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Workshop lays groundwork for Church's five-year plan

By Bill Palmer

PASADENA—"If you fail to plan, you plan to fail," Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach said in his keynote address to managers assembled for the five-year plan workshop Aug. 2 and 3.

Bill Palmer is an assistant to Bernard Schnippert, director of Media Operations.

The workshop was the first stage in the development of the 1990-1994 Pastor General's Five-Year Plan.

This is the first year that the operation managers laid the groundwork for the plan in a two-day workshop. Mr. Tkach called the new format an important bench mark for the Work.

This workshop "is one of the first times in God's Work that many of the leaders . . . have a forum to [discuss plans] as brothers in Christ, respecting one another, having tolerance even for whatever differences of opinion there might be," he said.

Last year the managers met in regular, two-hour sessions to discuss goals and objectives for the Work. According to Bernard Schnippert, appointed by Mr.

Tkach to serve as director of the five-year plan task force, the new format offers a number of benefits.

"Having a single, two-day meeting enabled us to become totally immersed in the five-year plan," he said. And it "will make it possible for the task force to complete the plan early enough that Mr. Tkach can use it as a guide when he examines departmental budgets for 1990."

Fostering team spirit

During his address at the workshop, Mr. Tkach pointed out that the meeting was more than a springboard for the five-year plan. He explained that it also promotes communication among the departments, fostering the kind of team spirit that will make the operations more efficient.

Speaking about the planning process, Mr. Tkach reminded the managers of their responsibility to convey information to him. He noted that each one knows his operational responsibilities best.

"For me to be able to make decisions," he said, "I need to have accurate information funneled in to me."

"I do not pretend to be an expert in each of your departments," he

added later. "I need you to tell me what you believe is best for your operation." Mr. Tkach calls the process a "decision-support system."

After Mr. Schnippert's introductory remarks and Mr. Tkach's address, evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer, and Dennis Stauffer of Financial Affairs, presented a financial projection for the next five years. This presentation was scheduled first because the funds available will affect each of the operations.

After the financial overview, the operation managers presented their concerns as well as their goals and objectives for the next five years.

Individual reports

Ray Wright, director of Media



PLANNING SESSION—Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach (left) meets with operation managers and key headquarters personnel to discuss plans of the Work for the next five years. [Photo by Warren Watson]

Planning & Promotion, said that the progress of the European Common Market may open doors for *The World Tomorrow*.

But the European offices are not yet capable of handling a dramatic

increase in literature and visit requests, he said. The Church must build an infrastructure that can handle the increase before it can pursue openings in television.

(See FIVE-YEAR, page 11)

Chancellor launches school year

Texas starts four-year school

By Monty Bobo

BIG SANDY—Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach arrived on the Ambassador College campus here Aug. 13 to officially begin the 1989-90 academic year.

Monty Bobo is editor of the Big Sandy Portfolio, the Ambassador College newspaper.

For the first time since 1977, a four-year program is offered here.

The campus has operated as a two-year college since 1981. The Big Sandy campus was founded 25 years ago in 1964.

Mr. Tkach presided at a college board meeting the afternoon he arrived.

Aug. 14 Mr. Tkach launched the school year by speaking to faculty and students in the college's field house. He emphasized the importance of planning and setting priorities.

"Planning involves priorities, and our first priority is to God," he said.

In his introductory comments evangelist Roderick Meredith, Big Sandy provost, referred to Ambassador College as a gold mine.

Continuing with this analogy Mr. Tkach encouraged students to dig for the gold.

"Things don't just happen, and don't get in the mode of waiting for things to happen," he said. "We have to be the movers and shakers that make things happen."

Mr. Tkach commented on teamwork as an aspect of planning. "Stu-

dents are an important part of the Work, but you can't stand alone," he said, emphasizing the need for unity among the students and faculty.

After Mr. Tkach's address evangelist Donald Ward, Ambassador College president, spoke to the students.

"We want to teach you independence, maturity and self-sufficiency," Dr. Ward said. "You must always realize that you are accountable and responsible for all your actions."

A main thrust of Dr. Ward's message was to "discover the joy of learning."

"To many, education is viewed as an obstacle in the way of what they want to do," he said.

Dr. Ward concluded by telling the students that proper education is the only way to true freedom.

After the assembly Mr. Tkach attended a faculty luncheon, where he announced plans to build a new administration building on the Big Sandy campus.

That evening Mr. Tkach attended the freshman reception. Freshmen gathered at the Festival Administration Building to meet Mr. Tkach and faculty members.

After the reception the freshmen and faculty joined the rest of the student body for a dance in the college dining hall.

Mr. Tkach was accompanied on the Church's BAC 1-11 jet by Joseph Locke, executive assistant; evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer; and Rick van Pelt, director of Facilities Management.

Dr. Ward and his wife, Wanda, and Kent Lading and Phillip Sandilands of Telecommunications returned to Pasadena with Mr. Tkach and his party. Mr. Lading and Mr. Sandilands worked on the campus phone system.

Serving as Mr. Tkach's BAC 1-11 flight crew were Captain Ken Hopke; Lawrence Dietrich, co-captain; Dean Mohr, engineer; Jay Brothers, steward; and Terence Wiclawski, chef.

Mr. Tkach and his party returned to Pasadena Aug. 15.



RECEPTIVE CHANCELLOR—Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach greets David Cagle at the freshman reception in Big Sandy Aug. 14. Above: students move into Booth City, their accommodations for the 1989-90 school year. [Photos by Mike Bedford]

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren,

Aug. 2 and 3 I had a two-day workshop with all the Work's top managers, or their representatives, to lay the groundwork for the 1990 to 1994 five-year plan.

This workshop was a milestone because it was the first time all the leaders had a forum in which they could come together at one time as brothers in Christ, considering one another's needs and planning together for the future.

Because this is a Work of faith, we have sometimes uncon-

sciously assumed that God will do everything for us. Of course, God expects us to rely on him while we do everything in our power to fulfill the commission he has given us.

No one can look into the future and know exactly what will happen. An understanding of prophecy guides us, but it doesn't give us knowledge of all the details. In many ways, we are the ones responsible for the details. We can't determine the course of world events, but we can and must plan our future, planning what we will do, as God permits.

Importance of planning

Planning should never become inconsistent with reliance on God. We don't stop trusting in him just because we plan. God expects us to do our part. That requires planning.

More than that, planning helps us recognize the needs God alone can provide. It helps us recognize God's hand when he supplies those needs and, in that sense, planning helps build faith.

As I said in the regional directors conference, if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Wherever you see success, a certain plan of action was employed to accomplish the objective.

Even though plans may be modified along the way, planning leads to success because it helps the planner focus on what he or

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INSIDE

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Spain seeks future in united Europe

PASADENA—One major nation of Western Europe my wife, Barbara, and I did not visit on our seven-week tour this summer was Spain. We planned to go there but time and distance would not permit.

However, Ralph Levy, instructor in Spanish at Ambassador College in Pasadena, toured Spain for five weeks this summer, escorting five students. Afterward he summed up his impressions of Spain in a report to me as follows.

Report from Spain

"The students were surprised by what they saw of Spain, a country dramatically different from the vaguely anachronistic nation ruled by Francisco Franco until his death in 1975.

"Spain today is vibrant, energetic, prosperous and highly politicized.

"A member of both the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the European Community, Spain sees its future firmly anchored within modern Europe, both politically and economically.

"Virtually the entire political spectrum in Spain is pro-EC. Spaniards credit the Community

WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



for their increased prosperity and an end to the embarrassing isolation they endured throughout the Franco years. More than once I heard the term *'la nacion de los doce'* (the nation of the 12) used in conversation.

"As prosperity has increased, moral standards have declined dramatically. Since the establishment of democracy, most of the young have thrown out the old Catholic morality in its entirety.

"We saw teenagers consuming large quantities of alcohol, noticed the smell of marijuana in the air several times (drug laws are lenient in the new Spain) and saw endless rows of advertisements for massage parlors in the daily newspapers.

"Yet in spite of all this license, the influence of the Catholic Church is still everywhere to be

seen: in the cathedrals, which dominate the skylines, and the rosaries and crosses displayed in many homes, cars and offices.

"The new constitution of 1978 declared freedom of religion for Spaniards, but recognized the special role the Catholic Church has played and continues to play."

Spain in the news

News accounts confirm Mr. Levy's assessment that Spain is in the midst of a remarkable national transformation.

A member of the European Community for only 3½ years, it has caught the European unity fever in a big way. Its politicians enthusiastically endorse all aspects of the 1992 single-market plan.

Spain's economy is growing so rapidly—about 5 percent a year—

that its economists fear overheating.

Furthermore, the magical year of 1992 means more to Spain than to other EC members. In that year Barcelona will be host to the 1992 Summer Olympic Games.

Even more significantly, the city of Seville will be host to Expo 92, a world's fair timed to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' initial voyage to the New World.

For most Spaniards, Jan. 1, 1986, the day Spain officially entered the European Community, was a red-letter day. "We are finally Europeans" was a common expression.

But officials in charge of Spain's realignment into the European Community realize that the nation still has a long way to go to come up to speed with its partners.

Pedro Solbes, secretary of state for the European Community at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, described

Spain as "somewhere between a developing and a developed country."

Two major weak spots are transport and telecommunications. Because of its mountainous geography, which makes railroad construction and operation difficult and costly, Spain has one of the slowest, oldest and most financially troubled national railway systems.

Compounding this is the fact that Spain's wide-gauge track doesn't mesh with its neighbors north of the Pyrenees. The bogies, or wheel assemblies, underneath railway carriages on international passenger trains have to be switched at the border.

All this is to change. Standard gauge railway tracks are to be built to major Spanish cities. And high speed trains, similar to France's TGV (*Train Grande Vitesse*) units, will be introduced.

These improvements will enable Spain to be part of a huge 230,000 kilometer (142,600 mile) pan-European high-speed rail network **(See SPAIN, page 11)**



European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder

A look at the Spanish: conversational people

MADRID, Spain—When I visit another country I usually take home one main impression.

My trip to Spain was no exception. The Spanish love to talk—and they're quite good at it. They also like to listen.

When one is told that a Spaniard eats his evening meal as late as 10 p.m., the reaction is astonishment. That is, until you realize that he doesn't go to bed until 2 or 3 a.m. Then you remember the fabled siesta—two or three hours of shut-eye in the afternoon.

Finally it all makes sense. The life-style is different, but they are certainly no worse for it.

Much of the Western world has slipped into some bad habits. We don't talk to each other. People don't converse on the streets. We protect our privacy.

John Mortimer, a British novelist, gave his notion of a good hotel. He said: "One good rule to bear in mind is to look for hotels with very little lobby space. Then there are no people milling about as if it is a railway."

I stayed in a modest hotel here, and one thing it had was plenty of lobby space. Lots of comfortable armchairs and couches placed there with one thing in mind—good conversation.

A July 2 Los Angeles Times article about New York City said, "To make eye contact in a public place is to risk sending an inadvertent message: a proposition, if one is female; a challenge or threat, if one is male."

A friend of mine said he once smiled a friendly hello to a stranger in Manhattan. In reply the stranger grabbed him by the scruff of the neck, bashed him into the side of a building and asked, "Just what do you mean by that, buddy?"

Of course, not all New Yorkers are that way. The article said, "One does find exceptions to the public behavior described here—an open and friendly smile, a gesture of personal concern . . . but those encounters are notable precisely for their singularity."

In other words they are the exception to the rule. Not so in Madrid. Eye contact means just what it should to a fellow human be-

ing—a gesture of friendliness.

Spaniards are on the streets of their capital city conversing until the wee hours of the morning. They linger long over dinner. People of all ages sit and talk for many hours.

Protecting our privacy

Airport magazine ran a success story about a member of a famous European family. In conclusion it said that if you try to get close to this individual he retreats "into icy disinformation."

And, "like all the old European families [they] know how to preserve their privacy."

Clearly, a certain amount of privacy is necessary for good mental health. And some celebrities have to protect their private lives for security reasons.

Nonetheless, it is a shame when friends can't occasionally just drop by unannounced. Many of us have fond remembrances of occasions when someone dared to darken our door without telephoning first.

Obtaining information

A mid-century President of the United States was noted for not reading much. He spent hours talking on the telephone piling up knowledge from experts in many fields. He preferred it that way.

That's more like the Spanish. John Hooper, *Guardian* correspondent and author of *The Spaniards*, wrote: "For a people whose recent history has been . . . eventful, the Spaniards are surprisingly unenthusiastic newspaper readers."

"The best-selling Spanish daily *El Pais* has an average circulation of just under 350,000, and only eight papers in the entire country sell in excess of 100,000 copies a day. Less than one Spaniard in every ten buys a daily newspaper" (page 130).

How then do the Spanish receive the knowledge they need to function in society? Conversation is one way; television is another.

Said the July 5 *European Times*: "Spaniards are TV addicts. Over two thirds prefer to form their political opinions from watching the box than from reading newspapers. This makes television in Spain more politically powerful than anywhere else in Europe."



Just between friends

By Dexter H. Faulkner

Do you measure up?

In our kitchen my wife, Shirley, and I have set aside an archway to the pantry as our measuring board. On this board are several lines with names and ages of each of our grandchildren at different stages of their lives.

At dinner the other night, David, our youngest grandson, came running into the kitchen. He cried, "Opa, Opa, measure me." So I took him by the hand and had him stand tall and straight against the board. I took my pencil and made a new mark on the board with his name beside it.

David looked me in the eye and, with a smile, asked, "Am I a bigger boy?"

"Yes, you are a bigger boy," I said, because he had grown half an inch since the last time we'd measured.

Then, of course, his dad, Matthew, was not going to be left out. "Measure me, Dad." I did, but I had to pull up a chair to stand on to do it.

We all measure up in different ways at different times in our lives. When we are children it's easy to measure our progress. Physical growth is obvious. But how do you measure spiritual growth?

A little personal Bible study revealed an interesting answer to my question. If you think about it a little, I'm sure you'll guess the answer. Spiritual growth is measured against the yardstick of the example set for us by Jesus Christ.

Spiritual measuring stick

One important observation we can make about Jesus Christ's approach is that he worked with people in a positive way. He spent time helping people work through life's difficulties. He saw people who not only had their problems, but also had potential and hopes as well.

If we are to measure up to Christ's example we must compare how much positive outgoing concern we show for those we deal with on a day-to-day basis.

Another basic characteristic of Christ's approach was his compas-

sion for others. We see this expressed in Mark 8:2: "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat."

Another passage showing his compassion is Mark 6:34: "And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things."

Christ's concern was to alleviate suffering and meet the needs of the people. Do we meet the needs of our family, friends and co-workers as Christ did?

Jesus worked with people in a positive way. He spent time helping people work through life's difficulties. He saw people who not only had their problems, but also had potential and hopes as well.

When Jesus first met others, he accepted them. This characteristic of acceptance is seen in John 4, John 8 and Luke 19. When Jesus met the woman at the well, he accepted her without condemning her. He accepted the woman caught in adultery and Zacchaeus, the tax collector, as well. He accepted them, but he did not condone their sins.

Individual human beings were Jesus' top priority. He gave them worth by putting their needs before the rules and regulations of the religious leaders. He involved himself in the lives of people who were considered the worst of sinners.

One of the ways in which Christ gave worth to individuals was showing them their value in God's eyes by comparing God's care for other creatures with God's care for them: "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father" (Matthew 10:29, New American Standard Bible).

measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:26-27).

He encouraged people as He ministered to them: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Are you an encourager?

And he emphasized the peace of mind we could have: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

All of these characteristics of Jesus' approach in dealing with people are the yardstick we should be measuring ourselves against. In all sincerity, how do you measure up?

Feast 1989: Make it a success for you and other members

By Kerri Dowd

It's people who make the Feast. To have a successful Feast we must meet those people.

The Church includes all kinds of people—men, women and children. Some are elderly, some single, some teenagers, some widows, some wid-

owers, some disabled.

But, whoever they are and whatever their circumstances, they need fellowship.

Getting to know people can be difficult. What do you say after you introduce yourself? Here are some tips.

Look for common ground. We all have the Church in common, so why not ask how they came into the Church?

At the Feast we can meet people from many places. Ask where people are from. They may even know people you know or have other common interests.

The initiator of the conversation should keep it moving, but avoid launching into a 20-minute discourse on yourself or your opinions.

Choose topics wisely. The first few minutes—or even days—of a relationship are not the best time to ask prying, personal questions.

Talk to teenagers on an adult level. Ask them for their opinions and ideas.

With singles, avoid questions such as "Well, why aren't you married yet?" Such questions are not only embarrassing, but they also can hurt.

Refrain from offering advice to a pregnant woman. She might get plenty of advice already. Strangers should not put their hands on her stomach. This shows too much familiarity for a first meeting.

Memories from Feasts

Brethren, including ministers and Ambassador College students, share their favorite memories of the Feast.

On the way to the Feast my van developed some kind of problem. Although I got the vehicle going, the generator wasn't working, so the lights were becoming dimmer and dimmer and the windshield wipers gradually slowed down. Not only that, I managed to get myself lost.

Eventually, the lights went out and the wipers stopped. I offered up a brief prayer, telling God that I was on my way to his Feast, and that to get there I needed some help.

I expected a lift to come along, but instead of that the lights suddenly came on full power and the wipers worked as fast as ever. It's a Feast memory I'll never forget—and it served as a great encouragement to me.

Mike Sutti
Sidcup, England

At the end of the Feast one year, a member who is not well off financially told us that she did not have to pay a single cent for her meals during the Feast—some 17 lunches and dinners in all—because all her meals were paid for by other members without her expecting it at all. This shows the caring attitude of God's people that comes out at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Wong Teck Kong
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Every Feast has wonderful memories, but I think last year's in Mombasa, Kenya, was extra special. I lived in East Africa several years ago and this was my first time back to visit.

I remember walking along the picturesque Indian Ocean on my way to the cottages where many of the Kenyan brethren were staying. There the Kenyan brethren performed skits depicting the life God called them out of. The significance was so poignant—I'll

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never forget it.

Betty Biedler
Pasadena

The first Feast in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) was observed in 1971 at a site next to the Zambezi River, near the world famous Victoria Falls.

Our meeting place was a round tent located on a tract of land quite some distance from the local village. During services elephants, buffalo and other varieties of wild animals would pass by our meeting place on their way to the river.

Talk about a challenge to the speaker. Certainly this was a Feast none of us who were there will ever forget.

Andre van Belkum
Cape Town, South Africa

212 meet for conference

Canada: 'part of a big team'

By Neil Earle

TORONTO, Ont.—Evangelist Larry Salyer, associate director of Church Administration for international areas, and his wife, Judy, joined 212 ministers and wives for the 1989 Canadian ministerial conference July 31 to Aug. 4.

Neil Earle pastors the Toronto, Ont., churches.

"Though second only to the number of U.S. ministers, 212 is still a very manageable size for an effective conference," said Mr. Salyer.

The conference took place 45 miles north of here at the Nottawasaga Inn in the rural heartland of Ontario.

National ministerial conferences take place every four years and alternate between eastern and western Canada, making it possible for local church elders to attend. Regional conferences are scheduled for 1991.

Conference topics

Mr. Salyer gave an overview of the Work worldwide and gave the ministers a behind-the-scenes look at headquarters and the decisions that face Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach and his headquarters team.

"As Canada supplies a substan-

tial portion of the funding for the Work in international areas, I wanted to show the ministry how that money is used and encourage them to thank the brethren for their faithfulness in giving and prayer," Mr. Salyer said.

Evangelist Colin Adair, regional director for the Church in Canada, gave an update from the regional office.

Royston Page, pastor of the Vancouver, B.C., church, and Colin Wilkins, pastor of the Montreal and Magog, Que. (English), churches, spoke on child abuse and counseling the seriously ill.

At the beginning of the conference Colin Wallace, assistant pastor of the Winnipeg, Man., East and West churches, was raised in rank to preaching elder.

Mr. Page and his wife, Sheila, were awarded a plaque and wristwatches to commemorate 25 years of service to the Church.

Toronto 25th

Mr. Salyer arrived in Toronto July 28. He gave the sermon at Sabbath services July 29. The day marked the 25th anniversary of the churches in Toronto, and 1,605 brethren attended.

Mr. Adair and his wife, Margaret, and George Patrickson, Mr.



FUN FOR EVERYONE—Planning and attending activities that your children will enjoy can make the Feast more enjoyable for the entire family. [Photo by Keith Speaks]

Elderly members often have a lifetime of stories and experiences to relate. Just let them know you're interested.

This isn't to say that all elderly people are eager to discuss every aspect of their lives. Don't pressure anyone for information.

Look for shy and lonely people. Many attend the Feast alone. It may

be their first Feast, or they may be the lone member in their family.

Don't try to force them to be overjoyed or cheerful. They may be going through a difficult time in their lives.

Fellowship is an important activity for everyone attending the Feast. Meet new friends and make your Feast and theirs better.

Letters TO THE EDITOR

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

Allergy sufferer

As an allergy sufferer, I was very pleased to read about the possibility of special rooms for us at some of the Feast sites.

As someone who has spent most of her life avoiding places and situations which could bring on a reaction, I know all too well the work and expense that would be involved in providing these rooms. The consideration you are giving to this problem is greatly appreciated.

Washington

Ministers review Work in East and West Africa

By Frank Brown

HARARE, Zimbabwe—Ministers and their wives met here July 30 to Aug. 1 to survey the past year of operations in East and West Africa and hear an update on the Work in the United Kingdom.

Evangelist Frank Brown is regional director for Britain, Scandinavia, East and West Africa and the Middle East.

Twenty-four ministers and their wives from East and West Africa and Zimbabwe met at the Sheraton Hotel for the event.

I opened the conference by giving an overview of the regional directors conference in Pasadena.

Evangelist Leslie McCullough, regional director for southern Africa, reviewed the Work there.

Church pastors spoke about developments in their areas and needs for the future.

Conference sessions focused on office administration, computers, Festival planning, the Summer Educational Program (SEP), manpower and managing stress.

Attending were Mr. McCullough's wife, Marion, David Stirk,

business manager for East and West Africa, and his wife, Carol. Cathryn Francis from the British Office was secretary.

East and West African ministers and wives in attendance were Melvin and Diane Rhodes from Ghana, Josef and Gloria Forson from Nigeria, Owen and Christina Willis from Kenya, and Kenneth and Hilary Buck from Malawi.

From Zimbabwe were William and Glen Bentley, Aldrin and Elinah Mandimika, George and Poppy Efthyvoulos, and Lazarus and Majoory Chimba.

Not only do these conferences provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, they also allow everyone involved in the African area to be brought up to date with the latest news from headquarters.

Communication of this type is vital in such scattered areas.

Said Mr. McCullough, "It was interesting to hear of the many problems and difficulties the ministry and brethren face in the developing world and the way solutions are arrived at and applied."

Aug. 2 the group went to Victoria Falls for a day and a half of fellowship and relaxation.



TORONTO 25TH—From left evangelist Colin Adair, Canadian regional director; his wife, Margaret; Judy Salyer; and her husband, evangelist Larry Salyer, associate director of Church Administration for international areas; cut a cake commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Church in Toronto. [Photo by Wayne Laviere]



FEAST LIGHTS—When brethren set the right example, hotel owners look forward to their return. They remember brethren as the people who were neat and orderly and followed the rules. [Photo by Hal Finch]

You're being watched: Let your light shine at Festival

By Rick L. Shallenberger

As Christians we are to let our lights shine daily. This is especially true during the Feast, when communities view us as a group.

We are under observation. People watch us closely. They know we are a church, and they want to see how we act.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, New King James throughout).

You may have a light on while you read this. Notice, a light doesn't make noise. It doesn't bring attention to itself except by illumination. Lights don't say, "Hey look at me, I'm a light."

A light serves without complaint, without asking for anything in return.

How to be a true light

A light of God is aware of the example he or she is setting. When we need to correct our children at services, in motels or restaurants, we

should be aware of the impression we make for the Church and for God.

God is love. He doesn't scream at us or ridicule us in front of others. He doesn't cause a scene. Following his example we should take our children aside and in private correct them in love.

Rick L. Shallenberger is on the staff of Youth 89.

When a light of God finds the temper rising and the voice getting out of control, he or she stops and asks, "Is this what a God sounds like?"

Consider others

A light of God follow rules.

"Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake" (I Peter 2:13). Meeting halls have rules. Hotels and motels have rules. Rules govern how we drive our cars. God's lights follow these rules.

Does our driving reflect that we

are sons of God? At Feast sites do we realize that we are guests in the area? We shouldn't feel that townspeople should treat us as special because, after all, we're bringing money into their community.

Motel owners look forward to our return. Instead of remembering us as the people who took all the tissues and toilet paper out of the room every day, they remember us as the people who were neat and orderly and followed the rules.

They remember us as the people who left tips and thank-you notes for the maids. They remember us as being quiet and concerned about others, letting the elderly get on elevators first. They remember that we didn't allow our children to run up and down the halls screaming and playing.

They remember us as being the most polite and well-organized group they ever had.

When we receive poor service at a restaurant, we consider that the restaurant is crowded and understaffed. We don't withhold a tip from the waitress when it is not her fault.

We aren't concerned that we weren't served as fast as we would have liked. A light is not rude, even to those who are rude to us.

The Church's good reputation at Feast sites is the result of years of good examples, years of being true lights of God.

Vital key for a safe Festival

By Jeff E. Zhorne

Swerving to miss two children who dashed onto the road, a member's car hit a 6-year-old girl, who went tumbling under the wheels.

Police arrived but pressed no charges, as the accident was unavoidable.

The child was taken to a hospital, and a statement declared her to be unharmed except for bruises.

We reported this incident after the 1988 Feast of Tabernacles. This story and many others show the value of God's divine protection and intervention.

Protection is vital

This Feast brethren and their families will be traveling great distances and taking part in myriad activities.

Every day we need protection for ourselves, children, loved ones, ministers and fellow brethren.

God offers help in the form of angelic protection.

God has commissioned angels to minister to and serve his begotten children (Hebrews 1:14).

Psalm 34:7 and Psalm 91 indicate how angels protect God's children from accidents and calamities.

Prayer is the key

Angelic protection is something we must pray for daily—life is simply too hazardous not to.

Here's how evangelist Carn Catherwood put it: "Promises in the Bible don't accrue to you automatically, as if by osmosis. Words in the Bible just sit there unless you use them. You have to dig in and search out the promises."

Start each day with a request for protection, and end each day with thanksgiving for God's help and care and a request for protection as you sleep.

Guidelines for spending second tithe

By Joseph W. Tkach Jr.

Once again, it is time to be planning for the Feast. If you have been faithfully saving your second tithe, now you must consider how to spend it (Deuteronomy 14:22-26). Here are some points to remember.

Joseph W. Tkach Jr. is associate director of Church Administration for the United States.

It is the wage earner's responsibility to carefully plan the financial aspect of the Feast. One of our initial responsibilities is to send in a tithe of our second tithe to the Festival Office. This allows the Church to have funds in advance to make arrangements for the choice of Feast sites and motels and to obtain equipment for musical performances.

Using the Festival Planner (in the United States and Canada), you should find the accommodations that will meet your family's needs, yet are reasonable for the amount of second tithe you have.

The next consideration typically is travel arrangements. Many drive to the Feast, leading to the question, "How much is appropriate to spend to prepare my car for such a journey?" A simple approach is to spend no more on preparing your vehicle than it would cost to rent a car of the appropriate size for your family.

It should be obvious that you should not purchase airline tickets and have insufficient funds remaining to feed and entertain your family. But it seems every year a few ignore this obvious point.

What about gifts?

A frequently posed question is, "How much can I spend on a gift for my wife or children?" This question takes many forms. Some ask if it is appropriate to buy bicycles, jewelry, clothing or toys. Here are three guidelines to follow:

- (1) Will purchasing the item adversely affect the amount of money for travel, housing and meals?
- (2) Will purchasing the item as-

sist in the physical and spiritual appreciation of the Feast?

(3) Will the purchase of the item assist in focusing on the family at the Feast of Tabernacles?

Let's look at the notion of buying a bicycle for your child in the light of these three guidelines. The individual finds that (1) sufficient second tithe is available, and (2) feels it will help the child appreciate the Feast. The third guideline will answer the question for you. "Will the gift of a bicycle increase the focus on the family during the Feast?"

The answer depends on a few variables. Will the child be apt to ride the bicycle much of the time during the Feast, which would keep the child away from the fellowship of the family, or is this going to be an occasion when Dad spends extra time with the child teaching him or her how to ride for the first time? Will he or she enjoy the company of other children while riding?

It should be obvious that what is acceptable for one family may not be as wise for another family.

In any case, the Feast should not become a form of Christmas. This can happen if we focus on buying gifts for everyone. The Feast is not the time to replace your wardrobe, but if you are prudent with your second tithe, a new dress or sweater or even a new suit is a nice item to purchase. It serves as a physical reminder of the Feast each time you wear it during the next year.

Excess second tithe

Another question that arises is, "What should I do with my excess second tithe?" This is another one of those questions that takes many forms, such as: "May I save my excess second tithe to supplement the amount I will have for next year? May I give some of my second tithe to others whom I know do not have much? Do I turn in all of my excess tithe? May I supplement my offering with second tithe?"

Again, there are guidelines we can use to assist in answering the questions for ourselves. Do you have significant excess second tithe? People who find themselves in this state could focus their attention on hosting an occasion or two and entertaining others who may not have the same abundance.

For those who wish to financially assist others, here is a guideline: Do you know the reasons why another individual does not have a sufficient

Entertainment ideas

By Kathy Johnson

One of the joys of the Fall Festival season is the chance to spend more time with other Church members. The Feast provides many chances to entertain and be entertained.

Kathy Johnson is associate editor of Youth 89.

Food and drink almost always accompany entertaining. Eating relaxes people and makes it easier to get to know others. Here are some things you can do to entertain others at the Feast this year.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Most people eat three times a day: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Each of these meals offers a chance to entertain.

One way is simply to invite others to join you for a meal. You don't have to eat at a restaurant—you could have a picnic or barbecue. If you have the facilities, you can cook the meal yourself if you like.

If you go walking or jogging in the morning, you might like to get together for breakfast with some

fellow exercisers.

An after-services open house is another possibility. Serve cheese and crackers, nuts, fruits, vegetables and other simple appetizers. A variation on this might be a cheese-tasting party.

Invite friends. Invite the family you sat next to at services today. Invite some people who aren't married and some who are. Invite elderly people. Try to have a mix of people.

Ask a minister from another congregation about a widow, single parent or someone less well-off financially who might like to join you.

After the Feast

When you return home, how about an after-Feast party? Invite people who attended a wide variety of sites. Ask if they can bring a sample of a food or drink typical of the area they attended and a small wrapped gift from the area. Guests can also bring slides and pictures from their trips.

Gifts can be distributed by having people draw a slip of paper out of a bowl with the name of a Feast site on it. They then choose a gift labeled with the name of that site.

21 hours of Festival messages

At the Feast we will be in services for about 21 hours. Much of that time we will be listening to sermons, sermonettes and announcements.

That is a lot of information in a short period of time, but effective note taking helps us remember the most important points.

Why take notes? It helps us review Feast messages weeks or months later. It also helps us concentrate, and our notes become a personal diary of the Feast.

Guidelines for note taking vary. Listening and orderliness, however, are a must no matter what method you use.

A good listener is active and alert.

Our minds process information five times faster than a speaker talks. During a sermon our minds might wander onto subjects such as what we will do after services or the architecture of the meeting hall. We can and must choose to concentrate on what the speaker is saying.

For notes to be orderly they should be accurate, brief, clear, neat and easy to follow.

Our notes should not be so exhaustive that we don't have time to really listen.

Use a system that works best for you and helps make your Feast a memorable one.



SMART PARENTS—One way to arrange time off from school during the Feast is to schedule a private conference with your child's teacher. Ask for assignments for your son or daughter to complete. [Photo by Barry Stahl]

Use common sense, set right example

Be responsible with alcohol

Of all the biblical commands, the one given in Deuteronomy 14:26 is certainly one of the easiest, humanly speaking, to obey. There God's people are told to spend second tithe at God's Feast "for what-

ever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink" (New King James throughout).

What fun!

It is important to note, though, that the oxen, sheep, wine and similar drink are suggestions. No one has to eat the meat of oxen and sheep at the Feast. Other meat can be enjoyed, too.

Likewise, no one has to drink a drop of alcohol at the Feast to truly rejoice. God's Spirit supplies the joy. On the other hand, you may drink alcoholic beverages at the Feast (in moderation, of course) if that is what your heart desires and it is appropriate for you.

But a person should feel no pressure to drink alcohol if he or she desires some other beverage. Nor should a person exert pressure on anyone else.

A biblical example

We can take a lesson from the ancient Persians. They had at least one sensible law with respect to drinking alcohol.

The king put on a sumptuous celebration lasting seven days (Esther 1:5). Alcoholic drinks were served "in golden vessels" and there was "royal wine in abundance" (verse 7). This was a real bash.

Nevertheless, we read that "in accordance with the law, the drinking was not compulsory; for so the king had ordered all the officers of his household, that they should do according to each man's pleasure" (verse 8).

If unconverted pagans could be so considerate, how much more should we in our feasting avoid peer pressure on those who would not or should not drink alcohol?

When you participate in a get-together, do your part to be sure some alternative beverages are available. And make them exciting, imaginative nonalcoholic drinks, not just soda pop or stale mineral water. How about punch, herb teas or carbonated fruit juices?

Those who do drink alcohol should do so in moderation, always mindful of the need to glorify God in all one's actions. We are to be a light to others.

The maid who cleans your motel room, for example, should not encounter a display of enough bottles of booze to stock a full-fledged bar. It may be a good idea for you yourself to dispose of some of your empties in an outside trash container just to steer clear of giving the wrong impression.

If you plan to drink alcohol at the

Time off from school: These ideas can help

By Kathy Johnson

A sometimes difficult part of preparing for the Feast is asking children's teachers for time off. Here are some tips from other members to help smooth the way for you and your children.

Kathy Johnson is associate editor of Youth 89.

One mother suggested scheduling a private conference with your child's teacher early in the school year. Explain why you would like your child excused, and ask for assignments for your child to complete.

If it will help, see if your child can write an extra credit report on some aspect of your trip. Explain that your child will be willing to make up as soon as possible any tests missed while he or she is gone.

Be ready to explain the Feast briefly if necessary. Know from memory the main chapters of the Bible that mention the Holy Days. You don't need to explain every detail.

Before you go in, ask God to give you favor in the teacher's eyes. Dress in nice Sabbath wear. Be pleasant but firm, and don't try to make the Feast sound like a vacation.

If the teacher becomes angry, stay calm. If he or she won't cooperate, go to the principal or the teacher's supervisor. If a special problem exists, you may want to ask your pastor for help.

A teacher in the Church wrote: "It's much easier for a teacher to say yes to a trip and make special lesson plans or arrange a make-up test if he or she is doing it for a student who works hard while in school.

"Students who don't try, or don't complete assignments while present, or didn't do the work last year while at the Feast, are more likely to meet opposition from teachers."

She encourages students to remind their teacher one to two weeks ahead of the time that they will be gone. That way the teacher can keep them in mind as he or she makes up lesson plans.

Make sure your children do their schoolwork. Help them to set deadlines for themselves.

Improve family ties this Feast

Are we using the Feast with our families to build strong relationships, deep bonds and enthusiasm for God's laws and festivals that they will keep forever and pass on to their children?

Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach urges brethren to pray to strengthen relationships.

"In our busy lives it's easy for us to overlook the importance of drawing closer to God," Mr. Tkach said.

Prayer, he said, is the first and most important step toward learning to love one another within our spiritual family, the Church, and our own families.

As Mr. Tkach said: "God's spirit will then lead us to grow together in the bond of peace, love and harmony. The closer our relationship is with God the better it will be with others."

Etiquette at services

Arrive on time. You are coming to services to appear before God.

Stay as quiet as possible during services. Take crying children out quickly. Leave the seating area if you or your child has a coughing fit.

Don't come to services if you or your child is sick. Not only will recovery time be longer if you overdo it, but you also run the risk of infecting other people.

Wait until the speaker is leaving the stage before beginning to put away Bibles and notebooks. Sometimes the minister's closing comments are drowned out in the noise of clicking briefcases, rustling paper and thudding Bibles.

Have a safe Festival in an unsafe society

By Paul Monteith

Feast fever is a phrase we hear as the Fall Festival season approaches. But another kind of fever—one that keeps us in bed—sometimes takes its toll during the Feast.

Start the Feast feeling refreshed by getting plenty of rest beforehand. Avoid getting involved in too many Feast activities and staying up too late.

With extra money to enjoy fine restaurants and extra time for fellowship it is easy to neglect diet and exercise during the Feast. Try to maintain a normal level of exercise and keep to a balanced diet similar to your normal diet.

Be aware

During the Feast we have more money than usual. Carry only small amounts of cash and exchange the rest for traveler's checks, which can be replaced if lost or stolen. Keep check numbers separate from the checks.

Take only the credit cards you need and make a list of all credit card numbers and telephone numbers to call if you lose them.

Deter pickpockets by carrying your wallet in a front trouser pocket. Women should keep a firm

grip on their purses and carry them in front. A purse dangling loosely from a shoulder is a tempting target.

Despite good intentions, large amounts of money should not be given to beggars. This could attract muggers and thieves who hear of people giving money away.

Keep hotel or motel doors locked. Be sure you know who is on the other side of the door before opening it. Check your valuables into the hotel safe—don't leave them in your room.

Rape prevention

The Feast pictures a world under God's rule, a time of peace and safety. Unfortunately this is not the world we live in today.

Women especially should keep doors and windows locked and at night pull the shades and curtains down. Check your car and room before entering and don't enter if you suspect a stranger is inside.

Park your car in a well-lit area, and always have your keys in hand before reaching your room or car. Avoid dark alleys, parking places and streets; walk against traffic in well-lit areas; and always be aware of your surroundings.

A pre-Feast checklist

- Remind employer of days you will be gone
- Arrange with teachers homework for children
- Have car serviced
- Confirm flights, bus, car rental and hotel reservations
- Arrange for a friend to look after house, newspapers, mail, plants or pets
- Pay bills due before you return
- Leave a friend trip details and phone numbers where you can be reached
- Secure the house and garage,

- empty trash and refrigerator, unplug electrical appliances and shut off water
- Remember all necessary travel documents: passport, visa, traveler's checks, tickets, reservation slips, car insurance, address of hotel where you are staying
- Make photocopies of important documents
- Remember offering envelopes
- Have all necessary maps of where you are going
- Pray for safety for you and your family and all the brethren

Be prepared when traveling in Third World countries

By Melvin Rhodes

Are you going overseas for the Feast? People attending the Feast in the Third World are entering a different society. It's best to be prepared.

Melvin Rhodes pastors the Accra, Kumasi and Likpe-Mate, Ghana, churches.

Ask about health hazards and vaccinations. Many tropical countries require visitors to have a yellow fever vaccination certificate; some require cholera certificates. Allow plenty of time to get these. Two vaccinations are required for cholera, and must be three to four weeks apart.

Malaria is endemic in the tropics. The malarial parasite is carried by mosquitoes.

The best way to avoid malaria is to avoid mosquito bites. Minimize the frequency of bites by using mosquito repellents, by dressing sensibly and by staying indoors at certain times of the day. A malaria prophylactic taken as prescribed can be effective.

Malaria can strike months after visiting the tropics. The first signs are similar to the flu. Let a friend or relative know, so if you fall ill, they can inform the doctor. It can mean the difference between life and death.

Most tropical diseases are water borne. Avoid drinking tap water, even if area members drink it. They develop immunities to the common diseases of their environment. They have grown accustomed to the bacteria in their water.

But one glass of contaminated water (or even ice in a cocktail or soft drink) can cause an unpleasant Feast.

The other major health problem many Westerners face can easily be avoided. That's skin problems caused by overexposure to the sun. Prickly heat and various skin rashes are quite common, and sunstroke has affected some members. Take plenty of skin lotions to protect you from the sun and its aftereffects.

Some precautions

The freedoms Westerners prize are often unknown in Third World dictatorships.

Be careful of making negative comments about the country you are visiting and especially of its government. A casual comment may be overheard and you might end up in prison.

You may be detained for taking certain photographs. One member visiting Africa innocently raised his camera as the vehicle he was in approached a military checkpoint. No

photograph was taken, but a soldier on duty, seeing the camera, raised his rifle to shoot.

Generally speaking, in Third World countries, pictures should not be taken of government buildings, military installations, anybody in uniform, airports and their environs, broadcasting installations, harbors, museums or slum areas.

Cultural differences in Church

Cultural differences can be quite noticeable. Within the Church we are all one family. But that does not mean we are all the same. Cultural differences can lead to misunderstandings.

Even the word *family* means different things in different cultures. In the West, a family is a man, his wife and their children. In Africa the extended family is often more important than the immediate family.

In the extended family, those better off financially take care of the poorer. Sometimes members brought up in this custom will expect wealthier members of the Church family (overseas visitors) to take care of them financially at the Feast and even beyond.

Many international visitors, wishing to help, will give them money. This should not be done because it can cause division in the congregation. Requests made to you as an overseas visitor should be referred to the pastor, who is more familiar with the situation.

Sometimes, naturally, international visitors will keep in touch with friends made at the Feast. No problems with that.

However, problems can arise when the Western Church member wants to invite his new friend to visit his country. It can cause division in the poorer congregation because one received favor over another.

Often those who are the best educated and need help the least are the ones who receive the most, because they find it easier to mix with international visitors.

Sometimes, too, poor people find it difficult to handle sudden infusions of wealth. It may not do the person any good to be sent \$1,000. Families sent a regular subsidy of \$100 or \$200 may rely on that and not try to stand on their own two feet.

Feast romances?

Be cautious about Feast romances involving people of another culture. Even in a poor country the Feast is an artificial environment. A romantic relationship at an idyllic tropical Feast site could turn out to be a long-term nightmare for both parties.

Eight days (or even 80) is not long enough to even begin to understand another culture. Cultural differences run deep and are often the cause of marital problems, whether the couple live in the Third World or the West.

The best way to enjoy your Feast is to go fully prepared, physically and emotionally. That way, you will benefit from a wonderful experience, and so will your brethren overseas.

405 checks returned in July

Work loses if checks bounce

PASADENA—The Mail Processing Center (MPC) receives hundreds of checks each month that must be returned because of insufficient funds.

In July alone MPC returned 405 checks totaling \$72,000. Of those, 353 were from member households.

The Work loses in three ways when checks bounce. First, the Work does not receive the income from the checks.

Second, it must pay for the time and labor to update donation records and notify donors of the problem. MPC employees spend dozens of hours each month handling bad checks.

Third, the Church's bank charges the Church a fee each time it processes a bounced check.

This procedure becomes more

difficult when a bad check is written by one person, but sent as a contribution for another. Also, signatures and cancellation dates may be hard to read after being sent back and forth between banks.

The sender's bank charges a fee each time a bad check is returned. Sometimes this fee is as high as \$20. Because the Church's bank processes insufficient fund checks twice, the sender could pay several times the amount of the check in bank charges alone.

To avoid sending insufficient fund checks, MPC offers these tips:

- Be sure funds are available to cover checks. Don't assume you'll have time to make a deposit to cover the check before it reaches the bank.

Some forget this when preparing

Holy Day offerings at the Feast. They return home to find that their checks bounced. It is better to give a smaller offering or wait until you have sufficient funds than to send in a check that will bounce.

- Keep your checkbook balanced. Keep careful records and maintain an up-to-date balance in your checkbook. This decreases the probability that you will bounce a check.

- Be clear, complete and accurate. Improperly filled out checks can become insufficient fund checks. MPC or the bank may misread the intended amount and process it based on that error. Please fill in all details and write clearly.

If you feel more information is needed for proper processing, feel free to enclose a note.

Air travel and packing tips

By Kerri Dowd

If an airline reduces its fares after you have purchased your ticket, the airline *might* refund the difference—even if you hold a nonrefundable, nonexchangeable ticket. Call the airline or your travel agent. If the price drops again, airlines might issue another refund.

Confirm your reservations 72 hours before each leg of your trip.

Airlines may cancel reservations of passengers who do not check in within a specified time—usually 10 minutes to 90 minutes before the flight.

Flights can be difficult for young children and infants who have diffi-

culty equalizing the pressure in their ears. Chewing gum for children or a bottle for infants can help.

Drink fluids while in the air. The airplane's cabin is as dry as a desert. Alcohol contributes to dehydration.

Flight insurance

Flight insurance can be purchased in airports or through travel agents. The Church's Travel Office mailed applications for Travel Guard insurance to many Feastgoers. Travel Guard also offers flight cancellation insurance.

Travelers in the United States may contact Travel Guard for information at 1-800-826-1300 (or 1-715-345-0505 from outside the United States).

Packing advice

Pack only what you can comfortably carry by yourself.

Pack mix-and-match items that can be worn more than once.

Chances are you will be doing some walking. Don't forget a pair of comfortable walking shoes.

Consider the weather at your Feast site. Will you need suntan lotion or a raincoat?

Pack heavier items at the bottom of suitcases and delicate items on the top.

If traveling in a group, sharing toiletries can help you pack lighter.

Don't forget Bibles, notebooks and your Feast issue of *The Good News*.

Avoid packing valuables or anything you couldn't do without in luggage you check in.

Include your name, address and phone number inside and outside of each piece of luggage. However, if you are an American don't advertise it. Terrorists and thieves may single you out.

Leave a bit of room in your luggage for souvenirs.

Telephone Volunteers Needed at Feast Sites

PASADENA—Volunteers are needed to help answer telephone responses to the *World Tomorrow* telecast at Feast sites in Pasadena, Big Sandy, and Pensacola and St. Petersburg, Fla. Baptized Church members who can hear clearly and wish to serve as operators may sign up for a shift at the telephone response information table when they arrive at the Feast sites. No experience is necessary. Volunteers will be trained at the beginning of each shift.

Don't let differences get you down

By Jeff E. Zhorne

"Rindfleisch," I said again. It was my best pronunciation, but apparently wrong because the butcher still looked perplexed.

Just then a German approached the meat counter and asked for *Rindfleisch*. His pronunciation seemed no different from mine.

He was immediately given some delicious roast beef. In desperation I pointed to the German's roast beef, indicating I wanted some of the same.

Years later I'm still puzzling about why I was not understood.

Vive la difference?

Although this incident evoked some despair, I should have realized that foreign countries are differ-

ent—if they weren't, we might as well stay home.

Differences can be a source of irritation for Feastgoers traveling to an international site.

It's sometimes easy to ridicule foreign hosts or tell people how much better things are where we come from.

"Culture offenses do not result from malice, but in most cases a simple lack of knowledge of what the other person or group expects of us," said evangelist Larry Salyer, associate director of Church Administration for international areas.

Remember that people in the country you visit usually don't go out of their way to embarrass you or make you feel foolish.

As in my case, it's not the Ger-

mans' fault I don't speak their language.

Guidebooks and traditions

The best way to make your international excursion as enjoyable as possible is to prepare.

Buy a good guidebook and read about your destination. Find out about area customs.

Learn about the country you are visiting. Don't cause others to think ill of your home country.

Try to learn a few words of the language, even if you only master "hello," "thank you" or "roast beef."

We should respect, appreciate and admire the differences in the human family, as God intended. It will be surely that way in the world

tomorrow.

Lost passports

What is one of the worst things that can happen to you at an international Feast site? There may be others more traumatic, but losing your passport ranks among the top.

To avoid this unfortunate occurrence, keep your passport in your carry-on luggage.

Another precaution is to make two photocopies of the pages of your passport that contain vital information. Put one copy in your suitcase, and give the other to a traveling companion or leave it at home.

If you lose your passport, go to the consulate or embassy representing your country to request a new one.

WORLDWIDE AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT



WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD AND AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Combined Financial Statements
as of December 31, 1988 and 1987
together with Auditors' Report



To Joseph W. Tkach (as Pastor General)
of Worldwide Church of God) and the
Boards of Directors of Worldwide Church of God
and Worldwide Affiliated Organizations:

We have audited the accompanying combined balance sheets of WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD (a California nonprofit corporation and various Corporations Sole) and its worldwide affiliated organizations (see Notes 1 and 2) as of December 31, 1988 and 1987, and the related combined statements of support and revenue, expenses and changes in fund balances and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Church's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined financial position of Worldwide Church of God and its worldwide affiliated organizations as of December 31, 1988 and 1987, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Arthur Andersen + Co.

Los Angeles, California
April 7, 1989

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD AND WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS COMBINED BALANCE SHEETS - DECEMBER 31, 1988 AND 1987

ASSETS	1988	1987
CURRENT ASSETS (Note 3):		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 22,585,000	\$ 27,499,000
Receivables, net, and other assets	<u>5,790,000</u>	<u>6,044,000</u>
Total current assets	28,375,000	33,543,000
LONG-TERM RECEIVABLES, NET, AND OTHER ASSETS (Note 3)	1,045,000	947,000
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization (Note 4)	<u>91,288,000</u>	<u>83,335,000</u>
	<u>\$120,708,000</u>	<u>\$117,825,000</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable, accrued and other liabilities	\$ 11,783,000	\$ 8,608,000
Current portion of long-term debt and obligations under capitalized leases (Note 5)	1,030,000	1,524,000
Deferred income (Note 3)	<u>2,194,000</u>	<u>2,169,000</u>
Total current liabilities	15,007,000	12,301,000
LONG-TERM DEBT, net of current portion (Note 5)	921,000	1,581,000
OBLIGATIONS UNDER CAPITALIZED LEASES, net of current portion (Note 5)	643,000	902,000
DEPOSITS AND OTHER LIABILITIES	1,029,000	1,060,000
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 6)		
FUND BALANCES	<u>103,108,000</u>	<u>101,981,000</u>
	<u>\$120,708,000</u>	<u>\$117,825,000</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these combined financial statements.

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD AND WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS COMBINED STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1988 AND 1987

	1988	1987
SUPPORT AND REVENUE (Note 3):		
Contributions and bequests	\$187,046,000	\$176,449,000
College tuition, fees and services	5,993,000	5,867,000
Performing arts	3,961,000	3,143,000
Rental and other revenue	<u>4,259,000</u>	<u>6,622,000</u>
	<u>201,259,000</u>	<u>192,081,000</u>
EXPENSES (Note 3):		
Local congregations	49,069,000	42,145,000
Church publishing	48,043,000	42,782,000
Broadcasting and proclaiming (Note 2)	33,149,000	31,818,000
Ambassador College (Notes 2 and 6)	20,167,000	18,118,000
Assistance to needy members	7,374,000	7,030,000
Ambassador Foundation (Notes 2 and 6)	7,279,000	6,052,000
Management and general	<u>34,757,000</u>	<u>32,212,000</u>
	<u>199,838,000</u>	<u>180,157,000</u>
Support and revenue over expenses	1,421,000	11,924,000
FUND BALANCES, beginning of year	101,981,000	88,597,000
Currency translation adjustment (Note 3)	<u>(294,000)</u>	<u>1,460,000</u>
FUND BALANCES, end of year	<u>\$103,108,000</u>	<u>\$101,981,000</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these combined financial statements.

**WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD
AND WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
COMBINED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1988 AND 1987**

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
	1988	1987
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Support and revenue over expenses	\$ 1,421,000	\$11,924,000
Adjustments to reconcile support and revenue over expenses to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	7,783,000	7,273,000
Net (gain) loss on sale of property and equipment	216,000	(2,679,000)
Decrease (increase) in receivables, net, and other assets	254,000	(227,000)
Increase in long-term receivables and other long-term assets	(98,000)	(84,000)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable accrued and other liabilities	3,175,000	(886,000)
Increase (decrease) in deferred income	25,000	(465,000)
(Decrease) increase in deposits and other liabilities	(31,000)	41,000
Effect of exchange rate changes	(294,000)	1,460,000
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>12,451,000</u>	<u>16,357,000</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(17,632,000)	(16,982,000)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	<u>1,680,000</u>	<u>6,014,000</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(15,952,000)</u>	<u>(10,968,000)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Reduction of long-term debt and obligations under capital leases	(1,413,000)	(6,703,000)
Additions to long-term debt and obligations under capital leases	<u>--</u>	<u>248,000</u>
Net cash used by financing activities	<u>(1,413,000)</u>	<u>(6,455,000)</u>
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND EQUIVALENTS	(4,914,000)	(1,066,000)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of year	<u>27,499,000</u>	<u>28,565,000</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of year	<u>\$22,585,000</u>	<u>\$27,499,000</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these combined financial statements.

**WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD
AND WORLDWIDE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS
NOTES TO COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DECEMBER 31, 1988

(1) Basis of presentation-

The Worldwide Church of God is a worldwide religious association. It is headquartered in Pasadena, California, and consists of approximately 92,000 baptized members. Its affairs are conducted principally through Worldwide Church of God (a California nonprofit, nonstock corporation) and various religious, academic and philanthropic organizations (herein referred to collectively as the "Church").

The accompanying combined financial statements include the reporting worldwide affiliated organizations of the Church. All significant balances and transactions among the entities included in the combined financial statements have been eliminated.

(2) Organization and activities-

The primary activities of the Church are: "to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God in all the world for a witness unto all nations" and to "feed the flock" of the Church. To this end, the Gospel is preached through mass communications, such as television, radio and printed publications, and through campaigns made by various ministers.

The Plain Truth, the Church's principal publication, had an approximate circulation of 6.5 million at December 31, 1988. "The World Tomorrow" program is a weekly telecast aired on 379 stations in 21 countries and subtitled in three additional languages. The Church has approximately 800 congregations in approximately 60 countries throughout the world.

The Church is governed by a spiritual theocracy which recognizes that ultimate human authority under Jesus Christ in the Church is exercised by Mr. Joseph W. Tkach, as Pastor General with the spiritual rank of Apostle. Accordingly, Mr. Tkach has ultimate authority as to the manner in which the Church and its affiliates operate, and determines the appropriateness of all significant activities. Mr. Tkach has an Advisory Council of Elders which consists of seventeen senior church elders and evangelists who, in most cases, are directors or officers of the entities comprising the Church. The function of the Council is to help and advise Mr. Tkach.

Ambassador College (the College) was organized for the promotion of learning and knowledge in the liberal arts and theology and the preparation of persons

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for service and ministry of the Church throughout the world. Ambassador Foundation (the Foundation) conducts and supports religious, charitable, scientific, literary, cultural and educational endeavors.

The Church, College and Foundation are affiliated by virtue of the Church's support and through certain common directors and officers.

The College and Foundation, which are located in the United States of America, are viewed as vehicles of the Church in accomplishing its primary activities and receive a substantial portion of their monetary and service support from the Church, \$27,384,000 in 1988 and \$28,150,000 in 1987. The College and Foundation are also registered in countries outside of the United States of America, primarily to represent and further the activities of the Church. Accordingly, the College and Foundation activities outside of the United States of America are included as part of the Church.

(3) Summary of significant accounting policies-

The combined financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles used in the United States of America. This includes preparing the combined financial statements on an accrual basis of accounting.

(a) Revenue-

In the United States of America, contributions are recorded when the funds are constructively received. Constructive receipt includes contributions received during the first part of January of the subsequent year, but postmarked prior to January 1. At December 31, 1988 and 1987, cash includes \$3,786,000 and \$5,305,000 respectively, of such constructive receipt contributions. In most other countries, contributions are recorded when the funds are actually received. In management's opinion, the recording of contributions in this manner in other countries does not have a material effect on the combined financial statements.

Currency restrictions do not significantly affect the Church's operations. Revenues generated in countries with currency restrictions are generally expended in the country of origin. Accordingly, revenues subject to currency restrictions are reflected in the accompanying combined financial statements when received.

College tuition and receipts from performing arts activities that relate to future periods are deferred at December 31 and recognized as income when earned.

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(b) Designated or restricted funds-

Members of the Church practice tithing (which is the donation of ten percent of one's income for the Church's unrestricted use). The majority of Church support and revenue consists of such unrestricted donations. Additional donations are received for specific doctrinal purposes. As deemed appropriate by Church doctrine, such donations are used for assistance to needy members, operating expenses of the annual Church festivals and ministerial activities. Additional donations are received for the acquisition, construction and maintenance of buildings, and the operation of the Church's youth summer camps.

In management's opinion, at December 31, 1988, all contributions received for specific purposes had been expended in accordance with Church doctrine and in accordance with, and in furtherance of, their intended purpose.

(c) Functional allocation of expenses-

The accompanying combined financial statements present costs on a functional (program) basis. Such functional expenses could also be expressed using the following classifications (amounts in thousands):

	1988	1987
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 74,029	\$ 65,897
Broadcast and print media	23,067	22,297
Printing services	17,443	16,211
Maintenance, repairs and supplies	14,240	12,604
Postage and shipping	13,680	13,241
Grants and charitable support	10,872	8,998
Building and equipment rentals	9,113	8,362
Depreciation and amortization	7,783	7,273
Travel and related expenses	6,573	5,732
Insurance	4,786	3,315
Professional and performing artists fees	4,636	3,405
Telephone and utilities	4,625	4,445
Other	<u>8,991</u>	<u>8,377</u>
	<u>\$199,838</u>	<u>\$180,157</u>

(d) Cash equivalents-

Cash equivalents, consisting primarily of certificates of deposit and United States government securities are stated at cost which approximates

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market value. Such securities bear interest at rates ranging from 6.45 to 9.5 percent as of December 31, 1988.

(e) Receivables and other assets-

Receivables consist primarily of notes receivable from property sales and loans made to employees and students. The allowance for doubtful accounts totaled \$509,000 and \$553,000 at December 31, 1988 and 1987, respectively. In accordance with the Church's beliefs, receivables from Church members are noninterest-bearing. For financial statement purposes, noninterest-bearing receivables have been discounted using an appropriate interest factor.

Other current assets consist primarily of Church publication inventories and prepaid expenses. Church publications are distributed free of charge. These publications are stated at cost determined on a first-in, first-out basis, net of a reserve for inventories in excess of anticipated distribution, and are charged to expense in the period in which the literature is distributed. Such publication inventories were \$1,181,000 and \$1,658,000 at December 31, 1988 and 1987, respectively.

(f) Other revenue-

Included in other revenue for the year ended December 31, 1987 is a gain of \$2.7 million from a sale of real estate.

(g) Foreign currency translation-

The functional currency for all locations outside the United States of America is the local currency. Assets and liabilities have been translated into United States of America dollars at exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date. Revenue and expenses are translated at the average exchange rates during the year. Resulting foreign currency translation gains or losses are a component of fund balances. The cumulative effect of translating such accounts at December 31, 1988, was an unrealized loss of \$1,888,000.

(h) Volunteer workers-

The efforts of volunteer workers are not recorded as contributions and expenses, since it is not practical to calculate the monetary value of the benefits received. Such services might constitute a significant factor in the Church's operations.

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(i) Reclassifications-

Certain 1987 balances have been reclassified to conform with the 1988 financial statement presentation.

(j) Statement of cash flows-

In 1988, the Church adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 95 (SFAS No. 95) "Statement of Cash Flows," which was applied retroactively. For the purpose of the statements of cash flows, the Church considers all highly liquid debt instruments with a purchased maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

(4) Property and equipment-

Purchased property and equipment are recorded at cost. Donated property and equipment are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of the gift. Leased property and equipment under capitalized leases consists of telephone equipment with a ten-year term expiring in 1993.

The December 31, 1988 and 1987, balances of property and equipment are as follows (amounts in thousands):

	1988	1987
Land	\$11,636	\$10,532
Land improvements	5,965	5,942
Building and improvements	58,583	56,768
Equipment and furnishings	27,010	23,546
Vehicles	14,104	11,560
Airplanes	15,945	12,014
Leased property	1,641	1,680
Leasehold improvements	886	981
Fine arts	1,853	1,884
Library books	441	408
Construction in progress	101	287
	138,165	125,602
Less - Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(46,877)	(42,267)
	<u>\$ 91,288</u>	<u>\$ 83,335</u>

Depreciation of property and equipment is recorded using either the straight-line or an accelerated method (primarily for vehicles, data processing and certain production equipment) over their estimated useful lives as follows:

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Land improvements	10 to 20 years
Buildings	10 to 60 years
Building improvements	6 to 50 years
Equipment and furnishings	4 to 12 years
Vehicles	3 to 6 years
Airplane	15 years
Leased property and equipment	10 to 20 years
Leasehold improvements	2 to 20 years
Fine arts	20 to 50 years
Library books	5 years

Amortization related to capitalized leases of property and equipment amounted to \$1,010,000 in 1988 and \$937,000 in 1987. Major improvements are capitalized, with normal repair and maintenance costs expensed as incurred.

(5) Long term debt and lease information-

Long-term debt at December 31, 1988, consists of \$1,443,000 of mortgages and \$263,000 of other debt, of which \$785,000 is the current portion. Long-term debt at December 31, 1987, consisted of \$2,133,000 of mortgages and \$747,000 of other debt, of which \$1,299,000 was the current portion.

Mortgages are held by various lending institutions at interest rates varying from 7.5 to 12 percent and are payable through 2003. These debts are secured by real and personal property. Minimum principal payments on this debt are as follows: \$718,000 in 1989, \$431,000 in 1990, \$42,000 in 1991, \$43,000 in 1992, \$43,000 in 1993 and \$166,000 thereafter. Other debt consists primarily of noninterest-bearing, unsecured notes. Interest paid during 1988 and 1987 was not material.

Capitalized lease obligations at December 31, 1988, are \$888,000, of which \$245,000 is the current portion. Capitalized lease obligations at December 31, 1987, were \$1,130,000 of which \$228,000 was the current portion. Future minimum lease payments under capitalized leases range from \$343,000 in 1989 to \$41,000 in 1993, including imputed interest of \$252,000.

During 1988, rental expense for operating leases totaled \$8,106,000, (net of \$325,000 sublease rental income), including \$4,802,000 of local church hall rentals. During 1987, rental expense for operating leases totaled \$7,627,000 (net of \$358,000 sublease rental income), including \$4,315,000 of local church hall rentals. Future minimum rental commitments under operating leases are not material.

(6) Commitments and contingencies-

The Church, College and Foundation have been named in various lawsuits and actions, some of which involve claims for substantial damages. In the opinion of

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management and legal counsel, the probability of an adverse judgment having a material effect on the combined financial statements is remote.

The Church is currently providing benefits to certain former employees of approximately \$725,000 annually. Some of these benefits are provided on a discretionary basis and, accordingly, could be discontinued in the future. No amounts have been accrued in the accompanying combined financial statements for future payments relating to these arrangements.

(7) Tax-exempt status-

The Church is exempt from taxation in the majority of the countries in which it operates. The entities in the United States of America have each received recognition of exempt status by ruling letter from the appropriate taxing authorities. Generally, when required, the worldwide affiliated organizations have also received recognition of their tax-exempt status from the appropriate local taxing authorities.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

she is doing and why. Therefore planning is vital to God's Work.

It helps us focus on the importance of who we are, what we are, where we're going and the commission God has given us. In short, planning helps us take charge of the responsibilities God has entrusted to us.

Planning also helps us overcome complacency. The expression *que sera, sera*, or "what will be, will be," has no place in our commission. In reality, what will

be is what we, with God's help, make it to be. God does not live our lives for us. Whether we plan or not, we are the ones who are making our future.

When you have a plan, it enables you to meet challenges and to succeed when the unexpected comes along. No general goes into battle without planning his strategy. In fact, no successful general would go into battle without a contingency plan that his troops could fall back on.

Planning involves looking forward to achieve a goal. The Work's goal is the commission given by Jesus in Matthew

28:19-20. We must carry out that commission and we should carry it out efficiently and effectively.

Because our commission is such a multifaceted responsibility, we must set priorities, while evaluating the best methods for getting the gospel into the hands of the public. We must look forward if we expect to move forward. If we only look backward, we'll move backward.

Promotes teamwork

Of course, one of the greatest benefits of right planning is that it involves teamwork. Two can't

walk together unless they agree (Amos 3:3). Unless we plan, our operational managers won't be headed in the same direction. And what one department does affects the others.

That is why this workshop was so important. It was an excellent opportunity for many of the top leaders in the Work to come together to discuss the challenges their departments face as well as their hopes and goals.

The meeting helped the managers better understand other points of view and see how the managers fit into the overall Work of God. As a result, it

fostered the kind of team spirit that will make the operations more efficient.

We must be diligent in our planning efforts. The tendency for action-oriented people is to look at time spent in planning as time not used in doing a job. But planning takes time. It is not an easy task, yet it is a necessary one.

So we will continue to plan for the future of the Work, asking God to bless our efforts and to inspire our thinking.

Thank you for your continued prayers for all aspects of the Work!

Five-year

(Continued from page 1)

Joseph Tkach Jr., associate director of Church Administration for the United States, said the Church must plan ahead in terms of hiring, training and assigning ministers. He showed that the need for additional ministers is increasing.

Evangelist Donald Ward, president of Ambassador College, discussed accreditation. He showed that state laws regulating degree-granting institutions in California and Texas are changing. Therefore, he explained, it would be wise for both campuses to pursue accreditation as quickly as reasonably possible.

Steven Andrews, who assists evangelist Larry Salyer, associate director of Church Administration for international areas, noted that

political unrest in Asia continues to affect the Church. In some areas the unrest threatens to make it impossible for ministers to function, he said, while in other areas political changes offer new opportunities.

James Peoples, director of Computer Information Services, discussed the ways rapidly advancing computer technology will affect the Work. He showed that as new technology is introduced, older systems become obsolete. Therefore, maintaining an older system becomes progressively more difficult.

Rick van Pelt, Facilities Services coordinator, spoke about building needs and priorities. Among those needs is a new television studio. In addition, he explained how the need to remove asbestos from buildings on campus affects the budget. Both situations show the need for continued contributions to the building fund.

Mr. Schnippert emphasized that the workshop was not the end product. "In fact, it was just the beginning of the process by which the five-year plan is produced," he said.

Mr. Schnippert will present abbreviated summaries of the presentations to Mr. Tkach, who will review them and decide on the options the Work should pursue. Mr. Tkach will also receive a list of goals and key objectives for each facet of the Work. After reviewing these, Mr. Tkach will assign priorities to the goals and objectives he considers most important.

Mr. Schnippert will then compile the options Mr. Tkach chooses and the list of goals and objectives he ranks, as well as the presentations the operation managers made, incorporating them into the plan. He hopes to present it to Mr. Tkach in late September.

Spain

(Continued from page 2)

planned for the early years of the next century.

One reflects on the similarities—and the contrasts—of the approaches taken toward the European Community by Britain and Spain.

Both nations joined the Community long after it was launched by its initial core members (France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg). Both nations are divided from this core group by imposing geographical barriers.

But here the similarities end. Britain, at best, remains a reluctant EC partner, zealous of protecting its own sovereignty. Spain, on the other hand, is a spirited EC sup-

porter. Is there a deeper reason for this difference in attitude?

In his new book, *The Challenge of Europe—Can Britain Win?*, author and former Thatcher cabinet minister Michael Heseltine wrote: "The Pyrenees are to Spain what the Channel is to Britain, and Spain has also experienced the distraction of great national interests far from Europe."

"But . . . her people, unlike most of the British, share with the core of the present Community—the strongest of the European states who drew up the Treaty of Rome—the bond of their Roman Catholic faith."

In his conclusion Mr. Levy wrote that "the enthusiasm for Europe coupled with the deeply ingrained Catholic tradition, combine to make Spain a country that we should watch closely in the years to come."



PAGES FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM

"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit everlasting life." (Matthew 19:29, New King James)

India

By Bharat Naker

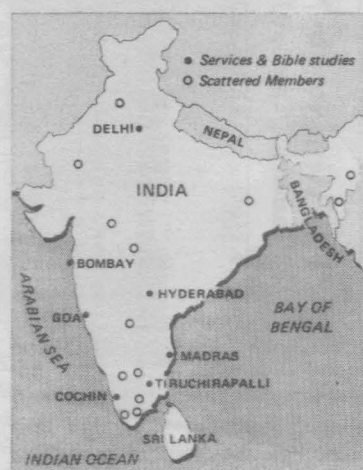
BOMBAY, India—India is a complex land by anyone's standards.

Imagine the United States reduced to one third its size, populated by almost three times as many people, given a history and culture of 4,000 years instead of 200, and having more than 15 major languages, together with several different religious philosophies and racial groups. Only then can we begin to visualize what India is like.

So far God has called 120 members out of its population of about 800 million—almost one in seven million. The members are as varied as the country itself. At least 10 major languages are represented in the Church, yet the main language by which the brethren communicate is English.

Indian church history

The first members baptized in



India were Spaulding and Cecilia Kulasingam in 1966. Mr. Kulasingam died in 1988. (Dossibai Ali was baptized in England in 1960 but later returned to India.)

The Plain Truth was advertised in *Reader's Digest* in 1967. This brought in a substantial response, and God used this to draw several members into the Church in the early '70s.

The first Feast of Tabernacles was conducted in south India in 1973.

The Bombay Office is temporarily in Mr. Kulasingam's home in Bombay. Ralph Roach does the banking, maintains co-worker files and helps with various tasks, including the mailing of literature.

The Plain Truth is the main way of proclaiming the gospel in India. *The World Tomorrow* was formerly aired on Radio Ceylon, which reaches into India from Sri Lanka.

Plain Truth circulation is maintained primarily through word of mouth. In 1988 it reached a high of 20,000 a month. It is now 10,000 a month.

Most of the about 120 members and their families are concentrated in eight to 10 areas of India, and several others live in isolated parts of the country. More than 40 percent of the members live in the south.

Many have come into the Church through friends and relatives who are members.

Many of the members are well educated. Some are doctors, engineers and teachers, and a number operate their own businesses. The majority come from Christian, often Catholic, backgrounds. About 15 percent are of Hindu origin. One member has a Muslim father and a Hindu mother.

Some members have basic accommodations in remote villages, while others have quite spacious homes.

Trials at home and work

Family life is strong in India, with great respect for the head of the house. However, this can become a problem if somebody other than the head of the house is called into the Church. Several wives with nonmember mates have had difficulty in keeping the Sabbath and going to the Feast.

Competition is great for good jobs in the Indian market, and most places have a six-day work week. Prospective and baptized members often face severe difficulties in obtaining Sabbaths off. However, the members have developed strong faith and learn to put God first.

The Indian brethren are warm and hospitable. They especially appreciate being together at one Feast site (often their only chance to see the rest of the brethren), and to welcome the international members visiting the site.



BOMBAY BRETHREN—Robert Fahey (center), regional director for Australia and Asia, and his wife, Evelyn, visit Church members in Bombay, India.

Weekly services are conducted in Bombay and Madras. Daniel and Mary Zachariah serve in Madras and south India.

Bible studies are conducted once every two months in Delhi, Hyderabad, Goa, Bangalore, Cochin and Tiruchirapalli. Scattered brethren are sent two sermon tapes a month.

Passover is kept by more than half the members in their homes. The rest attend Passover services in Bombay or Madras. It is difficult to obtain unfortified red wine in India, so the scattered members are given an adequate amount during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Members with large families often face financial strains, especially if they travel long distances to the Feast. The isolated members become discouraged at times. However, they appreciate the ministers visiting them once or twice a year.

Children of members sometimes have problems with examinations scheduled for the Sabbath or on Holy Days. Failure to take these can pose problems in graduating from that particular grade or class.

Single members face some difficulties in having enough opportunities to fellowship with the opposite sex, since only 30 percent of the brethren can meet every Sabbath.

Dating carries a social stigma because many marriages are arranged by parents. Single members often face pressure from nonmember parents to get married quickly.

The brethren do face trials of various sorts, but are grateful to know God's truth and to be a part of the worldwide family of God.

It is a special treat for my wife, Urvashi, and I to visit the brethren in India, especially the scattered brethren in their homes. Sometimes they are the only brethren in that city or area, but they let their lights shine and maintain their zeal and enthusiasm for God's Work.

India

Members	120
Attendance	220
Churches	2
Ministers	2
Deacons	3
Bible studies	6
PT circulation	10,000
GN circulation	2,000

WE ARE ONE FAMILY

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

PASADENA—A new booklet about the Church and its activities is about to roll off the presses, according to evangelist **Ronald Kelly**, booklet editor.

"Many people may be familiar with the Church through only one aspect of its operations, like *The Plain Truth, The World Tomorrow* or the Ambassador performing arts series," Mr. Kelly said. "This booklet will help the public better link all of the Church's activities together."

Evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Communications & Public Affairs, and **Michael Snyder**, assistant director of Public Affairs, coauthored the booklet. **Michael Miles** of Media Planning & Promotion designed the booklet's graphics.

"In preparing the booklet, we researched which questions received by the Church were the 'most-asked,'" Mr. Hulme said. "We received comments and lists of questions from regional directors, department heads and writers in Editorial Services and Personal Correspondence."

"This booklet will now provide an accurate source of information about the Church and its activities for some of those who possess a flawed understanding of what we do and teach," he said.

The booklet will be mailed automatically to English-speaking member heads of household worldwide starting in mid-September.

The booklet will be offered on the first telecast of the 1989-90 *World Tomorrow* season (Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in the United States and Canada).

☆☆☆

PASADENA—**Olivier Carion**, pastor of the Colmar and Metz, France, churches, and his wife, **Susan**, will transfer to Pasadena after the Feast of Tabernacles.



OLIVIER & SUSAN CARION

Mr. Carion will assist evangelist **Dibar Apartian**, regional director for the Church in French-speaking areas.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Church Administration announced the following ordinations.

Wade Fransson, a ministerial trainee in the Zurich and Basel, Switzerland, and Stuttgart, West Germany, churches, was ordained a local elder on Pentecost, June 11.

Jeffrey Molnar of the Columbus, Ohio, A.M. church; and **R. Cornell Smith** and **James Wilson**, deacons in the Reseda, Calif., church; were ordained local church elders on Pentecost, June 11.

Michael Regan, a deacon in the Pasadena Imperial P.M. church, was ordained a local church elder on the Sabbath, July 8.

Dennis Kriedemann of the Cape Town, South Africa, church was ordained a local church elder on the Sabbath, July 15.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—Festival Administration announced that the Feast sites in San Isidro de General, Costa

Rica; Baguio, Philippines; and Sherbrooke, Que.; have reached capacity. No further applications can be accepted.

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PASADENA—Evangelist **Donald Ward**, Ambassador College president, conferred three degrees at Ambassador College summer commencement exercises here Aug. 7.

Emilio Garcia Diaz and **Elizabeth Christine Odom** received associate of arts degrees, and **Kevin Loy King** received an associate of science degree.

☆☆☆

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Birmingham, Bessemer and Jasper, Ala., brethren honored associate pastor **Robert Collins** and his wife, **Sara**, July 22.



ROBERT & SARA COLLINS

Serious health problems required that Mr. Collins, who has served in the area since 1966, be placed on disability.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—The seventh annual Singles Experience took place here Aug. 11 to 13.

Eight hundred single brethren, mostly from the southwestern United States, attended the event.

Evangelist **Dean Blackwell**, who works in Church Administration, gave a Bible study Aug. 12, which was followed by a reception. The singles attended Sabbath services in the Ambassador Auditorium.

That evening many tried area restaurants and returned to the campus for a games evening in the campus student center.

Hiking, cycling, a campus tour and a picnic were Sunday's activities.

The weekend concluded with "Summer Serenade," a dance in the student center. Music was provided by **Murray Korda** and His Monseigneur Strings. The dance was open to all of the Pasadena churches, in addition to the singles.

"There was a camaraderie, a fellowship and warmth between the brethren that was the best we have experienced," said **Robin Webber**, event coordinator and Pasadena Imperial P.M. pastor.

☆☆☆

PASADENA—"Even during the summer rerun schedule we continue to receive requests for videotapes of aired programs of *The World Tomorrow*," said evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

Requests are generally for educational use.

Although programs on stress and drugs have produced the highest number of requests, "requests for doctrinal programs have been increasing. More than a few Sunday school instructors have asked for the Sabbath program and the production about the spirit world," said Mr. Hulme.

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FORT WORTH, Tex.—Brethren here marked the 25th anniversary of the church in Fort Worth July 8 and 9.

Sabbath attendance July 8 was 937, including ministers and their wives who have served in the area.

Brethren celebrated the event with a family dance Saturday evening, and a chicken barbecue Sunday.

Two hundred eighty-seven attended the first Fort Worth service in 1964. About 750 now attend the two Fort Worth churches.

Members who attend the Waco, Abilene, Wichita Falls and Sherman, Tex., and Ada and Lawton, Okla., churches were among those originally assigned to Fort Worth.

☆☆☆

LISLE, Ill.—**Jim Mason**, corporate technical director of R.R. Donnelley's Technical Center here, described "a revolution" in the publishing world to members of the Church's Media Operations research and development team.

At Donnelley's invitation, the group toured the four-story Technical Center west of Chicago Aug. 16.

Mr. Mason, along with **Ronnie Sarkar**, staff specialist, and several engineers, shared information Donnelley has gleaned from its research in the electronic publishing field. R.R. Donnelley & Sons prints and distributes the *Plain Truth* and *Good News* magazines.

"In the next five years we'll see drastic changes from the traditional ways of designing and assembling publications," said **Monte Wolverton**, *Plain Truth* art director. "These new technologies will gain us efficiency and flexibility, and we would be unwise not to take advantage of them."

Satellite communications, electronic language translation, digital image processing and color image analysis were just some of the subjects addressed during the day.

Brian Kritzell, purchasing coordinator of Media Operations, met with **Paul Lovern**, general manager



SUMMER GRADUATES—From left, Kevin King, Elizabeth Odom and Emilio Garcia received degrees at Pasadena Ambassador College summer commencement exercises Aug. 7 [Photo by Barry Stahl]

of Corporate Construction & Equipment Purchasing.

"I wanted to know how a large company like Donnelley buys major equipment, since they purchase over \$200 million of equipment a year," Mr. Kritzell said. "I was encouraged to learn that we use the same team process that they do. Lovern was very complimentary of the Work's methods, and felt we were on the right path for success."

Also touring the technical center were **Steve Doucet**, Publishing's lead systems programmer, **Sheila Graham**, *Plain Truth* associate editor, **Larry Holm**, Media Operations technical coordinator, **Don Patrick**, Ambassador Publishing's composition and systems supervisor, **Armin Reese**, systems programmer, and **Michael Riley**, senior art director of Media Planning & Promotion.

According to Mr. Patrick: "It takes most of our time trying to stay abreast of the ever-changing technological world. Visits to companies like Donnelley help us to be sure we are going down the right track."

☆☆☆

PASADENA—The 1989 *Envoy* will be sold at the Feast of Tabernacles beginning Oct. 15, according to Editorial Services.

The *Envoy's* 264 pages, more than half of which are in full color, cover Ambassador College student life, including service at Ambassador Foundation projects around

of the world.

"The theme of this year's *Envoy* is 'The Cutting Edge,' emphasizing the unique and profitable educational experiences Ambassador offers its students," according to evangelist **Donald Ward**, president of Ambassador College.

"Included are profiles of successful Ambassador College graduates whose achievements underline the



THE 1989 ENVOY

college's success in helping prepare young people to make valuable contributions to society," Dr. Ward said.

The price of the *Envoy* is \$28. It will be available at the Ambassador College booth at Feast sites in the United States and Canada. Members may use second tithe to purchase a copy.

Brethren attending other Feast sites will be able to order copies, which will be shipped to their homes after the Feast.



FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

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

PASADENA—Seventy-two new people, representing 9.4 percent of those invited, attended *Pura Verdad* (Spanish *Plain Truth*) lectures July 8 and 9 in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras.

Herbert Cisneros, pastor of the San Salvador, El Salvador, and Guatemala City, Guatemala, churches, conducted the lectures.

"On the second day, I discovered that the room next door had been rented to a group of evangelicals who had brought their electric guitars, tambourines, etc.," said Mr. Cisneros.

"I was able to finish the lecture by 5 p.m. in spite of their singing."

In the British Isles *The Plain Truth* is being offered by two prominent newsgroups.

John Menzies and **WH Smith** are the two most prestigious chains of newsagents and make ideal outlets for *Plain Truth* newsstands, according to evangelist **Frank Brown**, British regional director.

"Last time we approached Menzies, however, they had asked us to pay too much money to display the magazine," Mr. Brown said.

"We were therefore delighted when the shop manager of the John Menzies in Glasgow [Scotland] wrote to us and asked if he could display *The Plain Truth*—on our terms."

Mr. Brown called it a most welcome foot in the door. Deliveries of 2,000 magazines a month began in July.

In early August the assistant manager of the same shop telephoned the British Office to say he had been promoted.

He is now manager of the Menzies shop in Edinburgh, Scotland, and asked if he could also have *The Plain Truth* there.

Deliveries began with the September issue. Five other British outlets were added in August: three in Liverpool, one in Leeds and one in Newcastle.

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