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298 PERFORMERS—A combined choir and statewide 48-piece orchestra stage Beethoven's *Hallelujah* at Sabbath services in the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Fla., March 26 during Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's visit. [Photo by Michael Rasmussen]

Bakersfield, Daytona trips: Effect 'will be long lasting'

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA—Six hundred brethren in Bakersfield, Calif., and 3,616 people in Daytona Beach, Fla., were added to the number of brethren Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach has met during church visits in the past two years.

Mr. Tkach visited Bakersfield on the last day of Unleavened Bread, April 8, and Daytona Beach, March 24 to 27.

Bakersfield

After conducting the morning of-

fertory in the Ambassador Auditorium, the pastor general and his traveling party drove to the Burbank, Calif., airport, where they boarded the Church's Gulfstream III jet for Bakersfield.

Touching down after the 30-minute flight, Mr. Tkach was met by Camilo Reyes, pastor of the Bakersfield and Mojave, Calif., churches, and his family.

At 3 p.m. services in Harvest Hall, where brethren represented the San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Mojave and Bakersfield, Calif., churches, the pastor general "was greeted warmly with applause and smiles as he and his companions entered the hall," said Mr. Reyes.

Before Mr. Tkach spoke, a piano solo titled *La Fileuse (The Weaver)* was performed for special music by Jack Lane from Mojave. Tama Jennings from Santa Barbara, accompanied by Mr. Lane, then sang "The Lord's Prayer."

In his sermon, Mr. Tkach said that the philosophy (leaven) of get, take and coveting was introduced in the Garden of Eden, but Jesus Christ negated that leaven by giving Himself as a sin offering.

He said: "Although Israel was brought out of Egypt, Israel brought Egypt out with them as carnal, sinful, selfish human greed. How far out of Egypt have we really come?"

He talked about a new type of leaven being introduced in the Church (Matthew 13:33), "which is now expanding to fill us and will eventually fill the whole world."

Mr. Tkach said that everyone is needed in God's work, "no matter who you are, no matter what your condition!"

Afterward Debs Thompson, 73, a deacon in Bakersfield who suffers from cancer, said: "I learned many things that I hadn't known before. It will be a great help to me in my condition."

Carlton Smith, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara pastor, said the effect of Mr. Tkach's message "will be long lasting."

The pastor general was given a wooden relief of an eagle in flight, carved by Jeff Jones, a deacon in Bakersfield. The plaque reads: "May God strengthen, guide and protect you on the wings of an eagle,"

(See TRIPS, page 3)

Tour of Soviet Union starts May 10

Foundation sponsors dancers

PASADENA—The Dance Theatre of Harlem, acclaimed as one of America's principal dance companies, begins a five-week tour of the Soviet Union May 10. The trip is sponsored in part by the Ambassador Foundation, said evangelist David Hulme, vice president of the Ambassador Foundation for domestic projects.

The tour is the only visit to the Soviet Union by an American ballet company under the auspices of President Ronald Reagan's 1985 cultural exchange initiative.

Foundation Chairman Joseph W. Tkach announced funding by the foundation March 10 at the home of entertainer Sammy Davis Jr., who was host to a fund raiser for the tour.

"Mr. Tkach said that God didn't create man with a clenched fist but with an open one to signify giving," said Michael Snyder, assistant director of Public Affairs. "He said God's way is a way of give and discussed the trip in terms of opening diplomatic and cultural opportunities."

Arthur Mitchell, a former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, founded the Dance Theatre of Harlem in 1969 after being moved by the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., the black civil

rights leader, the previous year. Mr. Mitchell decided to show his commitment to the people of Harlem, an underprivileged section of New York City.

Mr. Mitchell wanted to do something to help disadvantaged children, so he and Karel Shook, who died in 1985, founded the dance theater. The Soviet Union visit, marking Mr. Mitchell's return 25 years after his debut there, will be concurrent with President Reagan's summit meeting with Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

The company will perform in Moscow; the Kirov Theatre in Leningrad; and Tbilisi. The scheduled 31 performances will be drawn from works performed during the company's 19-year history.

The troupe has been presented in eight major Southern California engagements since 1978 under the sponsorship of the Ambassador Foundation.

"When the Dance Theatre of Harlem was only 10 years in existence, the foundation was first to present them on the West Coast and has supported them consistently," said Wayne Shilkret, director of Performing Arts. Mr. Mitchell talked about the foundation in a television interview on KCOP, Channel 13, in Los Angeles.

"They are poised to become the premier American dance company," said Mr. Hulme.

The Soviet performances, which will be under the auspices of the United States Information Agency in cooperation with the Soviet agency Goskoncert, are expected to attract more than 150,000 people.

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear brethren:

I trust and pray that each of you had as wonderful and inspiring a Passover season as we did here in Pasadena.

The encouraging and inspiring messages, expounding on the richer and deeper understanding God has given us of the Passover symbols and Jesus' sacrifice for us, truly made this the most *meaningful* spring Holy Day season yet.

Brethren, let's understand that the concept of "discerning the Lord's body" is a most IMPORTANT PHASE of God's Church today! Since Mr. Herbert Armstrong admonished me to unify the Church, God has led me to see that unity of the Church is fundamental to God's plan in a way we have never fully focused upon before.

To discern the Lord's body is to realize the incredible implications of what *spiritual healing* is all about! That marvelous healing from the corruption of *sin* began with the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, was extended to the first-fruits—the Church of God—and will one day expand to all mankind!

Jesus' words in John 6 are of extraordinary importance in understanding the *vital* and ESSENTIAL meaning of *true unity with God and with one another*. Read them and study them again and again. Pray for understanding!

Love—true, godly love—is the fulfilling of the law. God's law

defines love. But the mere keeping of it in the letter isn't enough! It must be kept in *spirit—according to intent*. It must be *bound up* in our hearts, that is, in our INNERMOST BEINGS—*part of us*—just as it was with Christ.

God's law is NOT burdensome, it is NOT "restrictive," it is NOT "stifling." It defines *love*. It leads the way to happiness for all humanity. It shows us how to treat one another, how to relate to one another, how to live with one another.

It shows us how we are to think about one another—what kinds of thoughts we should have toward one another. It defines the way that strengthens relationships, that makes them permanent and unbreakable. And that way is the way of GIVE.

Jesus gave Himself for us. The Father gave His Son for us. Abraham, the father of the faithful, whose children we are if we serve God, had in him the mind of God when he held back nothing from God, even his son.

Isaac, likewise, had the mind of God in him when he held back nothing from God, even his own life in willing sacrifice to God.

We are told by the apostle Paul in Philippians 2:5-8, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made

in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

These verses describe the mind of Christ, which is also the mind of the Father. It is a mind that does what it does for the good and benefit of others—even when it means suffering and sacrifice. It is a mind *totally devoted* to the welfare of others!

As we learn to "discern the Lord's body," we come to understand the overall plan of God, Christ's part in that plan and our own part in it.

And we come to see that the life of a Christian is a *life of service*. Not just service in terms of doing things, but service in terms of an *attitude, a state of mind*—THE MIND OF CHRIST.

An attitude that serves others even in terms of the way we *think* about them. An attitude that is so devoted to the well-being of others that it would not *consider* spreading another person's sins around.

An attitude that would not *consider* gossiping. It would not *consider* taking advantage of or cheating another person.

It would not *consider* seducing, or committing adultery or fornication with another person. It would not *consider* damaging, destroying or stealing the property of another person.

God is building in us His *mind*. His law will one day become our law also—part of us. God is NEVER selfish. He is NEVER inconsiderate. He is NEVER deceitful. He is ALWAYS faithful. And He ALWAYS *cares*.

God is ALL-POWERFUL. Yet He uses His vast, *unlimited* power ONLY for the good of others. He

(See PERSONAL, page 4)



DANCE THEATRE FUND RAISER—On behalf of the Ambassador Foundation, Joseph W. Tkach (center) announces funding for the Dance Theatre of Harlem. Left, founder Arthur Mitchell, and right, entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. [Photo by Warren Watson]

U.S. demise, rise of newer world order

PASADENA—"One main task for the next American President," Henry Kissinger wrote in the March 27 *Los Angeles Times*, "will be to guide his country through a profound transition in its international position."

Yet, observed the former U.S. secretary of state, "no presidential candidate is making a serious effort to prepare the American people for the radically different world they will soon face."

This task, instead, has fallen to a number of historians who have been examining America's slipping position in the world order.

In perhaps the most notable book of its kind, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*, Paul Kennedy proves that in nearly every historical case—to which the United States is proving to be no exception—political and military decline or fall was preceded by the erosion, in peace time, of economic power.

Illustrating this fact, the United States has declined in relative economic power, especially over the past two decades. The same period has witnessed the corresponding rise in the fortunes of Japan, West Germany and other nations.

True to all empires of the past, the United States is finding it difficult to maintain its far-flung military obligations, leading to the age-old problem of imperial overstretch.

Mr. Kennedy and other authors assessing America's empire (most Americans are only learning that they have an empire at the time it's slipping away) generally voice no great alarm at this development.

For example, Mr. Kennedy believes that the U.S. decline is "rela-

tive, not absolute, and is therefore perfectly natural," and that America can comfortably adjust to a 16 to 18 percent share of the world's productive wealth (down from 40 percent or more in 1945).

The same author maintains that "the only serious threat to the real interests of the United States can come from a failure to adjust sensibly to the newer world order."

Bible prophecy, however, shows that there is much more to America's decline than a comfortable adjustment. The primary focus of the newer world order that is taking shape is a powerful, European-dominated arrangement that will prove to be the gravest challenge to the national existence of both the United States and Great Britain.

Other power centers

Mr. Kissinger, in his article, enumerated what he believes to be the most important power centers in the 1990s and beyond.

Japan, he claims, "will be the most rapidly emerging great power of the next century." It is destined, he said, to become "a significant military power," at least in Asia.

China, Mr. Kissinger added, will grow economically, but will still need to balance neighboring big powers, Japan and the Soviet Union, with ties to Washington.

Mr. Kissinger drew attention to India, which is, he said, "in many respects the most neglected of the emerging major powers."

As evidence of its intention to play the dominant role in the Indian Ocean, India has leased a nuclear-powered submarine from the Soviet Union, its principal weapons sup-

plier. It may lease up to five other of the 6,300-ton Victor class submarines (which are not supplied with nuclear weapons).

And in late March, U.S. intelligence sources revealed that India has assembled a handful of highly sophisticated, low-yield atomic

presents a challenge to the United States, said Mr. Kissinger, as the Soviets in their economic self-interest attempt to make common cause with the Western Europeans:

"The Soviet Union will almost certainly strive to escape this prospect during the 1990s by seek-

WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



bombs—perhaps as many as 20—that can be delivered to targets by combat aircraft.

Threat from Eurasia

It is in the vast area stretching from Western Europe into the Soviet Union that the most fundamental transformations are under way.

By the year 2000, emphasized Mr. Kissinger, Western Europe will have crossed a threshold: It "will either have united or have abdicated as a major force on the international scene." Bible prophecy, of course, clearly indicates the former.

As for the Soviet Union, Mr. Kissinger continued, "It has no choice but to undertake domestic reforms, [but] this enterprise is likely to be accompanied by domestic instability at home and turmoil in Eastern Europe."

Many other experts, too, predict that even under a reformist policy, the Soviet economy will grow slower than its competitors. This

ing to push the United States back into the Western Hemisphere and then using its central geographic position to neutralize neighbors one by one . . . luring them into separate dealings with Moscow."

America's basic objective, stressed Mr. Kissinger, like that of Britain earlier, must be to "maintain the balance of power in Eurasia . . . The relationship of the United States to . . . the Eurasian landmass, will be comparable to Britain's relationship to Europe until

European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



Violence is a product of Western way of life

BOREHAMWOOD, England—As Jesus approached Jerusalem, "He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes'" (Luke 19:41-42, New King James throughout).

Jerusalem did not know the way to peace then. Neither does Belfast, Northern Ireland, now. The Church cries out (as Jesus did), but "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (John 1:5). People don't fully grasp what's happening.

Many saw the latest atrocity in Belfast on television. Two British soldiers were brutally beaten and murdered. Political reaction was typical. Revulsion, then wringing of hands. Finally, promises to track down the perpetrators.

But this misses the point! As with Jerusalem in Jesus' time, Belfast doesn't know the time of its visitation (Luke 19:44)—its residents don't know where events are leading.

Failure of recognition

Terrorism is bad in Northern Ireland. But so is street crime in London, where violence is increasing.

Figures show an 11 percent increase in violent crime. Belfast doesn't have a lot of street crime. It's mostly terrorism there.

The headlines are enough to cause an upset stomach. "Iran Ready to Unleash Gas Revenge on Iraqis"; "Gunpoint End to Armenia Glasnost"; "Hate Campaign Turns on Tutu."

Hatred and violence are increasing. And they are not confined to a few terrorists. Few seem to grasp this point. As an article in the March 24 *International Herald Tribune* said, "No society, however civilized, is immune to occasional outbreaks of savagery at the margins."

The blame is "at the margins." Some lunatic on the outskirts of so-

the end of World War II. Britain understood that if the resources of Europe fell under the control of a single country, it would be out-matched and hence, in time, defenseless.

"[British Prime Minister Winston] Churchill put the case with characteristic eloquence: 'For 400 years the foreign policy of England has been to oppose the strongest, most aggressive, most dominating power on the Continent . . . It has nothing to do with rulers or nations; it is concerned solely with whoever is the strongest or potentially dominating tyrant.'"

Before World War II, German geopoliticians envisioned a Eurasian powerhouse, dominated by Berlin, linking the military might of the Third Reich, Japan, the Soviet Union and if possible, China and India. The objective was the destruction of the British Empire.

But Adolf Hitler's folly of trying to conquer the Soviet Union, instead of cooperating with it, brought this scheme to ruins. It was not yet the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:17). The Gospel message still had to go around the world, from the peoples of Israel.

But are we once again seeing the outlines of an awesome and threatening world power bloc?



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

Do you read me?

"Do you read me?" is a question you expect to hear in radio communications. It asks, "Do you clearly receive and understand what I am trying to communicate to you?"

When you stop to analyze it, though, it is also a good question to ask when writing to others. Communicating through the written word is truly a marvelous ability, both from the writing and the reading standpoint.

Animals communicate with each other to a limited extent using sounds or movements, but of all life forms on earth only humans can convey meaningful messages through the written word.

So effective is this method of communicating that God chose it as the primary means by which His instructions to us—the Bible—would be preserved and transmitted.

But as any writer knows, no matter how much effort is put into painstakingly and clearly writing the message down, that act constitutes only half of what is required to effectively get the message across. The other half involves the reader's ability to read, comprehend and remember. Here we all have room for improvement.

What brings this to mind is reaction to the column I wrote for the Sept. 28 *Worldwide News*. In it I quoted at length a letter from a person who was expressing how grateful he was for God's intervention after an accident. The accident involved the person backing out of his drive and running over a neighbor's child. The child miraculously escaped serious injury.

I was amazed in the days follow-

ing the appearance of the column to have people ask how I was doing after my experience! Please do not misunderstand. I sincerely appreciate concern for my welfare, but something was obviously lost in the communication process here.

I know how it is, because I too have read things in haste and not gotten a clear picture of what I have read. Which brings me to the point I wish to make in this column. How



carefully do we read the Bible?

Granted, we all have plenty of material to read—more than we can get around to. In these last days knowledge is increasing, as a trip to a bookstore or library demonstrates.

Fortunately, a lot of written material lends itself to once-over skimming or speed-reading. But the Bible does not. Jesus said we should live by "every word" of God (Matthew 4:4, New King James throughout). Notice that He did not say "every other word of God," or "every third word of God." Jesus said we must live by "every" word of God. To do that, we need to read

every word of God and concentrate on what we are reading.

When we read and study the Scriptures is an important factor. If we regularly put it off until the last hour of the day and then sleepily nod our way through a few verses before crawling into bed, we are really cheating ourselves. God's Word deserves some of our best, most alert moments. It deserves our undivided attention. The words in the Bible are the words of eternal life.

Jesus was constantly calling into question the reading ability of the religious leaders of His day. "Have you not read what David did . . . ?" He asked them on one occasion (Matthew 12:3).

"Or have you not read in the law . . . ?" (verse 5). Concerning divorce Jesus again pointed to the Scriptures, asking, "Have you not read . . . ?" (Matthew 19:4).

Once more, in Matthew 21:16, Jesus put His detractors to silence by asking, "Have you never read . . . ?" And in verse 42 He demanded, "Did you never read in the Scriptures . . . ?"

Again, "But . . . have you not read what was spoken to you by God . . . ?" (Matthew 22:31).

Of course these theologians had read the Scriptures—more accurately, had read *over* them—many times. That's what made them so indignant that Jesus would question their reading. However, they had not let the meaning of what they read sink in.

What a paradox that to these readers of God's Word—scholars, learned individuals that they were—Jesus had to declare, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures . . ." (verse 29)!

Let us be sure that in our personal study we are reading the Bible to understand it. God has a message for us. He has preserved it down through the centuries. He wants us to comprehend it.

He provides through His Church teachers and helps in the form of articles and publications. He freely gives His Spirit to make the truth clear. He asks, "Do you read me?"

How do you answer?

Trips

(Continued from page 1)

as the one sent forth to measure the temple and bind the family of God."

After services brethren lined up to meet the pastor general, who was then host to a ministers meeting and buffet for about 70 ministers, deacons and their spouses.

Mr. Tkach is a "strong leader and someone you can follow, because he identifies with the people," said Michael Look, 16, from Mojave.

Henry Rowe from Santa Barbara said, "He is strong, personal and loving in his sharing of thoughts, ideals and goals for his family."

Mr. Tkach left Bakersfield at 8:45 that evening. Traveling with him were his assistant Joseph Locke, administrative assistant Ellen Escat, executive office aide Michael Rasmussen and his wife, Juli, and secretary Esther Apperson.

G-III crew members were Captain Ken Hopke, co-captain

Lawrence Dietrich and steward Jay Brothers. Mr. Dietrich's wife, Virginia, and Mr. Brother's wife, Felicia, also went.

"What a fantastic day!" said Arlie Patterson, a minister in the Mojave church. "As Mr. Tkach said, 'We've had a spiritual date with the Bridegroom.'"

Daytona Beach

Mr. Tkach, his party and the television crew touched down at 1:45 a.m., March 24, in Daytona Beach, where they were met by Randal Dick, pastor of the Orlando, Fla., A.M. and P.M. churches.

After leaving Burbank they stopped in Phoenix, Ariz., to pick up Art Krzywicki, Mr. Tkach's brother-in-law. Mr. Krzywicki married Mr. Tkach's sister, Lil, who died in 1978. Mr. Tkach and Mr. Krzywicki visited Mr. Tkach's other sister, Vera Swiontek, in Tampa, Fla.

March 24 Mr. Tkach and his party flew to Cape Canaveral for a tour of the Kennedy Space Center.

During the tour the party stopped and got out of the bus to observe an alligator "sitting benignly in the river, until they were told that alligators can move as fast as a galloping horse if they want to," related John Halford, the television crew's on-site director. "You should have seen us



PEOPLE PERSON—Taking time for everyone in Bakersfield, Calif., April 8, Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach poses with Bill and Gretchen Creamer from Mojave, Calif., and their children Ashleigh (left) and Kamryn. [Photo by Craig Jackson]

run for the bus!"

At the space center the group saw "one of the most fascinating exhibitions on the face of the earth," according to Mr. Halford.

"We toured a private museum and the facilities where they first began putting people into space in the early '60s," he continued.

"This facility is less than a quarter century old, and it was obviously incredibly obsolete. The equipment looked like it had come out of the Ark... We were all impressed with what humans have been able to accomplish in a short period of time," he said.

Mr. Tkach reminded the group that if human beings can work together this way for a goal they believe in, how much more should the spirit-led family of God work together to succeed in the project they have dedicated their lives to?

At Sabbath services March 26, 3,616 brethren from 15 churches in Florida assembled in the Ocean Center to hear the pastor general.

Beethoven's *Hallelujah* was performed by a combined choir of 250 voices and a newly formed statewide orchestra involving 48 musicians, half of whom are Church youths.

Mr. Tkach told brethren to keep the commitment they made at baptism and to live Christianity with all their strength and might.

"Mr. Tkach's visit was especially energizing to people who have come into the Church in the last five years, as they were able to meet God's apostle," said Daniel Bierer, Fort Myers and Sarasota, Fla., pastor. "He infects us all with his enthusiasm and energy."

Frankie Kinster, a member in Florida, said Mr. Tkach made her feel "a part of headquarters."

Donna Sacoulas, also a member, said she would wait as 4,000th in line to meet the pastor general.

Mr. Tkach was given an oil painting of a transitional steamer, a type of the one Mr. Tkach's parents boarded in Bremerhaven, Germany, when they emigrated to the United States near the turn of the century, before they were married, according to Ronald Howe, St. Petersburg, Fla., pastor.

The ship, shown under full sail and steam, was painted by Ken Perenyi and Jose Salas, professional artists and members who attend the St. Petersburg church.

"We took the liberty of naming the unnamed ship *Good Courage*,

based on Joshua 1," said Mr. Howe's wife, Joyce. Five flags on the ship spell *unity*.

After greeting the brethren in just less than two hours, the pastor general conducted a ministers meeting and was host to a buffet.

"The deacons and deaconesses expressed extreme gratitude and surprise, shall we say, at being included in the ministerial meeting and buffet," said Mr. Dick.

Outside the convention center about a half million high school and college students were spending their spring breaks on the beaches.

"It was quite a contrast to see the incredible mass of humanity outside, all striving to find fulfillment, fun and love in the meleé, and inside were people, calm and very much the opposite, who have purpose, happiness and the love that others desire so desperately," Mr. Dick observed.

"But it's the last place the people outside would think to look for it."

Traveling with Mr. Tkach were Mr. Locke, Mrs. Escat, Mrs. Apperson, Mr. Rasmussen, Mr. Hopke, Mr. Dietrich, Mr. Brothers, and executive secretary Lois Weber.

Gary Werings was cameraman, and Steve Bergstrom was remote operations engineer for the television crew.

"It was very encouraging to see and feel the unity that is growing in the body of the Church worldwide," said Miss Weber. "Traveling with Mr. Tkach gives one a bird's-eye view of the enormity of our family."

Career services offered

PASADENA—An Ambassador College Career Services program will make potential employers aware of Ambassador graduates, according to Jeb Egbert, coordinator of student employment and assistant director of Career Services.

Career Services will also make students aware of potential employers, said Mr. Egbert.

Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach would like the college to offer more in the area of career services to help guide students along those lines, he added.

The service was expanded this year when students were invited to take the Strong-Campbell interest inventory, a test to help them know their career interests.

Mr. Egbert said that because honesty and integrity are concerns in the work place, many businesses seek employees with training such as Ambassador College students receive.

"We hope to package an Ambassador College student as one who has been taught that there is a good and a bad, a right and a wrong.

"God's Word is a code of conduct that we live by, and I think that is an extremely marketable package," he said.

Liberal arts educations, writing and speaking skills, which are emphasized at Ambassador, are popular with employers, according to Mr. Egbert.

Mr. Egbert plans to send each employer mentioned on the surveys a letter explaining Ambassador College and inviting the business to develop a working relationship with the college if it desires.

Through the letter and contact with employees in the Church, an employer will be familiar with the college if he or she receives a letter from a job-seeking student.

Mr. Egbert also hopes that potential Ambassador College students will become aware of Career Services.

"There are a lot of prospective students who would be excellent candidates for Ambassador College, who may feel reticent about the college because of their perception that there's a lack of concern about career planning," he said.

The information you provide on this form may prove helpful to graduates from Ambassador College in their quest to find employment. If you feel that your employer would be interested in hiring a full-time employee from Ambassador College's 1988 graduating class, please fill out this survey and send it to:

Career Services
Ambassador College
300 W. Green St.
Pasadena, Calif., 91123

Your name _____

Your address _____

Your phone number (optional) _____

Business name _____

Person to contact _____

Business address _____

Business phone number _____

Nature of business _____

Nature of job available (job description) _____

Qualifications needed by applicant _____

Any other pertinent information _____

The Worldwide News

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ANNIVERSARY RECITAL—To mark the 20th anniversary of the Pasadena Ambassador College Academic Center, a recital was performed March 27 by (from left) Kathryn Ames, wife of evangelist Richard Ames, Ruth Walter, professor of music at Big Sandy Ambassador College, and evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer. The trio also performed at the dedication ceremonies of the Academic Center March 27, 1968. [Photo by Hal Finch]

Report from _____
the Treasurer's Office
Leroy Neff

PASADENA—The March income increase of 11 percent over March, 1987, was better than that of either January or February. The increase brought the year-to-date figure to a plus 5.8 percent. This is a little above budget. We hope that the spring Holy Day offerings will give us a good increase.

Preparation of the 1987 financial statements and the related audit by Arthur Andersen & Co. are almost complete. By the time most of you read this, we will have finished this work for our operations in the United States. The combined report for all our offices around the world will be completed shortly thereafter.

As I mentioned before, this process requires many hours by both the auditors and by our Accounting staff. We are pleased to report that this year's audit has gone smoothly and is finishing on schedule.

Arthur Andersen & Co. are our auditors of record in most of our major offices worldwide. The financial statements for most of those areas are now compiled, and we are reviewing them here in Pasadena.

When all the work is done, we will meet with our auditors to review their findings and any recommendations they may have. The self-analysis is one of the most important products of the audit process.

Self-analysis or examination is an important part of each of our lives during the spring Holy Day season. Similarly, the annual audit review gives Mr. Joseph Tkach and those of us at headquarters the opportunity to examine the work's finances, bookkeeping and procedures. We are better able to make changes when necessary and to be continually improving our stewardship of the funds and resources that God provides to do His work.

The Plain Truth About Healing

Chapter five Faith and healing

Many have asked, "If God has not bound Himself to heal every sick Christian every time, then how can I have faith that He will heal me now that I am sick this time?" Others have asked, over the centuries, why God would allow some to suffer so horribly from severe illness.

These questions are indeed the natural, human questions to ask. They deserve answers. And the answers to these and related questions all revolve around the nature of faith and its precise relationship to healing.

The nature of faith

We should begin by reminding ourselves that sickness is a trial. It is a trial of our patience, of our endurance, of our understanding and perhaps even of our willpower. But more than all of these, sickness is a trial of our faith! Certainly anyone who has ever been seriously ill, or who has watched a sick relative suffer, would immediately agree with that statement.

But in spite of the universal agreement that sickness is a trial of one's faith, the actual connection between faith and healing has been much misunderstood. The common belief is that if you "have faith" God will heal you, and if you "don't have faith" He will not. Therefore people conclude that if God does heal one, that person must have indeed had great faith. They also often conclude that if God does not heal a person, then that person didn't have faith. Based upon this way of reasoning, healing and nonhealing become a test of one's righteousness.

Those who believe that God will heal *everyone* who has faith and obeys Him are virtually branding everyone not healed as faithless and disobedient. Admittedly, faith and obedience are important components in God's decision whether or how to answer any prayer, including our prayers for healing. *Therefore it makes sense to exercise our faith and increase in obedience so our prayer for healing will be more factual.*

But notice! The Bible clearly shows that everyone who has God's Spirit has at least some faith, because faith is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). And if he or she has God's Spirit, then the person must be obeying God to some degree, for God only gives His Spirit to those who obey (Acts 5:32)! Hence we cannot conclude that those Christians not healed are altogether faithless and disobedient.

It is also true that while all Christians share in faith and obedience, these attributes are possessed and exercised by Christians to differing extents or to different degrees.

But even this does not necessarily mean that those who possess faith and/or obedience in greater degree are always more likely to be healed than someone else. For it may be in the best interest of even the most faithful of men to suffer with illness, however caused.

We have previously seen cases where God did not heal even faith-filled people like Elisha. We have also seen cases where God healed some with little or no real, spiritual faith. And it appears that God sometimes heals regardless of faith simply to extend His mercy to a suffering human. As we have seen from the previous chapters, God has not bound Himself to heal every single faithful and obedient Christian every single time.

Neither does Matthew 9:29 ("According to your faith be it unto you") prove that those with more faith are always more likely to be healed. First, the considerations just cited about God's will are not

contradicted by this verse, no matter how one reads it. Second, this verse does not necessarily mean that the blind men received healing in proportion to their faith, but rather as the goal of their faith. The Good-speed translation says it this way: "Have what your faith expects."

Hence, the equation drawn by some that those who are healed always have greater faith than those who are not is false. The biblical facts, and common sense, tell us that faith and obedience are not the total explanation; rather, God's will for the person takes precedence.

Another belief held by many people is that God will heal you if you believe He will. But this reasoning is also fallacious. It is often based upon an assumed definition of faith—namely, that faith is the confidence that God will always heal you because of your faith. But this is wrong! This is *not* the correct definition of faith! FAITH IS NOT THE BELIEF THAT GOD WILL HEAL YOU EVERY TIME YOU ARE SICK! And all

then—many lessons are learned through persistent prayer in patience) and 2) God's will is not always fixed or unchangeable, but rather subject to the prayers of the righteous.

Our prayers may at times affect or even alter God's will within certain limits. But, a sick person should not want his personal will to override God's better judgment. He should pray for healing always subject to God's ultimate will, as did Christ, who asked that His cup of suffering be removed (Matthew 26:36-45). Christ asked that the Father only take the cup of suffering from Him *if* it were the Father's will and *if* it were "possible." Obviously it was technically possible for God to remove Christ's suffering. What Christ meant was that He wanted it removed only if it were possible to accomplish the same end some other way. The Father did not remove the suffering.

In like manner, although we implore God with tears, we must in the

You can have faith that God will heal you if it is in your best spiritual interest. You can utterly trust God to do what is best for you.

who labor under this notion—as many do—will continue to be bewildered by the subject of faith and healing!

God decides what is best

Now read this carefully! Here is a true definition of faith: Faith is utter trust in God. It is utter trust in God to do what God says He will do. Certainly, He *has* promised to give salvation to those who have repented and been baptized (Acts 2:38-39). He *has* promised not to let us suffer beyond what we can bear (I Corinthians 10:13). And He *has* promised He will be our protector and defender (Psalm 28:7, 115:9). We can utterly trust God in faith for these and many other things. But He has nowhere promised to heal everyone every time. So, faith cannot be the belief that God will heal you every time.

Even to ask the question, "How can I have faith that God will heal me now that I am sick, when He has not promised to heal everyone every time" shows the questioner doesn't understand the connection between faith and healing.

The answer to the question is that you *can* have faith that God will heal you if it is in your ultimate *best spiritual interest*. You *can*, and to be a true Christian you *must*, believe that you can utterly trust God to do what is best for you. You can also utterly trust God not to let you suffer more than you can bear. And you can trust God to one day give you salvation and eternal life—but only after you have "suffered a while" (I Peter 5:10) and endured. Belief in these things—belief in these things which God *truly has promised*—is true faith!

Do not misunderstand. A sick person certainly can—indeed, should—pray and ask God to heal him. He should implore God earnestly to divinely intervene. And he should call the elders of the Church for prayer according to James 5:14. God has commanded us to make our requests known to Him by prayer and supplication (Philippians 4:6). And we should be persistent, as Christ instructed His disciples (Luke 11:5-13).

The inescapable reasons are that 1) It just may indeed often be God's will to heal the person (although God expects us to implore Him even

end defer to the Father's will, letting God always use His best judgment whether to heal or not, and with the understanding that God has not failed us if we are not healed. Suffering is a necessary part of this human existence. In our suffering we often face ourselves and turn closer to God. And, we must always remember that perpetual physical health is not the goal or purpose of life and should not be more important to us than the real purpose—that of eternal life as God's sons in His Family.

Total trust in God

When we really understand faith, we see that faith in God for healing is *bigger* than mere faith that God will heal you every time. Faith in God for healing means that you believe God will heal you according to His will for you (which may or may not mean He will heal you this time). It is a more expansive and trusting faith than some seem to realize. It is the faith to trust God even in an illness He doesn't heal.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

is the SOURCE of good, of justice, of fairness, of love, of concern, of gentleness, of kindness, of peace, of stability and of happiness.

The day is coming in which all those who persist in pursuing the way of selfishness, of greed, of disregard for the welfare of others *will perish*.

Only those who have become LIKE GOD—who have become *love* as God is, living the way of *give*, building stronger and stronger, permanent, enduring relationships with others—will continue for all eternity. Humanity will at last have complete spiritual healing as all things are made new.

Unity, to be permanent, must be based upon God's love. If it is not based upon that foundation, it will eventually break apart—because this world's brand of unity is based merely upon mutual *gain* and does not endure suffering.

Further, if God healed every single person every single time, God would be in effect removing health problems from the list of trials which Christians suffer. This is something He has not promised nor chosen to do.

One of the most helpful illustrations about faith in the Bible is the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego and the fiery furnace of Nebuchadnezzar found in Daniel 3. In this story King Nebuchadnezzar had built a huge golden statue and had commanded all his subjects to fall down and worship it. Three Jews—Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego—refused because they knew God forbade idolatry.

In verses 16-17 they told the king: "O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so [i.e., if it be God's will], our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and [if it not be His will to save us out of the furnace alive] he will [nevertheless] deliver us out of thine hand [through death]."

As we all know, God delivered them alive from the fiery furnace. But notice! In their faith they told the king that they knew God would deliver them, but made it clear that they understood the deliverance might be by death in the furnace! They had the faith to face death trusting in God.

So it is with faith and healing. One who trusts God—that is, one who has real faith!—trusts that God *will* act in the sick person's best interest, whether that be to heal him immediately, heal him later or not heal him, even though death be the final result. He knows God will act in his best interest. His sentiments echo Job's when Job said, "Though he [God] slay me, yet will I trust in him" (Job 13:15). But the sick person does not—indeed, cannot—know whether God will heal him this time. And the knowledge that God may or may not heal him does not harm his faith at all, for it is the very reason he needs faith!

Notice the example of Paul in II Corinthians 12:7-10. Here Paul records a trial in which he prayed for deliverance, which God refused. It is not clear here whether the trial included physical illness, but the point applies in any case. This section shows that Paul was willing to endure the trial unabated if God in His judgment deemed it in Paul's best spiritual interests. Certainly, no one can remotely accuse Paul of

lack of faith here! To the contrary, his willing and trusting attitude dominates the example. Yet, even in the face of all this faith, the answer to Paul's prayer was, "No, it is not good for you that I deliver you." Paul, in faith, accepted God's reply.

But why does God allow suffering?

But still, some will ask how God can be a loving and merciful God yet still allow a true Christian to suffer the sometimes excruciating torments of illness. This question is not a mere academic one. Anyone who has ever been very ill knows that the suffering of sickness can be one of the most extreme types of mental and physical suffering. And all who have ever watched a loved one waste away—perhaps over several or more agonizing years—have had to face this question.

The answer again touches on the matter of faith.

The Bible makes plain that God allows suffering in this life to build character (I Peter 1:7). All of the righteous men of old, including Abraham, Moses, David and the apostles, all suffered to various degrees at one time or another. Hebrews 11 shows that this suffering included such things as extreme hardship and even torture! When we read these verses, and ones like them, we sometimes shudder at the amount of suffering even righteous men and women have been allowed to bear.

But when we are personally confronted by severe suffering, especially if it involves children, it can seem that God requires too much of humans sometimes. It is at these times that we must realize two things:

First, much of the suffering that now confronts mankind is the result of man living for thousands of years in disobedience to God's laws. God has allowed men to live in opposition to His laws because He requires humans to make their own free choices, even when their choices oppose His way. If we were not allowed this free choice, we would all be mere robots! This is something none of us want, even though the freedom God has allowed us humans means He has given us the freedom to hurt ourselves.

Second, whether or not the sins of mankind have caused the suffering at hand, the suffering—as severe as it might be—is nevertheless *temporary* ("for a moment"—II Corinthians 4:17) and "not worthy (See HEALING, page 5)

God the Father, and one with each other.

And it will help us review and understand the *avenue* through which God works to bring that unity about—His Holy Spirit—the Spirit that gives us comprehension of the things of God, and which leads our thinking to become like God's thinking.

Let's not lose the spiritual momentum that the Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread have given us. Let's press forward in Christian growth to Pentecost, and on to the fall Holy Days, and beyond, to that great and indescribable day when the Captain of our salvation will return to earth in blinding *glory*, and we will rise to meet Him and be with Him—and *LIKE HIM*—forever!

More than ever before we need to focus upon the fact that God's way is a WAY OF LIFE. It concerns not merely our outward conduct, but our inward man, the way we *think*, the way we *are*! Let's catch the vision! Let's discern the Lord's body!

Healing

(Continued from page 4)

to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). When we—or a loved one—feel pain it can seem that it will last forever and that nothing can be worth enduring it. But God says that this is not so—that eternal life in His Kingdom as His son is worth such suffering a thousand times over!

Consider this: We all know that certain professions in man's world require much preparation, sacrifice and intensive education. For example, to become a brain surgeon or a lawyer may require years and years of study and much personal sacrifice. Since it can be so difficult to become qualified as a doctor or lawyer, imagine how difficult—that is, how much training, study and, yes, even suffering—is necessary to become an actual, spirit-born son of God, filled with power, glory and eternal life! Yet, as hard as it is to live a life of obedience to God's laws and to endure our trials and sufferings—even the trials of illness for ourselves or our loved ones—it is worth it! No other goal could be worth it, but this goal—the true goal and purpose of

life—is worth it all.

But how do we know the reward and goal are worth the suffering? The answer is that God says it is worth it. We must take Him at His word. That is, we must have faith that He knows what is best for us in the long run, even if that means illness and suffering.

Again, the key is faith! This is not a faith that can be faked or "worked up." It is a calm and peaceful trust in God that comes from His Spirit dwelling in us in abundance. Such faith comes from growing close to God through prayer and Bible study, and from waiting in patience for God to deliver one from his trials as He so wills it.

God works with us individually

When we see that God's purpose in our lives may demand we face many trials, even trials of illness, and when we see that even those with much faith aren't necessarily instantly healed, another thing becomes clear as well: We see the futility of trying to determine why God has or has not healed this or that person.

Certainly, every sick person—and every person in any kind of trial—should carefully examine his or her faith with an eye toward in-

creasing that faith. Indeed, this is one major purpose for every trial. But it is not profitable or even possible to try to determine why God has or has not healed another person. Such judging is not constructive and has no place in the spiritual Christian family. A Christian must accept God's purpose in his life and in the lives of others. The potter (God) has power over the clay (us humans). That is the lesson of numerous scriptures (Romans 9:14-23, Exodus 33:19).

The Christian must live his own life, not someone else's. The Christian cannot judge what will happen in his life by what happens to another Christian. Each Christian has a different cross to bear. Some Christians may never be healed. Others may be ill and be immediately healed. Others may recuperate through a combination of divine healing and their own efforts. Some may be healed at one time in their life and not at another—as in the case of Paul. Some may die suddenly of a heart attack; others may languish with cancer. Some die young, others die in middle age, some in their 90s. Some who are unconverted have been healed while some who are converted have not. In fact, one reason why God may do such a thing is that God has a greater purpose in the life of the converted person than He does now in the life of the unconverted. To fulfill His will for the converted person, God may decide to leave one unhealed a short or long time, even to death.

It is both inaccurate and offensive to say that a person who is not healed or who seeks medical aid must be a weak Christian. Anyone who says this misunderstands the nature of faith and its relationship to divine healing. Such a comment seeks to apologize for God in not healing a person while it blames and judges the faith of the sick individual.

No two Christians are the same. We can only see the obvious—that everyone is dealt a different hand. That is why we are commanded not to judge our brothers and sisters. Each of us stands as an individual before God. And, before God, each of us must have the faith to trust God's will in our lives.

But since faith in the face of illness means we must trust God to do what is best for us (even if that means He does not intervene super-

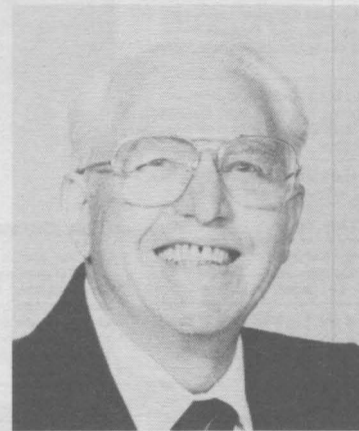
naturally to heal us), then doesn't this in turn mean we should not interfere with God's dealing with us by seeking the aid of medical doctors or other health professionals? After all, wouldn't that mean that we were interfering with God's will? Further, some think the Bible condemns the use of doctors and medicines. Does it?

These and other questions must now be addressed.

(To be continued)

Elder in Reseda dies, member for 25 years

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif.—Charles A. Carson, 78, a local church elder in the Reseda, Calif., church, died Jan. 29. He was born in Walden, N.Y., Nov. 23, 1909.



CHARLES A. CARSON

Mr. Carson began attending Sabbath services in 1962. He was baptized in 1963 and his wife, Bertha, was baptized in 1964. On the Feast of Trumpets in 1965 Mr. Carson was ordained a deacon. He and his family moved to Mount Pocono,

Pa., and he was ordained a local church elder on Pentecost, 1969.

Before he was baptized Mr. Carson served with the Boy Scouts of America and was a district commissioner in New York.

The Carsons moved to Thousand Oaks in 1981.

Mr. Carson is survived by his wife of 55 years; five children and their spouses: Audrey and Charles Nickel Jr., Elaine Vernon, Charlotte and Howard Spielberger, Charles and Mary Carson, and Robert and Pat Carson; 14 grandchildren and spouses: Charles and Loretta Nickel, Robert and Elaine Nickel, Donna and Jeff Leclerc, Debbie Nickel, Bill Guthy, Rick and Denise Guthy, Gordon and Jeff Spielberger, and Kevin, Brian, Steven, Craig, Keith and Crissy Carson; and seven great-grandchildren.

Until Mr. Carson's mother, Cora Gruetzmacher, died in 1980, there were five generations of the family attending God's Church.

Funeral services were conducted by James Friddle, pastor of the Reseda church.

Job open in Caribbean

PASADENA—The Worldwide Church of God has an immediate opening for an accountant in the Caribbean Regional Office, according to the Personnel Office.

The person hired will be responsible for the regional office's accounting database. The database includes 12 sets of books for 12 countries.

The position requires a degree in accounting or the equivalent and at least two years experience with computerized accounting systems. Being a certified public accountant

and having a working knowledge of Spanish would be helpful.

Applicants must be able to legally meet Immigration and Naturalization Service requirements for working in the United States and be baptized members of the Worldwide Church of God in good standing.

Please send a resume and cover letter to Joseph Slevin, c/o Worldwide Church of God, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129. An employment application will then be forwarded to you.

Children's Corner

A special stamp

By Vivian Pettijohn

It was Friday afternoon. Rocky and Jeff Winfield, home from school, had just changed their clothes.

"Rocky, look at this unusual Mexican stamp!" Jeff exclaimed. "Pedro Lopez gave it to me today. I'm going to put it in my stamp album right now."

"That really is a different stamp," Rocky agreed. "But do you have time now to fool with it? Aren't you supposed to be out collecting aluminum cans so your class can sell them and make money?"

"Oh, I can do that later," 9-year-old Jeff said. "I want to do this first, then read in my book about Mexican stamps."

Rocky, age 12, started shining his best shoes to wear tomorrow. When he finished, Jeff was still reading in their bedroom.

"Jeff," Rocky said, frowning. "It will soon be the Sabbath, but you would have time to pick up cans from one house before then."

"Oh," said Jeff impatiently, "there's lots of time. I don't have to turn those cans in until Monday."

"Well," Rocky observed, "if you wait, how will you get it all done in time? Tomorrow when the Sabbath ends it will be too late to start out. That will leave only Sunday to collect cans at all six houses. I could help you if you'd go right now."

"Thanks anyway," Jeff said, "but

our teacher wants us to do all the work ourselves. He says we'll appreciate our trip to Disneyland more next week if we earn the money without anyone else's help. I'll get it done later."

Rocky shrugged and straightened up their room. Then he began to do his school homework.

In a few minutes Mother stopped at their doorway. "Are you boys ready for the Sabbath? Is your work done? If not, hurry and do it."

Jeff glanced at the clock. Then he frowned as he suddenly remembered

something. He jumped up from his chair and ran down the hall to the kitchen, where he grabbed a large plastic garbage bag and headed out the back door.

As he mounted his bicycle, he scolded himself aloud: "Now you've done it. You promised Mrs. Jones you would pick up her cans yesterday after school, but you played touch football and forgot. Then you promised Mrs. Vance you would pick up her empty cans before 4 o'clock this afternoon—and now it's after 5. Why do you post-

pone doing your work? You should just do it and get it over with!"

It was a hilly, tiring six-block ride, and Jeff was glad to reach his destination. As he stopped his bike in the driveway, he saw Mrs. Vance in her car, ready to drive away.

"Why, Jeff," Mrs. Vance exclaimed from the driver's window. "I gave up on you an hour ago. I have to leave now. Here is the garage key, and the cans are in a box inside the door. Hurry, please."

When the tired fourth grader got back home, carrying a full bag of cans, Mr. Winfield opened the door for him.

"Hi, Jeff," Dad said, giving him a quick hug. "You're a little late picking up those cans today, aren't you?"

"I'm afraid so, Daddy," Jeff answered sheepishly. "Before I left, I took time to read about a Mexican stamp Pedro gave me today. I should have done my work first."

"But while I was going over to Mrs. Vance's house, I thought about stamps. A good stamp sticks to an envelope until the envelope gets to where it's going, doesn't it? I guess I need to be more like a stamp—to stick with a job until it's done. It even takes a licking and keeps on sticking, right?"

"That's right, son," Dad said, laughing. "And if you will act like that kind of stamp, I'm sure you'll receive a special stamp from me—my personal stamp of approval."



Artwork to color by Ken Tunell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

APPLETON, Douglas and Billie (Drummond), of Long Beach, Calif., girl, Danielle Lea, Dec. 13, 1987, 4:16 p.m., 7 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

ARMSTRONG, Kenneth and Joyce (Watson), of Calgary, Alta., girl, Lesley Dawn, Feb. 15, 2:14 p.m., 8 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 girls.

ARNOLD, Michael and Brenda (White), of Champaign, Ill., boy, Joshua Lee, March 14, 2:58 p.m., 9 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys.

BARRIE, Lloyd and Joanne (Faeth), of Kalispell, Mont., girl, Elise Nicole, Feb. 29, 5:45 p.m., 6 pounds 5 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

BURNS, Roger and Leone (Dyer), of Waukesha, Wis., girl, Debra Ellen, Feb. 4, 2:01 a.m., 8 pounds, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CARREON, Tony and Martie (Reyes), of Tucson, Ariz., girl, Sara Antoinette, March 7, 2:41 p.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, now 2 girls.

CASEY, Danny and Helen (Parr), of Houston, Tex., boy, William Cole, Feb. 15, 7:04 a.m., 7 pounds 6 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CASSAR, Victor and Marthese (Gatt), of Malta, boy, Blane John, March 3, 11 a.m., 9 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CHARLTON, Frank and Debbie (White), of Blackfoot, Idaho, boy, David Layton, Feb. 7, 5:56 p.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

CHIRWA, Tielmans and Royce (Phin), of Blantyre, Malawi, boy, Zuriel, Jan. 17, 7:15 p.m., 3.6 kilograms, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

CICERO, John and Karen (Downes), of Gold Coast, Australia, boy, Steven John, Dec. 10, 1987, 7 p.m., 8 pounds 5 ounces, first child.

CLOER, Dan and Laura (Birdwell), of Visalia, Calif., girl, Madeline Emily, Feb. 8, 3:39 p.m., 7 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

CODRINGTON, Winston E. and Colette (Stovell), of Hamilton, Bermuda, girl, Zuwena Kissa-Ann, Feb. 13, 5:21 a.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

COTE, Richard and Ginette (Beaudoin), of Montreal, Que., girl, Marie-Eve Ginette, Feb. 15, 10:49 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

CRABTREE, Douglas and Denise (Fingerston), of Boise, Idaho, girl, Maureen Jane, March 11, 6:35 a.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

CURTIS, Verlin and Rhonda (Reames), of Oklahoma City, Okla., boy, John Allen, Feb. 7, 11:39 p.m., 6 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

DAVIDSON, Charles and Dennise (McClinck), of San Jose, Calif., girl, Shannon Nicole, March 4, 10:04 p.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

DAVIS, Doug and Janice (Temple), of Houston, Tex., girl, Kimberly Renee, Sept. 15, 1987, 7:01 a.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

DAVIS, Howard and Patti (Cole), of Auburn, Wash., girl, Christina Rachelle, March 14, 4:12 p.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

DICKINSON, Charles and Donna (Schmidt), of Pasadena, girl, Lauren Taylor, Feb. 25, 7:53 p.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

ELLENWOOD, Jeff and Margaret (Smith), of Roseburg, Ore., girl, Cirith Brunwen, Feb. 9, 10:24 p.m., 7 pounds, now 5 boys, 1 girl.

ELLIOTT, Robert and Patricia (Runels), of Houma, La., girl, Amy Michelle, Feb. 28, 10:52 p.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

ENDRES, Gary and Susan (Blackwell), of Pasadena, boy, James Edward, Feb. 25, 5:12 a.m., 8 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

FENSTERMAKER, Jay and Lori (Mitchell), of Bethlehem, Pa., boy, Michael Jay, Jan. 22, 7:25 p.m., 5 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

FORTUIN, Henri and Carol (Francis), of Cape Town, South Africa, boy, Ansel Charles, March 16, 7:57 a.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

FRISZ, Donald and Janet (Farmer), of Elkhart, Ind., boy, Christopher James, Feb. 25, 5:37 a.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GAFFNEY, Matthew and Viola (Wuerfel), of Manchester, N.H., girl, Jennifer Lynn, Feb. 25, 9:19 a.m., 9 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

GALLOWAY, Billy and Sylvie (King), of Asheville, N.C., girl, Ashley Faye, March 10, 4:10 p.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GUYMON, Michael and Yong (Lee), of Front Royal, Va., boy, Daniel Wade, March 13, 11:12 p.m., 7 pounds, first child.

HARMON, Christopher and Deborah (Boraker), of Borehamwood, England, boy, Robert Edward, Jan. 25, 5:52 p.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, first child.

HEAD, Carl and Neita (Floyd), of Fort Worth, Tex., boy, Micah Andrew, Feb. 29, 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

HOBBS, John and Jamie (Lippincott), of Atlanta, Ga., girl, Ellen Sarah, March 2, 11:24 p.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 girls.

HOPWOOD, Phillip and Patricia (Richoux), of Millet, Alta., boy, Benjamin Phillip, Jan. 5, 8:09 a.m., 9 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

JOHNSON, Xavier and Angela (Sampson), of Atlanta, Ga., boy, Javier Rahaman, March 15, 10:45 a.m., 6 pounds 7 ounces, first child.

KABBES, Robert and Diane (Luker), of Lake Katrine, N.Y., boy, Christopher Fenton, Dec. 20, 1:38 a.m., 10 pounds, now 2 boys.

KLINE, Albert and Tina (Beans), of Big Sandy, boy, Jason Nolan, March 1, 11:57 a.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

LUKER, Stephen and Mechele (Gibson), of Bellevue, Wash., boy, Zachary Stephen, Feb. 19, 12:46 p.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

LUTZ, Timothy and Deborah (Dennis), of Murfreesboro, Tenn., girl, India Jennifer,

Jan. 22, 12:18 p.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

MARVEL, Donald and Brenda (Lipps), of Baltimore, Md., boy, Travis William, March 4, 8:21 p.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

NEAL, Charles III and Lynda (Wiggins), of Buffalo, N.Y., girl, Jacquelin Renee, March 12, 10:22 a.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

NEHK, Jerry and Ann (Sampson), of Fargo, N.D., boy, Adam Wayne, Dec. 28, 1987, 4:57 p.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

NOREIGA, Felix and Estephany (Boneo), of Lopinot, Trinidad, boy, Nathan Gideon, Feb. 7, 8:07 a.m., 5 pounds 11 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

NYANDAITI, Andrew and Murna (Theman), of Yola, Nigeria, boy, Mujunu Andrew, Feb. 2, 1:20 p.m., 3.52 kilograms, now 4 boys, 3 girls.

PAULIS, Don and Susan (Hiebert), of Winnipeg, Man., girl, Katrina Janelle, Feb. 26, 9:04 p.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

PEREZ, Steve and Nina (Chacon), of Los Angeles, Calif., girl, Stephanie Jane, March 10, 7:05 p.m., 6 pounds, first child.

RAVEN, Robert and Valerie (Freeze), of St. John, N.B., girl, Amanda Nina, Sept. 22, 10:36 a.m., 8 pounds 4 ounces, now 1 boy, 3 girls.

RAYNES, Arthur and Elizabeth (Jennings), of San Antonio, Tex., girl, Bethany Kaye, Feb. 20, 8:35 a.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

ROBERTSON, Mark and Ileana (Henderson), of Brisbane, Australia, boy, Duncan Mackendrick, Feb. 25, 7 pounds 6 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

RONCHI, Art and Barb (Gama), of Brampton, Ont., boy, Michael Ryan Louis Arthur, Dec. 14, 1987, 11:30 a.m., 8 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

ROYBAL, Hector and Sharon (Schofield), of Pasadena, girl, Katelyn Eileen, Feb. 26, 1:19 p.m., 8 pounds 12 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

RYAN, Gordon and Lyn (Fallows), of Brisbane, Australia, boy, Isaac Kerry, Jan. 15, 8 pounds 13 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

SANKO, Daniel and Wendy (Tokash), of Punsuatawney, Pa., girl, Alesha Ann, Feb. 29, 12:48 p.m., 8 pounds 1 ounce, first child.

SMITH, Greg and Melinda (Jones), of Pasadena, boy, Gregory Scott II, Jan. 26, 2:38 a.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

SORENSEN, Stanley and Starr (Niles), of Warren, Pa., boy, Samuel David, Oct. 1, 1987, 6:51 a.m., 8 pounds 10 ounces, now 2 boys.

TELLI, Rick and Carol (Seghetti), of Chicago, Ill., boy, Eric Richard, Feb. 29, 9:30 a.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

STRENKO, James and Nancy (Fulton), of Indiana, Pa., boy, Mark Richard, March 17, 4:50 a.m., 5 pounds 12 ounces, now 4 boys.

TACKETT, Ronald and Veronica (Cook), of Lenoir, N.C., girl, Jacqueline Erin, Feb. 24, 12:21 a.m., 7 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

TAN, Roger and Lesley (Tay), of Johore Bahru, Malaysia, boy, Michael Yongsheng, Feb. 22, 9:12 a.m., 5 pounds 9 ounces, now 2 boys.

TRISCHUK, Henry and Joyce (Langenhoff), of Saskatoon, Sask., boy, Stefan Timothy, Feb. 14, 6:19 a.m., 8 pounds, now 5 boys.

UTT, Thomas and Lora (Lee), of Cypress, Calif., boy, Jason Thomas, March 3, 9:15 a.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, first child.

VANDEGRIFF, David Jr. and Selena (Martin), of St. Albert, Alta., girl, Amber Nicole, Feb. 27, 1:20 a.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, first child.

WALKER, John and Florence (Frew), of Ballymena, Northern Ireland, girl, Rachele Diane, Jan. 22, 6 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

WALLACE, Ken and Jane (Gadsdon), of Milton Keynes, England, boy, James Richard, Feb. 4, 11:26 p.m., 6 pounds 14 ounces, first child.

WATKINS, Robert Jr. and Sharon (Milburn), of Parkersburg, W. Va., girl, Jessica Dawn, Feb. 5, 6:41 a.m., 7 pounds 7 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

WELTER, Herb and Paula (Kailey), of Lincoln, Neb., girl, Laura Jo, Feb. 26, 8:28 a.m., 8 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

WILLARDSEN, James and Susan (McCormack), of Auburn, Wash., boy, Bernard Samuel, Feb. 12, 12:58 p.m., 9 pounds 7 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

WOOD, Robert and Beth (Marvel), of Baltimore, Md., boy, David Charlton, Jan. 18, 6:25 a.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

YANDT, Randy and Tina (Van De Polder), of Kingston, Ont., boy, Gregory Michael, Feb. 3, 7:16 p.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 boys.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roe of Big Sandy are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa to Jeff Caudle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Caudle of Houston, Tex. A July 10 wedding in Big Sandy is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Von Arx of Granby, Que., are happy to announce the engagement of their son Rene Eric to Mary Ann Smith, daughter of Arthur B. Smith Jr. of Belle Vernon, Pa., and Phyllis Smith of Pittsburgh, Pa. A September wedding in Pennsylvania is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. K.D. Congdon of Stuart, Fla., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Laura Jean to Kenneth J. Waddell of Port St. Lucie, Fla., son of James Waddell and the late Faye Waddell. A June wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Sowers are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sharon to John Walker of Modesto, Calif. A June 5 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann Birawo of Lucerne, Switzerland, would like to announce the

engagement of their daughter Susanna to Charles Albrecht, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon Albrecht of Dallas, Tex. A May 15 wedding is planned.

Dr. and Mrs. John H. Overton of Hammond, La., are happy to announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Miriam Carroll, to George de Vlugt Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. George de Vlugt of Kitchener, Ont. A June 19 wedding in Pasadena is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Reynoud of West Palm Beach, Fla., are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Lynn Marie to Douglas Paul Wagoner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wagoner of Atlanta, Ga. A June 12 wedding in Pasadena is planned.

June Kerr of Tauranga, New Zealand, and Sig Rein of Auckland, New Zealand, are happy to announce their engagement.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ritchie of Monaghan, Ireland, would like to announce the engagement of their daughter Heather Annette to Gordon Evans of Birmingham, England. A July 14 wedding in Dublin, Ireland, is planned.

WEDDINGS

Juliana Maton and Philip Bauter were united in marriage March 5. The ceremony was performed by Randy Holm, pastor of the Champaign and Springfield, Ill., churches. Jan Maton, daughter of the bride, was maid of honor, and Toby Bauter, son of the groom, was best man. The couple reside in Newman, Ill.

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ACCENT ON THE LOCAL CHURCH

1,800 celebrate Cincinnati's silver

"Twenty-five Years of Service" was the theme for the 25th anniversary of the founding of the **Cincinnati**, Ohio, church Feb. 27.

More than 1,800 brethren from the Cincinnati North, South, East and West churches combined for Sabbath services, a catered meal, a slide presentation and a dance. The activities took place at the Music Hall in downtown Cincinnati.

Evangelist Carn Catherwood, the first Cincinnati pastor and now regional director for the Church in Italian-speaking areas, gave the sermon. Edward Smith, a local church elder in the Cincinnati North

church, gave the sermonette.

Twenty-seven ministers who served or who now serve in the area attended the celebration. The congregation heard recorded greetings from former pastors who were unable to attend, including evangelist Richard Ames and David Albert, *World Tomorrow* presenters. The



AMAZING RACE—Joseph Tkach III, age 2, crawls through a maze at the annual Pasadena Auditorium P.M. pancake breakfast March 20. He is followed by his father, Joseph Tkach Jr., assistant director of Church Administration for the United States. [Photo by Thomas C. Hanson]

Cincinnati church has contributed to the establishment of 16 churches with an attendance of about 4,000 people. *David Metzel.*

Youths learn kite making at camp-out

The **Jackson, Miss.**, church sponsored a men and children's overnight camp-out March 12 and 13. The fatherless and motherless children of the congregation were invited along with other children.

In a lakeside park the men taught the children how to make and fly their own kites, and the children watched the men prepare three meals for them over a camp fire. *H.B. Wells.*



DREAM COME TRUE—Gary Lyle, 16, and his mother, Evelyn, from Norfolk, Va., toured the Ambassador College campus March 31, after the Norfolk church raised funds for them to visit headquarters. Gary, victim of a brain tumor, met Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach on the first day of Unleavened Bread, April 2. "It was Gary's dream to come out and see the college," said Mrs. Lyle. [Photo by Marie Myers]

Malta runner raises funds for Church

Malta brethren sponsored Raymond Camilleri, a Church member there, who ran in the Malta marathon Feb. 21 to raise funds for the Church's building fund.

More than 400 athletes participated in the 26.2-mile race and a half-marathon that took place at the same time. The course was changed so runners would not face a head wind for 13 miles.

Mr. Camilleri, who was suffering from back problems, finished 62nd, with a time of 3 hours, 22 minutes, 15 seconds. He bettered his own record by almost one half hour.

Mr. Camilleri dedicated each mile to the 26 children who attend the Malta church. The final two tenths went to the then unborn child of Marthese Cassar (see "Births," page 6). *David Stirk.*

Burned house rebuilt

Members of the **Quezon City, Philippines, Spokesman Club** helped rebuild the house of Cleofas Calmateo, a widowed Church member, Feb. 7. Her former house, made of light wood and thatch, burned down two weeks earlier.

The group added walls, windows and doors into the house frame, which was constructed by Mrs. Calmateo's neighbors. The Church donated corrugated galvanized-iron roofing sheets and lumber used for the rebuilding project. *Eleazar V. Flores.*

Michigan members mark church's 25th

"Congratulations to all of you on the silver anniversary of the **Grand Rapids [Mich.] church!**" These words from Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach were read to 441 Church members celebrating the 25th anniversary of the congregation March 26.

One hundred thirty-one brethren, including Mr. Tkach, then a deacon in the Chicago, Ill., church, attended the first Sabbath

service May 25, 1963. Grand Rapids was the first church established in Michigan.

William Miller, pastor of the Appleton and Green Bay, Wis., churches, and Frank McCrady Jr., pastor of the Columbus and Indianapolis, Ind., churches, gave split sermons. Both men have pastored the Grand Rapids church.

Evening activities included a dinner, a slide presentation, memories

(taped or in person) from pastors who served in Grand Rapids, selections performed by the Grand Rapids and Muskegon, Mich., church choir and dancing to the music of the Elgine Vines Quartet.

Mark Welch, a Grand Rapids local church elder, commented: "The celebration helped all of us to understand and appreciate our Church roots. It was truly a memorable occasion of Ambassador quality."

AMBASSADOR ACTIVITIES

OUTREACH HONORS SENIOR CITIZENS

PASADENA—"We know you are the backbone, wisdom and fiber of God's Church. That's why we want to honor you here tonight," Gary Antion, Ambassador College faculty member and adviser of Outreach, told more than 115 senior citizens at a banquet March 27.

Outreach, a student volunteer organization, sponsors the annual banquet for elderly members from Pasadena and surrounding church areas, according to Brent Hardin, assistant Outreach director, who coordinated the event.

The theme of the banquet was "God Bless America." The student center clubrooms, where the banquet took place, were decorated with red, white and blue ribbons, flags and sculptured eagles.

After dinner the Young Ambassadors, and Outreach members who perform in convalescent homes, presented entertainment.

"It was fantastic being able to serve the senior citizens," said junior Marlene Myers, who participated in the entertainment. "We've been preparing since January, and we were so excited putting together different numbers that would show honor to them."

"I thought it was wonderful," said Dolores Dennis, 85, of the Auditorium A.M. church. "I don't know where we older people could get entertainment like that. I liked the song 'God Bless America' the best." More than half of the student

body is involved in Outreach, according to Mr. Antion. Members tutor youths at the Church's Imperial High School and area schools, visit senior citizens, perform in convalescent homes and do special projects. An Outreach program began in Big Sandy in 1986.

CHANCELLOR ANNOUNCES STUDENT LEADERS

PASADENA—Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach announced student leaders for the 1988-89 school year at a March 22 forum.

Kevin Brownlee, 24, from Middleburg, Fla., will serve as student body president in Pasadena, and David Clark, 25, from Calgary, Alta., will be student body president in Big Sandy. Student body vice president in Pasadena will be Douglas Orban. Stephen Clark will serve as vice president in Big Sandy.

Mr. Tkach also announced the following students to serve as student leaders in Big Sandy: James Garden, David Garrett, Paul Meyer, Michael Rochelle, Marcel Schnee, Jerome Wendt, Sonya Blythe, Penny Braun, Anne Cady, Kim Demont, Adrienne MacDonald, Stefanie Miller, Marlene Myers and Stephanie Smith.

Miss Smith will serve as overall Women's Club president, and Arlene Dion will be overall Women's Club president in Pasadena.

Class presidents in Pasadena will be Bradley Reed, senior; Laurance Nicholls, junior; and Richard

Crow, sophomore.

Matt King, junior, will serve in the Caribbean Regional Office for one year.

Mr. Tkach encouraged students to make the most of their college careers. "Ambassador College is an opportunity factory run on the conveyor belt of give," he said.

STUDENTS STEP BACK IN TIME

BIG SANDY—Thirty-six Ambassador College students toured Natchez, Miss., a historic city featuring antebellum homes, March 18 to 20. The annual trip was led by Clifford Anderson, professor of history, and his wife, Evelyn.

Most of the students were chosen for the trip from Dr. Anderson's Western Civilization class. Friday, March 18, the group traveled to Monroe, La., where they attended Sabbath services. They then traveled to Natchez and ate a potluck meal with brethren.

Saturday night students attended the annual Confederate Pageant, commemorating life in Natchez before the Civil War.

Afterward some students spent the night at the home of Orville and Iris Ashcraft, Church members. The home is almost 160 years old, according to Dr. Anderson. "The high point for many students was the Southern hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Ashcraft," he said. Other area brethren also were hosts to students. The next day the group

toured four antebellum homes dating back to the early-to-mid-1800s. "The homes have been restored or maintained since the pre-Civil War era. Students learned quite a bit of history," Dr. Anderson said.

The purpose of the trip is for students to get out of the

classroom into active research, and to learn appreciation for quality, he said. The trip has been an annual event since the college reopened in 1981.

"It puts students in touch with outlying church areas, and puts Church members in touch with students," he added. "They just love it."



OUT IN FRONT—Steven Cain, 29, from Salem, Ore., left, and Ambassador College junior David Bauman lead the annual Pasadena Ambassador College 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) race March 27. Mr. Cain was the overall winner and Mr. Bauman took second. [Photo by Philip Aust]

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

UPDATE

PASADENA—Promotional pieces advertising *The Plain Truth* were mailed to 4.9 million names on 100 lists early in 1988 and netted a response rate of 6.5 percent.

Ray Wright, operation manager for Publishing Services, called it the Church's biggest direct-mail drop ever. More than 320,000 subscribers were added.

"That's about what we predicted," said Boyd Leeson, U.S. *Plain Truth* circulation manager, "but it's quite a job now to determine which lists were the most effective."

"We are always replenishing the PT list, because people . . . don't renew," said Mr. Leeson.

Using an address standardization system purchased last year, the Mail Processing Center (MPC) saved time by not having to enter the name and address of each subscriber, according to Gary Endres, supervisor of the terminals section.

"Computer operators basically entered numbers corresponding to a computerized master list of names and addresses," said Mr. Endres. "We probably handled the responses in about one-seventh the time, and people got on the file much faster."

The direct-mail packages were designed by Publishing's promotional graphics team headed by Terry Warren.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—A record 655,000 replies were received in the United States to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's November semiannual letter advertising *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*, according to Wayne Pyle, report coordinator for Media Production Services.

That number, representing a 20.6 percent response, surpasses the old record of 596,000 responses.

Work in Britain takes 'biggest step forward'

PASADENA—"The biggest step forward for the work in Britain and Europe" in 35 years took place Feb. 28, when the *World Tomorrow* telecast began to be aired on Super Channel.

So said evangelist Frank Brown, regional director for English-speaking Europe, when Super Channel, a pan-European satellite channel, aired the telecast to a potential audience of 10 million homes in 15 countries across Europe.

The British Office received 30 responses to the 12:30 p.m. telecast, "Positive Parenting," by evangelist David Hulme.

Because of technical difficulties the address of the British Office was not announced at the end of this and the next two telecasts. However, the address was given midway through the program. The problem has now been resolved. As a result, the program on AIDS, which aired March 27, brought in 125 letters.

Thirty-five years ago *The World Tomorrow* was first heard in Europe on Radio Luxembourg. That station aired the English-language broadcast until 1966. Broadcasting resumed from 1981 to 1982.

"Those who respond to the telecast in Europe are really interested in what we are saying," said Thomas Lapacka, assistant director of Media Purchasing. "Because no telephone number is given they must jot down the address to write for the literature." He added that English is

PASADENA—Arrangements and prices for the 1988 Feast of Tabernacles in Amman, Jordan, are complete, according to the Festival Office here.

The 11-night tour, Sept. 22 to Oct. 4, includes air fare, accommodations, meals (except six lunches), tips, taxes, entrance fees to scheduled sites and ground transportation.

Deluxe accommodations from New York, N.Y., are \$1,390 for each adult, \$80 for each child up to 2 years old and \$790 for children ages 2 to 11 sharing their parents' room.

First-class accommodations are \$1,290 for each adult, \$80 for children up to 2 years old and \$670 for children ages 2 to 11 sharing their parents' room.

The land-only portion of the Feast package is available for \$800 for the deluxe package and \$670 for the first-class package.

An optional tour to Israel Oct. 4 to 10, excluding three lunches, is

\$530 for each adult. An optional tour to Egypt Oct. 4 to 10, excluding three lunches, is \$705 for each adult. A second optional tour to Egypt, Oct. 10 to 14, excluding two lunches, is \$510 for each adult.

For a breakdown of costs from other points of departure, children's prices and other information, applicants should see their Festival adviser.

To apply for the Jordan Festival tour brethren should complete an international Feast transfer application and give it to their church pastor for forwarding.

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PASADENA—The Festival Office announced that the following Feast sites have reached capacity and can no longer accept transfer applications: Bonndorf, West Germany; Montego Bay, Jamaica; Christ Church, Barbados; Crown Point, Tobago; and Malta.

The Caribbean Office plans to mail the first approvals for overseas transfer applicants April 21.

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SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—Applicants to Caribbean Feast sites should not make direct housing reservations with the establishments listed in the Feb. 15 *Worldwide News*.

All housing arrangements for

those approved to transfer will be coordinated through the Caribbean Office.

Anyone needing specific information about a Caribbean housing establishment may call the Caribbean Festival Office at 809-795-7200.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—The Festival Office released the following information about the 1988 Feast of Tabernacles in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Brethren will leave the United States Sept. 18 on a tour, arriving in Bangkok Sept. 19. In Bangkok the group will stay at the Montien Hotel, a five-star international-standard hotel used by Herbert W. Armstrong.

Tours will include a river cruise to Ayutthaya, Thailand's ancient capital, visits to the Grand Palace and other sites in Bangkok and a visit to the royal projects on the grounds of the king's residence. The Ambassador Foundation supported King Bhumibol in these projects for many years.

The Day of Atonement will be observed in the Montien Hotel.

Sept. 25 the group will fly to Chiang Mai. Accommodations during the Feast will be at the Chiang Mai Orchid Hotel, where Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach stayed when he visited Chiang Mai in early

1988. A full program of tours and cultural activities is planned during the Festival.

The tour group will leave Thailand Oct. 4 and arrive in the United States the same evening.

Cost for the package is \$1,700 for each adult, including meals, accommodations, transportation and air fare from Los Angeles or Seattle, Wash.

Mr. Tkach asked that the number of openings for brethren to attend the Feast in Thailand be increased, so this year most who would like to go will be accommodated. To apply, call Ronda Perry in the Travel Office at 818-304-4088. Those who have already applied need not call.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach met with California Secretary of State March Fong Eu March 23.



CALIFORNIA SEAL—California Secretary of State March Fong Eu presented this decree to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach as head of the Ambassador Foundation. Mr. Tkach received the decree in his office March 23. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Dr. Eu last visited the campus during the visit of Thailand's Queen Sirikit in 1985. She was invited to return when she expressed interest in meeting the new Ambassador Foundation chairman, Mr. Tkach.

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PASADENA—The first session of Ministerial Refreshing Program V began April 13.

Those attending include regional directors, refreshing program instructors, the Advisory Council of Elders, some Pasadena personnel and representatives from the field ministry. These men will give input about the lectures to fine tune the program for the remaining sessions, according to Joseph Tkach Jr., assistant director of Church Administration for the United States.



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

PASADENA—Switzerland's federal court ruled Feb. 19 that Annina Ryser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Ryser, members who attend the Zurich, Switzerland, church, be excused from school for the entirety of the Fall Feast.

"This court victory could be very important in setting a precedent for members' children in Switzerland in the future," said John Karlson, regional director for German-speaking areas.

Before the ruling, provisions existed for Jews to take off a couple of days at the beginning and end of the Feast, but not for the entire time.

Based on that ruling, school authorities refused to give Annina time off from school for the entire Festival in 1986.

"The Rysers appealed this decision and were turned down twice, forcing them to take the case to court," said Mr. Karlson. "Swiss lawyers were very pessimistic about the chances of winning the case, but thanks to members' prayers and the help of the Legal Office in Pasadena, the case was won."

Narrow escape

Robert Fahey, Australian and Asian regional director, reported that Russell Couston, pastor of the Grafton, Australia, church, and his wife, Esther, were forced off the road by an oncoming four-wheel-drive vehicle Feb. 28, after conducting a Bible study at Narrabri, Australia.

"Russ veered and missed the vehicle, hit an embankment, was propelled to the other side of the road, hit another embankment and rolled down a 12-foot incline," said Mr. Fahey.

The car rolled over once and came to rest on its roof. The Coustons found themselves in their seat belts upside down.

They suffered only cuts and bruises, and crawled out of Mr. Couston's broken window. They are thankful for God's protection, said Mr. Fahey.

Holding firm

This letter was received by the Auckland, New Zealand, Office from a prospective member who was fired from his position as a schoolteacher in a remote area of Vanuatu.

"I'm writing to let you know that I'm no longer in Vanuatu. I have moved to New Caledonia. I'm trying to find a job here because in Vanuatu I was discharged, after having been a teacher for 10 years, for the simple reason that I am a *Pure Verite* [French *Plain Truth*] subscriber.

"I love the magazine and don't want to be without it, and for that reason I accepted the firing."

Trip to India

Portions of a letter received from Bharat Naker in India appear below.

"My wife [Urvashi] and I recently completed our second 20-day tour around India in January and February. We visited 13 cities and towns. Bible studies were conducted in seven cities, with attendance ranging from five to 30.

"It was very rewarding to meet many of the brethren in their own homes and unique environments around the country. Some families are isolated from the seven regular Bible study areas and are really appreciative of a . . . visit.

"The only regular church at the moment in India is in Bombay with attendance of over 40. There are 114 baptized members and 40 potential members around the whole of India."

Swaziland lecture

A *Plain Truth* Bible lecture conducted in Swaziland by Petros Manzingana, pastor of the Soweto, South Africa, church, brought 34 to the meeting. Twenty people attended a follow-up Bible study.

The regular Bible study in Swaziland has 20 to 25 in attendance, "so this group gives potential for good growth," said evangelist Leslie McCullough, South African regional director.

Among those attending were a doctor from Uganda, a teacher from Ghana and a Pentecostal minister. "What a diversified audience!" Mr. McCullough said.

"The brethren in Swaziland are anxious for enough growth to merit a church there," he added.

Mr. McCullough also said that some booklets are being translated and published in the Afrikaans language.

"This is one of the two official languages, and we are not able to effectively reach a significant portion of the population without at least some literature in Afrikaans," he said.

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