounds, provided extra opportunity for fellowship and recreation among the brethren.

## Blessings Abound at Feast

(Continued from Page 1)

of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to the generations of Israel, over 3400 years ago.

While the world slumbered and slept, a group of God-fearing people obeyed this command—knowing that it was binding on them forever!!

Yes, across the nation and around the world, God's people observed the greatest Feast of Tabernacles since the days of the Apostles! Reports came from around the world that this was truly the greatest Feast yet!

And here at Big Sandy it was certainly no different from elsewhere. Brethren rejoiced as never before! Many commented on the powerful and moving sermons given this year. It seemed that God's ministers sensed as never before the short span of time left to prepare for God's soon-coming Kingdom. Each stressed the desperate need for every member to walk closer to God than ever before or else be caught in the throes of this world's Godless society and have to suffer through the Great Tribulation soon to strike this nation.

Many commented on how smoothly everything went this year—from registration to the seating in the Tabernacle. This was due to the whole-hearted co-operation of those in attendance,

plus organization long before the Festival started.

The annual Ambassador Chorale Concert this year was an outstanding performance. In fact, many of those who were invited as special guests from the surrounding cities stated that this presentation topped them all. A gamut of activities during afternoons and evenings sparked wholesome fun and fellowship.

One highlight of the Festival came when Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong announced that Mr. Richard Rice was elevated to the rank of preaching elder. Mr. Rice has served faithfully as a local elder for the past two years. His devotion and dedication in serving God's people are especially appreciated by the brethren of the Big Sandy-Minden Church areas.

After eight days of literally drinking in spiritual and physical blessings, the Festival of Tabernacles 1964 came to a climax. Then brethren departed for many sections of the nation, rejuvenated with desire and determination to serve God even more zealously in the days and years to come. What glorious knowledge it is to know God's truth concerning His Holy Days and that we look forward to the time when the Feast of Tabernacles will be observed by all—in the Kingdom of God!

## Mr. Meredith Visits South Texas

(Continued from Page 1)

to be able to meet and talk with Mr. Meredith again after several years.

Morning services on the Day of Atonement began promptly at 10 A.M. with a stirring song service led by the local pastor, Mr. Tony Hammer. Mr. Meredith used part of the time of a split-sermon to make several very interesting announcements concerning the world-wide work of God. His inspired message concerning just how *much* this world *needs* an Atonement was especially effective in showing how important our mission is in these very serious times. In his sermon, Mr. Hammer made it very clear who is responsible for the sins of this world and explained that one day these sins will be placed

directly on Satan.

Just before Mr. Meredith's message explaining the meaning of the day, Mr. Hammer asked Mr. Michael Jennings of the San Antonio congregation, and Mr. David Robinson of the Corpus Christi congregation, to come to the platform. After Mr. Meredith read a few scriptures explaining the qualifications for a deacon, he and Mr. Hammer laid hands on these men and ordained them to the office of deacon in God's Church.

This was certainly a very fine Holy Day service in every way, and one that called for special rejoicing in many ways. All were very happy to have the presence of God's Evangelist, Mr. Meredith.

## Concert

(Continued from Page 1)

One week before the Feast, the Ambassador College Chorale from Pasadena arrived on the Big Sandy campus and began daily rehearsals along with some of the Big Sandy Ambassadors.

The Chorale was on stage every day to sing many beautiful songs throughout the entire Feast. The Last Great Day was climaxed with the inspiring "Onward Ye People."

On Saturday night over 7,000 people were taken to the mid-nineteenth century setting of Old Vienna as the Chorale presented "A Night in Old Vienna." As the lights lit up the stage, the expectant audience saw Prince Felix von Esterhazy and Princess von Esterhazy surrounded by many smiling and dancing guests in the ballroom of his palace.

Fritz Strubel, Major Domo to the Prince, began introducing special guests to Prince von Esterhazy. The star guest of the evening—a surprise to everyone—was none other than Johann Strauss, the Waltz King.

Fritzi Scheff, a light opera singer, and all the other singers and dancers warmed the evening by providing entertainment for all.

The concert came to a close in grand style. It was the smoothest and most relaxed performance the Chorale has presented. The color, lighting, dancing and staging were superbly selected and executed. The original conception, dialogue and music selection were the work of the faithful and understanding Chorale director, Mr. Leon Ettinger, and the stage director, Mr. Harold Reed.

A banquet was arranged at the plush El Fenix restaurant later that evening for the Chorale members, directors and guests.

After the sumptuous meal, the president of the Chorale, Mr. Richard Ames, presented Mr. Ettinger a new Omega wristwatch.

Mr. Ettinger accepted it graciously and thanked the Chorale for all the help, the attitude of co-operation, and the sense of responsibility. He said that the last fifteen years had been the best years of his life.