

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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God of Our Life

God of our life, through all the circling years, We trust in Thee;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
We own Thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

God of the past, our times are in Thy hand; With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true Promised Land; Be Thou our guide.
With Thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.

God of the coming years, through paths unknown We follow Thee;
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; Our refuge be.
Be Thou for us in life our Daily Bread,
Our heart's true Home when all our years have sped.

Hugh T. Kerr

THE HOLY LAND TOUR

(continued)

Haifa is the only city having a subway. It is a clean, modern city with beautiful apartment houses everywhere. They are like the condominium type in the U.S. Everyone buys their apartment; no one rents the apartments. They are built on stilts or pillars. This keeps them cool. Spring is the ideal time to visit Israel. The mountains and hill-sides are covered with many kinds of trees. Before a person can cut down a tree, he must promise to plant 50 trees. Bordering the large gardens are rows of trees planted for protection. Many kinds of citrus trees are in abundance here. Large plastic bags were covering the bunches of bananas to protect them from early frost. All along the highways were trucks with crates of oranges and grapefruit. The fields had rows and rows of plastic tent-like coverings to protect and hasten their growth. In the many markets, we saw unusually large carrots, artichokes, radishes, cabbage, cauliflower, etc. All this abundance and perfect products reminds one of the scripture, "the desert shall blossom as a rose." (Isaiah 35:1). Israel's exports to Europe include 1,000 tons of fruits and vegetables, seven hundred billion eggs and many types of cheese. Prosperity abounds on the land.

Thursday, March 15

We docked after lunch and in the late afternoon we left the boat, went through customs. The guide was a Jew, born in Johannesburg, S. Africa, educated in an English school. He spoke English fluently. He was a scholar of history and as we stopped at places of interest, he read from the Old and New Testament.

We drove to the top of Mt. Carmel. Here is the site of many strange gods, shrines and caves. This is the place Elijah chose for the great contest with the prophets of Baal. (I Kings 18:19, 39) The Jews, Christians and Moslems all accepted Elijah as a prophet.

The Orthodox Jews built a synagogue, claiming this is where Elijah had his experience with God. Tradition states that barren women came here to pray to Elijah for children.

As we drove by a school earlier, we were told some interesting things about the children and their education in Israel. The school term is ten months. The teachers receive \$300 to \$350 per month. They stress close family life and various excursions during the school term. They are very proud that they have no juvenile delinquency or drug problems. Boys and girls have military training; boys serve 3 years and girls 2 years, beginning at 18 years of age.

Friday, March 16

As we greeted each other this morning, we used the Israeli greeting of "Shalom" which means, "peace, hello".

As we continued through the countryside, our guide Gerry told us the meaning of the word TELL. It is an ancient mound or hill made by human hands, was once a village, then destroyed. During the past a new town was built on these ruins. As many as ten towns were rebuilt over and over because the basic requirements for a village were here; soil, water and lines of communications.

We visited the ancient city of Megiddo, a Tell. From here one can see the Valley of Jezreel, also known as Esdraelon where many Biblical battles were fought.

Barak and Gideon were victorious here, but Saul and Josiah suffered defeat. This valley was once fertile but later fell into decline. Today the Israelis have planted vineyards and fields of wheat, corn, barley, alfalfa and clover. Megiddo is mentioned often in the Old Testament. First in *Joshua* 12, the King of Megiddo is mentioned. In *Judges* 5:19 in the Song of Deborah, we read of the waters of Megiddo. King Solomon rebuilt and fortified Megiddo, it being a great trunk road from Egypt to Mesopotamia and Syria. Solomon had a special levy to finance the construction here. It was one of his "cities for chariots" and is said to have housed 8,000 horses in the stables. We saw the ruins. (I Kings 9:15) From a spring outside, Solomon very cleverly dug a tunnel and used a shaft to bring water into the fort.

From Megiddo we continued to Caesarea, an important, attractive, ancient site. This was the chief Roman city in the Palestine region for some 500 years, named in honor of Caesar Augustus. The Roman hippodrome here is capable of accommodating 20,000 people and each year musical productions are produced here. Parts of an old synagogue were uncovered about 1965.

Here Cornelius a centurion, had his prayers answered relative to Peter's vision on the housetop of Joppa. Peter preached the gospel to Cornelius and he and all his household were baptized. (Acts 10:1, 33) We visited this spot and were on the housetop.

It is said Herod Agrippa died here 'being eaten of worms', he failed in his speech to give God the glory. (Acts 12:19, 23)

Our next stop was Tel Aviv, Israel's largest city, with a population of 500,000 including Jaffa (Joppa). It is a beautiful, modern city founded in 1909 by an overflow of Jews from Jaffa. Tel Aviv means, "Hill of Spring".

Joppa is one of the oldest cities in the world. It has a recorded history of 3,500 years. It is called Jaffa today. (Jafa) As we drove through Jaffa we noticed a sign, "Flea Market of Jaffa". Down the narrow streets we went until we saw the market. The many shops were open and displayed their wares on the street. One could purchase almost anything here. It was a busy, exciting place.

Joppa was known in Joshua's time as Japho. (*Joshua* 19:46) During Solomon's reign as king, the cedars of Lebanon were floated down from there to Joppa to be used in building the Temple. We recalled the exciting story of Jonah. Joppa was the port from which Jonah sailed and found a ship going to Tarshish (*Jonah* 1:3). This was the home of Dorcas (*Acts* 9:36-42). Peter stayed in Joppa at the home of Simon the tanner which was by the seaside (*Acts* 9:43). How real the scriptures become when one visits these places.

Jaffa is about 25 miles from Ashdod which was our next stop. Ashdod is a Tell. It was here that the Philistines built a temple to their god Dagan. They captured the ark of God and brought it to this city. The next morning the god Dagan was found fallen on its face before the ark. Everyone became ill because they took the ark. (I Samuel 5:1-7) In II Chronicles we read where this was one of the Philistines main strong holds. Today it is being developed to be one of Israel's largest seaports.

Saturday, March 17

Today is the Jewish Sabbath. The streets and highways are quite empty of travel in contrast to yesterday when cars were bumper to bumper. As we drove through

Haifa our guide drew our attention to the water containers on the roofs of the houses. By proper placing of mirrors, in the direct sun's rays, they are able to heat water for their houses. One wonders why this isn't tried in U. S. in our warmer states. The people of Israel conserve all water and use it in great systems of irrigation.

We continued on to Samaria and noticed everywhere the millions of trees planted all over the hills by the Jewish National Fund. To date 80 million trees have been planted in Israel. Many have been planted around the John F. Kennedy Memorial in the Judean Hills.

In Solomon's time Samaria was known as the Northern Kingdom. Here Ahab was persuaded by his wife Jezebel, to build an altar to the god Baal. Ahab also built his ivory place here. (*I Kings 16:31-33*) Part of the old town wall can be seen. A church built by the Crusaders and dedicated to John the Baptist is still here.

After leaving here we drove through the Jordan Valley to Jericho. The fields are fertile with an abundance of orange, grapefruit and banana trees. The vegetables grown here were of the best. As we continued on, we came to a rocky area. It was here Jesus fasted forty days in the wilderness. He was tempted here by Satan. This high mount is called The Mount of Temptation, above Jericho. Clinging to the mountain side near here is an old Greek Orthodox Monastery. It was a luxurious place built about 720 A.D. It has been partially restored.

Jericho is a Tell and doesn't appear to have been a very large city. The walls of the city were made of stone and mud. When Joshua gave the signal to blow the trumpets and shout, the walls came tumbling down. (*Joshua 6:1-26*) It is the lowest city in the world, 1200 feet below sea level. An archaeologist Kathleen Kenyon supervised excavations for 15 years here. They found a city wall and a circular tower dating back to 7,000 B.C. This was up from the old city of Jericho. Opposite all this, across the road is the Spring of Elisha. This is named for Elisha who made the bitter waters of the spring sweet by casting a handful of salt into it. (*II Kings 2:18-22*) People still come here to draw water.

(To be continued)

LET GOD HAVE THE WAY

by Mark Randy

Sometimes we live in doubt,
Not knowing what to do.
Our mind is tossed about,
Uncertain of where to go.
The good we like to hear
Is far from us today.
Because we live with fear,
Often we lose the way.
We dread to face trials
And wish they'd go away.
Our troubles turn to smiles;
Letting God have the way.
Remember, He is near
To comfort us today.
Jesus is the answer,
Every day of the year.

Joyful, Joyful Will The Meeting Be

Tampa, Florida

November 18, 1973

Brother V. James Lovalvo and his wife, Sister Mary, along with other Brothers and Sisters, made the semi-monthly trip to Tampa to bring the Gospel to that part of the vineyard. The day was beautiful and sunny; the trip was wonderful!

Services were held in the fellowship room of the Tampa Federal Bank. The meeting was opened with Hymn 72, "Some Day," followed by prayer and Hymn 187, "Just A Whispered Prayer." After a few brief comments on the blessing of little children for the benefit of our visitors, Brother Lovalvo blessed William Tucker's grandson, Christopher Scott Tucker, the son of Ronald and Peggy Tucker.

Brother Lovalvo used for his text *Matthew 4:1-11*, concerning Satan trying to tempt Jesus while He fasted in the desert. Brother Lovalvo stressed that Satan will also tempt us to follow him if we are not careful to resist him in all things by placing our trust in Jesus. Our Brother then related the parable of the rich man with his barns full... and Lazarus in the bosom of Abraham..., thus captivating the theme of the day—THE SOUL AND ITS WELFARE. Real living is having God in our heart; while Satan is the prince of this world, God's kingdom is beautiful.

Our visitors were very much impressed by the sermon brought forth, as were all those who were in attendance. We were about fifteen in attendance besides children. As Brother Lovalvo finished his discourse, a young lady arose and declared that she was ready to be baptized. We went to Tampa prepared that something in this order would take place. When Mrs. Turner went home to change clothes, her husband Howard also came in baptismal clothes to be immersed. The Gospel was introduced to the Turners by Billy Tucker as we call him. The baptisms took place at beautiful Davis Island in Tampa.

We then assembled at the home of Billy Tucker where a few words were expressed as to the faith of The Church. The new converts were then confirmed; Sister Minnie Turner was confirmed by Brother Lovalvo and Brother Howard Turner was confirmed by Brother Joseph Tucker, a privilege Brother Joe had not had in many years. The Turners' three children—Charles Dyke, Randall, and Howard Gene were then blessed. Prayers are requested for Charles, as he is afflicted with a bone disease. Sacrament was then administered before the close of the service.

We arrived home quite late, but the effort we put forth to make the trip was well worthwhile. The angels of heaven rejoiced also. We ask an interest in your prayers for the few that are in Tampa, that Satan may not get a foothold there. The work there is slowly progressing, and we pray that it may prosper in God's due time. Brother Lovalvo's remark about the day's outcome was "For a day like this I would make the trip every week." (The Lovalvo home in Port St. Lucie is 180 miles from Tampa.) May God bless all the Saints in The Church of His Beloved Son.

Brother Lou Pandone

LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE

Brother William H. Cadman once said, "If language means what is said, then we must conclude from His Own Words, that, if we do not teach and practice all that He taught, He will not be with us until the end of the world. *His Promise is that He will be with us inasmuch as we teach and observe all things which He taught.* Otherwise, He does not promise to be with us. The responsibility is on His Creatures for not abiding in Him. He does not waver." (*Book of Sermons*) What was it that Jesus taught us? The answer is easy: He taught us, God is Love, (*I John 4:8, 16*).

Brother Gorie Ciaravino said once, "I sometimes wonder whether we realize the real importance of His Resurrection. What does it mean to you and me? How does it affect us?" (*Book of Sermons*) My first thought was; "We love Him because He first loved us." (*I John 4:19* also *II Corinthians 5:14*)

The main or chief test of a Christian is to show this love. (*John 13:35*)

Where did this love start? It started with God. "He so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." (*John 3:16*)

Jesus told us that whosoever loves Him will be loved by His Father. (*John 14:21, 23*) We are also told to keep ourselves in the Love of God. (*Jude 21*)

In our life we need to overcome the worldly love and know the Love of God, for it is said, "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of the city of my God." (*Revelations 3:12*)

What is this price for eternity we have to pay; "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart and with all thy might." (*Deuteronomy 6:5*)

God wants us to walk in His ways, and to love Him. (*Deut. 10:12*) For this price we pay, "The Lord preserveth all that love Him," (*Psa. 145:20*) and the Lord knows all things, He sees our love. (*John 21:17*)

In *Moroni 7:47* we read, "Charity is the pure love of Christ." To give of ourselves to God is charity and this charity is our love. In *Second Nephi 26:30*, we read, "Men should have charity, which charity is love."

God loves little children (*Moroni 7:17*), we have to give of ourselves to God, to be His children. We have to be born again. (*John 3:1-8*)

MY TESTIMONY

I did not find this church, It found me. I saw more love of God in one Brother I met than I ever saw in any two men. I had to find out where Brother Tom Everett found this love. Brother Tom invited me and my wife to church. In The Church of Jesus Christ we found the love of God. I had been sprinkled, dipped in a tank, and prayed for before I met this church. All of that seemed unimportant. When we were baptized, we knew this was His real and true church. He did not have to love us or save us, but we sure praise God because He did. When we sing songs of love in church, I always think of *Alma 26:13*, "We sing songs of redeeming love." I had a great desire for wealth before I came to the Lord. My desire is not money anymore. I am wealthy beyond belief, be-

cause my treasures are laid up beyond that great blue sky. I praise Him for His love.

WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION

I have read in the *Church History* that the Lord gave The Church an experience on November 8, 1861. He said, "When you go to the Indians, tell them that Jesus Christ died to save them."

Now if that does not tell us to go forth and teach what God taught, I do not know what does. Teach love to the Seed of Joseph. Show love to everyone.

Christ is the Head of the Body, *The Church*. (*Faith and Doctrine*)

Since this is The Church of Jesus Christ, it is our duty as Saints to feed people with God's Love. It has been said, "You cannot feed a horse with an eye-dropper, you have to give him a bucketful." Our hearts should knit together in unity and love, like in *Mosiah 18:21*.

What does our church have above all others? It has the true love of God. As a church then, let us not keep a good thing, let us really spread it around.

God gave all the Saints His love and He abides within us by the gift of The Holy Ghost. (*Acts 2:38*) So let us not sit down, Saints. We have the true Gospel, and we have the true love of God. Let us tell more people. Good news travels as fast as good people carry it.

So Brothers and Sisters, "Let us talk about love."

God bless all the Saints.

Brother Phil Van Allsburg

You Should Know . . .

by Joseph Ross

You should know . . .

That John Wycliffe (1330-1384) English ecclesiastical reformer and theologian, a major figure in the Protestant Reformation was credited with first translating the Bible into English.

You should know . . .

Our Church has a resolution that our people dress modestly when attending Sunday School and M.B.A. picnics or church functions of any kind. If possible, picnics should not be held in public parks where there are swimming pools or bathing beaches. Let us prove ourselves true followers of our Lord Jesus Christ in all things.

You should know . . .

The inscription on the Liberty Bell is derived from the Bible, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, to all the inhabitants thereof." *Leviticus 25:10*.

You should know . . .

The qualifications for a Trustee on the Branch, District or General Church level are as follows: Trustees must be over twenty-one years of age and members of The Church in good standing. (Caution: Some states require Trustees, to be property owners. It is not the intent that Trustees be property owners except in those states which require it. They may be property owners in other states but it is not mandatory.)

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

Summing Up and Looking Forward

*Ring out the old shapes of foul disease,
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

*Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the Christ that is to be.*

These closing lines from Alfred Tennyson's great New Year's poem are most suitable and soul-stirring as we "ring out the old" (1973) and "ring in the new" (1974). You will note the heartfelt wish of the poet Tennyson he so simply and eloquently expressed with pen, prophetic-like with anticipation for a better future.

Time Hurries On

The end of the year is a time for summing up and looking forward. It is also a time when we are forcibly reminded as the writer Blair wrote over two hundred years ago, "Think we, or think we not, time hurries on with a resistless, unremitting stream. Charles Wesley, contemporary with Blair, wrote in one of his great hymns, "Our life is a dream, our time as a stream glides swiftly away, and the fugitive moment refuses to stay."

The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines the word time as a limited stretch or space of continued existence, as the interval between two successive events or acts, or the period through which an action, condition, or state continues; also as an indefinite continuous duration regarded as that in which the sequence of events takes place. Some have defined time to be the measure of the motion of heaven.

Time and Eternity

Alma, in unfolding the mysteries of God to his son Corianton, declared, "...all is as one day with God, and time only is measured unto men." (*Book of Mormon, Alma* 40:8.) Then the words of the Apostle Peter who wrote, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (*II Peter* 3:8) We may say then that time is a part or measure of eternity.

In her beautiful treatise entitled INFINITE in the June, 1973 issue of the *Gospel News*, Sister Terri Bravo offers the following allegory:

Picture a mountain in your mind. Every one thousand years a bird comes and makes one peck on this mountain. When the mountain is completely flattened, this is one day in eternity!

In summing up our successes and failures during the past year, may we renew our gratitude to God for His guidance, strength and support that enabled us to successfully achieve at least some of our goals and to fulfill in whatever degree our duty to God. On the other hand may we seek His pardoning grace for our failures and shortcomings and ask Him for greater strength to enable us to do better in the future.

In looking forward to the New Year may we take fresh courage, trusting in God, and in the verse of Charles Wesley:

*Come, let us anew, our journey pursue,
Roll around with the year, roll around with the year,
And never stand still, and never stand still
Till the Master appear.*



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

Pharaohs . . . Rulers of Egypt

Dear Girls and Boys,

I am going to tell you stories about pharaohs, kings and rulers. Pharaoh was a title used to designate the rulers of Egypt. The name is thought to mean, "the sun" or "Great House". Truly, they were great rulers or were from the great houses of kings. Many were heathen kings who worshipped idols. Others were known as "shepherd kings" and others as "oppressors".

The Pharaoh who persecuted the Israelites lived when Moses was born. Pharaoh's daughter saved Moses from the river Nile and raised him as her own son. When Moses grew to be a man, God used him and his brother Aaron to free the Israelites from the Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Do you remember the plagues that were sent on Pharaoh and his people before the Israelites were freed? You can read of them in *Exodus, Chapters 7 to 12*.

There was another Pharaoh who lived in the days of Joseph. Joseph was falsely accused by Pharaoh's officer's wife and cast into prison. While there he met two servants of the King, a butler and a baker. They each had a dream the same night which troubled them. Joseph asked, "Why look ye so sadly today?" They told Joseph about their dreams. They were sad because they could not understand the dreams. As they told their dreams to Joseph, the Lord gave him the understanding. Joseph knew interpretations belonged to God and he told them so. (*Genesis 40:7, 20*). All came to pass as Joseph said it would. Two years later the Pharaoh had two dreams and Joseph was still in prison. The dreams worried Pharaoh and no one could interpret them. The butler remembered Joseph and told the King that Joseph could interpret dreams. Pharaoh called Joseph from the dungeon and told him his dreams. Joseph explained the dreams and this made the king very happy. He made Joseph a ruler to govern the growing of grain and see that it was properly taken care of for the famine which was soon to come. This Pharaoh was a good king. At the end of seven years of famine, he gave the land of Goshen to Joseph's father and brothers because they were shepherds. Joseph brought his father before Pharaoh and Jacob blessed the King. Jacob and his big family lived in Goshen for seventeen years. They were given possessions here and they grew and multiplied exceedingly.

Three Egyptian princesses, daughters of Pharaohs are mentioned in the Bible. One is the daughter who became the mother of Moses. She named him Moses because she said, "I drew him out of the water". The second, a daughter of a Pharaoh, was Bithiah. She was the wife of Mered, an Israelite. Very little is known of her. Another princess, a daughter of a Pharaoh, was the wife of King Solomon.

He brought her out of the city of David to a house that he had built for her. This was at the time the temple, the city wall and his house were being built. Little is known of her.

There is an interesting story about a king, the king of Salem named Melchizedek. He was called the King of Peace and the King of Righteousness. He was the priest of the most High God. He met Abram in the valley Shaveh. He brought bread and wine and blessed Abram saying, "Blessed be Abram of the most High God, possessor of heaven and earth." Abram gave tithes, a tenth of all he possessed to Melchizedek. The Book of Mormon tells us more about King Melchizedek. (*Alma 13:14, 19*). He was not only a king but a high priest. In those days the people were very wicked. Many had gone astray from the truth and no longer worshipped God. God gave Melchizedek great power and he went among the people telling them to repent. He had great faith. The people repented. He was called the Prince of Peace because he established peace among the people. There were many kings before him and many after him but none was as great as he. But of all the Pharaohs, the great kings and mighty rulers there is none as great as The King of Kings, our Saviour.

Next time I will tell about a king who lived here in America.

Sincerely, Sister Mabel

AN EXPERIENCE

At the opening of a Wednesday night meeting in the Metuchen Branch, Brother Richard Lawson, the Presiding Elder, announced that Brother Norbert Schmitt's son Jimmy was in the hospital and would be operated on in the morning. As the congregation knelt in prayer, we petitioned God in Jimmy's behalf, and during this prayer, I had a vision. I saw Jimmy Schmitt lying in a hospital bed, and an angel was standing next to him. The vision ended, and we finished praying. Immediately, I said a little prayer of my own and asked The Lord to confirm this vision. The meeting's subject was on angels!

After the meeting, I was still waiting for "the" confirmation. I spoke to Brother Lawson concerning the vision. "You know," he said, "we've talked about angels like we never did before." He then said that I should tell the Brothers and Sisters. I knew this was "the" confirmation. On Sunday I told the congregation, and we all received a wonderful blessing.

Brother Lawson went to the hospital after the Sunday meeting and told Brother Norbert Schmitt the experience. Brother Schmitt said, "I was a little worried about Jimmy, but after hearing of this experience that Brother Harry had, I am comforted. I know that everything will be alright." I thank The Lord for this wonderful blessing.

Brother Harry Abrams,
Metuchen Branch

● FLASHBACKS ●

by Charles Jumper

JANUARY 1949 — 25 YEARS AGO

Brother Matthew Miller of Detroit, Michigan was the guest speaker for "The Gospel Hour" radio broadcast. Brother Miller used the 12th Chapter of *St. John's Gospel* as his text. The program is sponsored by the Michigan and Canadian Branches and includes spiritual music by the young people of the area.

Brother William Cadman, General Church President, visited several Branches of the Church in Ohio. Brother Cadman spoke at Lorain, Cleveland, Niles, and Youngstown before returning to his home in Mon City, Pennsylvania.

JANUARY 1954 — 20 YEARS AGO

A New Year's eve gathering was held in Mon City for Brothers William Cadman and Joseph Bittinger who are soon to leave on a missionary trip to Nigeria, Africa.

Brothers Joseph Milantoni and Domenic Thomas led a group of young people from Detroit to the Muncey, Ontario Indian reservation to present a program and provide a treat for the Indian children.

Remember when Brothers Anthony Picciuto, Joseph Perry and August D'Orazio, during a tour of duty with the United States Army in Korea, though several hundred miles apart, were able to meet and spend some time together.

JANUARY 1959 — 15 YEARS AGO

Brother Frank Wooley of Youngstown, Ohio spoke at the dedication of our church building at San Demetrio Corone, Italy. Brother Frank was sent to Italy by The Church to relieve Brother Todaro who has returned to the United States.

JANUARY 1964 — 10 YEARS AGO

Brother Bailey from Redstone, Pennsylvania visited the McKees Rocks Branch. Brother Bailey is one of the oldest Evangelists in The Church.

The Lorain, Ohio Branch held their watch service. Brothers Anthony Vadasz of New Jersey, Domenic Thomas from Michigan, and Isaac Smith of Pennsylvania, along with their families attended the service.

JANUARY 1969 — 5 YEARS AGO

The Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch rededicated their church building. The structure which had been extensively damaged by fire has been renovated and restored for use.

Rich Blessings At Lake Worth, Florida Branch

We are happy to report the good news that the Lake Worth Branch has been blessed again. Recently, in two separate meetings, Brother Kenneth and Sister Sandra Hatch along with Brother Vincent Lupo asked to be renewed.

They have been reinstated to membership in The Church and we are happy to welcome them into the fold.

We thank God for His rich blessings upon us.

Like The Nephites

The Nephites in the beginning were the workers and believers of the law. God sent them forth on this land, as conquerors of all who were against them. He blessed them with every blessing possible to man. He gave them wealth both spiritual and natural. Great were the Nephites upon this land, because they loved the Lord. Also, just as great was their fall. God completely wiped them from the face of the earth for their many sins.

If you have read any of the *Book of Mormon* you will find we are not far different from the Nephites. Warnings were given to them constantly. They were warned of all the things that would corrupt their hearts and souls. Yet as people are and always have been, they were deaf to the words that convicted their souls.

A man would rather spend his time condemning his brother than himself. Can, when we reach the bar of God say, "Lord we have committed a few sins, but look what our brother has done". I'm sure the Lord would ask us if we were working to save our souls, or to judge our brother.

God knows our failings and forgives us. But we can not continue to make the same mistake and ask the Lord to forgive us. The Lord expects us to make changes for the good. He didn't say it was going to be easy.

When you really think about it, the main reason we are here on this earth, is to please our God. If we work toward the example Christ set, we not only heal our own souls but we help others. A man who works to set a good example always inspires others to do the same.

Some might say how do I know what wrong I am doing. If you are a member of this church and have to ask that, get down on your knees and pray. If the spirit does not convict your soul of wrong doings, my brother you are not right with God.

I would like to leave you with this one last thought. Shall we be like the Nephites. Or shall we listen to the spirit and the warnings from God. Think of it in this way. Are you ready to meet your Maker?

Sister Diana Thompson

THE POWER OF THE WORD

The gifts of the spirit will come as they may,
But we seek for the blessings of God this day.

For we are Christ's people—the chosen few,
To bear the fruits which did Nephi pursue.

Now where are these gifts of the spirit—possess,
In the power of the word, through all righteousness.

The power of the word t'was mentioned before,
T'is the key to the door for blessings much more.

The word is the truth—it cometh from He,
And now through obedience it dwells within me.

The word is—and always will be,
That rod of iron that brings us to Thee.

So the gifts of the Spirit are free to receive,
Through the power of the word manifested through He.

By Brother John Mancini

DISTRICT NEWS

At the September Conference, The Atlantic Coast District approved a recommendation by The Mission Board. The approval was for a series of meetings convening the first Wednesday of each month. Their purpose is to promote more fellowship.

The meetings are being rotated to afford the Branches and Missions an opportunity of entertaining Saints and friends. Branches and Missions are encouraged to fully support the meetings and many close their buildings to participate. The schedule is as follows:

December 5 — New Brunswick
January 2 — Edison
February 6 — Metuchen
March 6 — Hopelawn
April 3 — Bronx
May 1 — Brooklyn
June 5 — Freehold

Our initial meeting was wonderful. Brother Dominick Rose, Chairman of The Mission Board, felt prompted during the day to ask Brother Nathan Peterkin to open the meeting. Brother Rose arrived a few minutes late; however the meeting was not formerly opened. Brother Peterkin "did" open the meeting. His text was Jonah, the reluctant missionary. Brother Peterkin centered his message on obeying the commands of God. Go when told, anywhere, whatever the cost or consequence! We were told that God wants His Gospel to spread throughout the world. At this point, Brother Salvatore Valenti spoke in the Gift of Tongues. They were interpreted as: "THAT IS WHAT JESUS WANTS, THE GOSPEL TO BE PREACHED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD." Brother Rocco Ensana followed and confirmed the theme. Brother Ensana confirmed the message by relating many personal experiences during his (47) years as a member of The Church and (45) years in The Priesthood.

We ask that you remember us in prayer. Our desire is the same as yours, to serve the Lord. All are welcome to attend, especially "visitors" from other areas of The Church.

Donald Ross
District Editor

Beyond this life or grief and pain
There is a hope that we'll meet again.
In mansions of eternal bliss
Where reigns, forever, happiness.
The streets, they say are paved with gold.
With gates of pearls, so we are told.
We'll never need candles, there'll be no night
For the Lamb of God will be the light.

Tears of sorrow shall fall no more
Once we reach that Golden Shore.
For God Himself shall wipe away
The tears that stain our cheeks today.
We'll meet with loved ones who've crossed the Bar.
Who are watching patiently from afar.
Anxiously waiting, beside Heaven's gate.
Silently hoping we won't be too late.

Don Green

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

News From Lorain, Ohio

In the month of October there is a day known as "Sweetest Day" when flowers, candy, or cards are given to a loved one. We had our own version of "Sweetest Day" at our Branch. It was God's gift to us as we participated in our Sunday morning service, and The Lord touched the hearts of two young people who arose and asked for their baptism.

It was a beautiful, sunny fall day as we gathered at the lake to witness the baptism of Sister Alice (Hefner) Portnick and Brother David Calabrese. The waves were rough and high as they covered our young converts who were baptized by Brother Joseph Calabrese. Brother David felt good in his confirmation by Brother Alfred Dominico, as he had also been blessed as a child by Brother Alfred. Sister Alice was confirmed by Brother Frank Calabrese.

Sister Inez Caldwell, formerly of the Lorain Branch and now residing in Detroit, asked to be rebaptized in another one of our services. Brother Joseph Milantoni of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 where Sister Inez is now a member, baptized her. May God bless and guide each of the newly baptized as they walk along on "The King's Highway."

Brother James and Sister Jeanette Velardi, formerly from Lorain and now residing in Cape Corral, Florida and Brother Gary Ciccati from San Diego, California also visited the Lorain Branch.

Deacon Ordained At Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch

The Greensburg Saints enjoyed a special blessing on Sunday, September 23. The edifying event of the day was the ordination of Brother Kenneth Mellor as a Deacon.

Brother Mellor's feet were washed by Brother Joseph Draskovich after which Brother Aldo D'Angelo ordained Brother Mellor to the office of Deacon.

May God grant him strength and wisdom to fulfill the duties of his new office.

* * *

EDITOR'S NOTE: Brother Mellor is convalescing from injuries sustained in a recent traffic accident that also included his son and the son of Sister Blosser. May God grant them His healing grace and a full and complete recovery.

Happenings In West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch

On August 19 we were blessed mightily of God. Brother Paul Palmieri and wife of Aliquippa Branch visited with us. He delivered a very uplifting message. Mr. and Mrs. Chatman Young and daughters of Washington, D. C. also worshipped with us. They gathered frequently with us when they formerly resided in nearby Clairton.

Mr. Young and his wife Hythia asked to be baptized. Brother Harry Robinson performed both baptisms. The laying on of hands for confirmation and reception of the Holy Ghost was administered by Brother English Webb

over Brother Chatman and Brother Paul Palmieri over Sister Hythia.

In another meeting Brothers James Moore, his son Brother James, his son-in-law Brother Bob Buffington and a recently baptized Brother, all of Imperial Branch brought us testimonies and exhortations of praise unto God. Thank The Lord, this was a happy day!

On September 7, Brother Samuel Kirschner asked the blessing of God on four-year-old Ron Jay Cathell of nearby Port Vue. He is the great-grandson of Sister Elizabeth Briggs.

On Sunday, September 30, Brother Joseph Austin was ordained a Teacher by Brother Samuel Kirschner. May The Lord bless those baptized, blessed and ordained that their lives may be used for His glory.

Erie Mission News

On September 30, a bus load of Saints from the Glassport Branch arrived at the Erie church. What a wonderful sight as the Saints of Erie went out to meet them. After many happy greetings, the rest of the morning and afternoon meeting was spent with much song and praise. We had an exceptional testimony meeting filled with God's spirit. We can truly say that it was a day well spent and our souls were filled with Spiritual blessings. We all felt a sadness when it was time for them to leave. Thank God for the wonderful brothers and sisters in our church everywhere because of the love we have for one another.

The Erie Mission would also like to thank all the Evangelists that have been coming to our mission. We thank God for these dedicated Brothers and pray that the Lord will bless them and protect them on their journeys. Remember our Mission in your prayers and we will continue to pray for our Church everywhere.

News From Phoenix, Arizona Branch

The summer months have showered many blessings upon the Phoenix Branch. We have been blessed with the baptisms of four of our young people in the past few months. We also have been blessed with preachings from several of our church leaders from outside Arizona.

On his way to reestablish his home in California, Brother Tony Picciuto and his family visited with us and blessed us with a beautiful meeting. On another occasion we were thrilled to hear God's Word from Brother Gorie Ciaravino from Detroit; Brother Joseph Bittinger from Pennsylvania; Brother Rocco Biscotti from Ohio; and Brothers John Azzinaro, Rusty Heaps and Ben Ciccotti from California—all on one Sunday.

We wish to thank our Brothers and Sisters for remembering us and for taking the time to visit us.

Praise God for His Holy Word and for His presence in each of our meetings.

Sister Valerie VanAllsberg

Baptism, Ordination At Lockport Branch

Showers of blessings lightened our day on Sunday, November 4, 1973 as two wonderful events took place. Sister Marion Rosati was baptized into The Church, and Brother Paul Benyola, our new Presiding Elder, was ordained as a member of the Quorum of Seventy.

Sharing in these wonderful events were Brother Vincent Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio and his family; Brother Richard Santilli and his wife from Youngstown, Ohio; Brother Patsy Marinetti, Brother Sam D'Amico, and other Brothers and Sisters from Rochester, New York.

Brother Gibson set the theme of our morning meeting by reading from *John's* writings on the commandment that we love one another, whereby the world shall know that we are His disciples. He also referred to the candidate for baptism, Marion Rosati, that she was entering the service of God. He also quoted from King Benjamin's address that "when we are in the service of others, we are in the service of God." (*Mosiah* 2:16, 17.) Visiting Brother Patsy Marinetti followed by adding that the test of service is tolerance, patience, and consideration for the weak. King Benjamin, he said, had reflected the words and life of Christ.

Following the moving musical selection "He Touched Me," Brother Santilli continued on the same theme. He spoke of the woman at the well, and stressed that the Lord seeks those who worship Him in spirit and truth. He also told of the expression of love his family found in The Church and how his father was blessed with a powerful experience. Brother Paul Benyola then spoke of how he was greeted with the love of God when he moved into this part of the vineyard.

Following the morning service, Sister Marion Rosati was baptized in Bond Lake by Brother Paul D'Amico.

Opening the afternoon meeting, Brother Sam D'Amico spoke of the privilege it is to have partaken of the "tree of life" and love of God by entering into The Church of Jesus Christ. He recalled a time when his father spoke in tongues and Brother Burgess gave the interpretation which was, "Inasmuch as you grow in the love of God, you shall grow in number."

After singing, "O Lord Send Down Thy Heavenly Dove," Brother Santilli confirmed our new Sister Marion.

Following the Lord's Supper, Brother Patsy Marinetti washed Brother Paul Benyola's feet. We sang "Ye Who Are Called to Labor," and Brother Paul D'Amico ordained our Brother as an Evangelist.

Brother Paul D'Amico told how he had experienced prior knowledge in a dream that a Brother from another District of The Church would move into this area. Brother Benyola was that Brother, coming three weeks after Brother D'Amico had the experience.

Prayers were offered for the sick. Testimonies of the Saints rang from their hearts. Handkerchiefs were anointed for the sick, and even our visitors tasted of the joy of the spirit as tears rolled down their faces.

We sang "Hallelujah" in praise to God, for He touched us that blessed day, and it was well with our souls.

Love in Christ,

Sister Rosa Williams, Branch Editor

Elder Ordained At Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch

On Sunday, November 4, the Greensburg Branch was indeed blessed with an overflowing portion of God's Spirit during the ordination of Brother Oscar Hagen as an Elder.

Brother Paul Gehly washed Brother Hagen's feet after which Brother Dominic Thomas ordained him to the office of Elder.

The blessing of God was evidenced by each heart and by the various testimonies following the ordination. There was no doubt in anyone's mind that God presided over Brother Oscar Hagen's ordination.

May The Lord bless Brother Hagen in his new duties of the Holy Priesthood.

Ordinations At Roscoe Mission

On November 4, 1973, the Roscoe Mission rejoiced to have two Brothers ordained into the Ministry.

Brother John Kendall's feet were washed by Brother Bud Martin, and he was ordained an Elder by Brother James Campbell. Brother Fred Olexa was ordained as an Evangelist. His feet were washed by his father, Brother John Olexa, and he was ordained an Evangelist by Brother Samuel Kirschner.

Our Brothers both testified to their calling into these offices and expressed their feelings of added responsibility by becoming more of a servant to others. They asked for the prayers of all that they might be able to fulfill their calling.

There were many in attendance, with visitors from various Branches in our area. We had a beautiful day of worship and thank God for filling our cups to overflowing. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky

News From Maine

Baptisms! That is the wonderful news from The North Edgcomb, Maine Mission. It is difficult to comprehend anything more joyful.

November 4, 1973 was the historical day. Two individuals declared their desire to be Saints in The Church of Jesus Christ. They are: Sister Elizabeth Ann Perrello and Brother Richard John Onorato. Both were baptized by Brother Frank Zaher—The Brooklyn Branch and confirmed by Brother Richard Onorato—Elder in charge, North Edgcomb Mission.

We pray that God will continue to bless Sister Elizabeth, Brother Richard, the Saints and their families. Our hope is that these two baptisms are the beginning of an endless list of converts in the State of Maine.

Memories

How I remember as a child,
The trying days our life held,
It seems that nothing had we,
The wisdom of our parents made us see,
How grateful we should be,
For the little things in life we received,
Poor, but, happy because we believed,
God lives, and cares for you and me,
Whenever we complained or what we had not,
My dad said these few words, I never forgot,
"I cried because I had no shoes,
Until I saw a man who had no feet."

Sister Margaret Abbott
Cleveland East Side Branch

Red Lake, Arizona



Pictured above is part of the group that worked at the Red Lake, Arizona project called "Side By Side." Left to right: Rick Hopkins, Ken Surdock and Dirk Large.

AN EXPERIENCE

by Louis Ross

For the glory of God and God only I wish to relate an experience that happened to me on Friday, October 26, 1973.

It was at the Aliquippa Branch's M.B.A. meeting that The Lord sent His message to me. It was an ordinary meeting; we had sung an opening hymn, had prayer and a second hymn. In the opening prayer, a special request was made to God on behalf of Brother Tony Ensana who had suffered a severe heart attack on Wednesday evening, October 24.

The different age groups had gone to their respective classes in the church building, and Brother Anthony Ross had started in with our lesson in the *Book of Mormon*. It was at this point that a restlessness came over me. The lesson was being read aloud, but my mind could not comprehend what was transpiring. I felt a great urging in my heart that we should pray for Brother Tony Ensana right at this moment. I tried to hold back, but the Spirit was so strong that I petitioned Brother Anthony Ross that we should kneel in prayer and that Brother Tony Palmieri should offer the prayer. As we knelt to pray, the children who were singing in the basement stopped and the entire church was silent, except for the beautiful prayer.

My heart was filled with the feeling of oneness; the whole congregation of one mind and thought. As Brother Palmieri finished his prayer and we continued with our lesson, my mind and body became very calm. It was at this time in my mind, I saw a large transparent container filled with love and God's power come out of our church

building. I watched it float through the air, across the whole state of Pennsylvania, directly to New Jersey.

In a recent phone call to his parents, Brother Don Ross stated that on Friday evening, October 26, 1973, Brother Tony's heart became stabilized for the first time and he began to recover.

Once again, this prompting of God's Spirit is upon me and I feel that I must write this experience down on paper as a living testimony that God still works with His children. I do not know why God chose me for this wonderful experience, for I know in my own mind that there are many who are stronger than I. I can only say, "To God be the glory!"

Indian Young People Find College Admission No Hurdle, Survey Shows

Indian young people have little or no difficulty gaining admission to the college or university of their choice. They tend to enroll immediately after they graduate from high school, drop out for a year or two, then return to their undergraduate studies. Education and social work are their most common majors. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is their greatest source of financial help.

These are some of the findings of a recent survey of characteristics and opinions of some 13,000 Indian college students who receive scholastic grants through the Bureau's program of higher education assistance, Marvin L. Franklin, Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, announced recently.

"Of the almost 3,000 students included in the survey's random sample, 92 percent reported that they had no difficulties in gaining admission to college," he said.

The survey also showed the group to be about evenly divided between men and women and probably somewhat older than most college groups. Almost a quarter were 26 years old or older. More than 28 percent reported that their college studies had been interrupted by a period of time in which they were out of school, Franklin indicated. There were substantially more 19 year-old students than 20 year olds. English is the second language of more than a quarter of the students.

A large percentage of the parents of the student had received comparatively little education, and the earnings of many of them are in the lower brackets. Only 7 percent of the parents are college graduates, and 42 percent did not complete high school — including a significant 10 percent who had received no formal schooling.

"But more than three-quarters of the students said that encouragement from their parents was a strong motivating factor for their entering college," the Interior official pointed out.

Three-quarters of the students reported they had received no financial support from their parents and 55 percent reported receiving \$300 or less per semester from all sources other than the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Most of the BIA grants (76 percent) were in the range of \$301 to \$2,000 per semester, with the median being about \$700. Thirty percent of the students had dependent children.

Poor study habits, lack of high school preparation, lack of motivation, and lack of money were cited as the students' biggest problems. Skill acquisition, association with other people, and a sense of fulfillment were the most enjoyable aspects of college life.

Mathematics was named the least interesting subject field, social sciences the most interesting.

The students generally gave the BIA agencies and area offices "good marks" on the handling of the grant program. Forty-four percent said their grants were handled very efficiently and 38 percent responded "satisfactory." Only 8 percent consider the program administration unsatisfactory, and another 10 percent noted it needs improvement.

The survey was made by the Division of Evaluation and Program Review in the Bureau's Office of Indian Education.

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Darleen Renee to Harry and Florence Abrams of Metuchen, New Jersey.

— WEDDINGS —

ROGALLA - LAIRD

Mr. Joseph L. Rogalla and Sister Ruth Annette Laird were united in holy wedlock on December 1, 1973 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

Brother Paul Palmieri officiated at the wedding ceremony. Sister Nina DiCenzo rendered vocal and musical selections.

The couple will reside in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania.

● OBITUARIES ●

JOSEPH R. WINKLE

Joseph R. Winkle, a friend of The Church of Jesus Christ at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania met with a fatal accident at his place of work on Saturday, November 3, 1973. He was 35 years of age.

He is survived by his widow, six sons, his father, three brothers and five sisters.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers John Ross and Paul Palmieri.

ARTHUR DeCURSIO

Brother Arthur DeCursio, a faithful member of the Yucaipa Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to his eternal reward on November 1, 1973.

He was born on March 15, 1915 and he was a native

of Pennsylvania before relocating in Indio, California. Brother Arthur was baptized 36 years ago.

He is survived by one daughter, four grandchildren, and one brother.

Officiating at the funeral services were Brothers John Azzinaro and Frank Genaro on November 5, 1973 at the Yucaipa chapel. His body was laid to rest at the Coachella Valley Cemetery.

Our Brother suffered from a lingering illness, but he fought the good fight. He finished his course and kept the faith till the end. He will be missed by all, especially by our Brothers and Sisters of the Yucaipa Mission.

GEORGE CASTELLI

Brother George Castelli of Branch No. 4 Detroit, Michigan passed on to his eternal reward on November 1, 1973. He was born on January 4, 1888 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on November 21, 1923.

Left to mourn are his wife, three sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and three brothers. Brothers Domenic Moraco and Leonard Lovalvo officiated at the funeral.

Our Brother will be missed by all those who knew him.

ELDER RAY E. FLEMING

Brother Ray E. Fleming, an Elder of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to his heavenly reward on November 25, 1973. He was a member of the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch. He was born on September 22, 1903 and was baptized September 10, 1950.

He is survived by his wife, one son, two daughters, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were officiated by Brothers Joseph Shazer and Milford Eutsey.

Brother Fleming was ordained an Elder on April 11, 1954. He was a faithful member of The Church and was loved by all in the Branch. He will be sadly missed by all.

MARGHERITA DELFUOCO

Sister Margherita DelFuoco of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on November 23, 1973. She was born on September 29, 1884 in Palermo, Italy and was baptized on October 14, 1956.

Left to mourn her loss are one son, three daughters, fifteen grandchildren, thirty great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Brother Michael LaSala officiated at the services.

Even though our Sister has passed on, her memory will live within all of us who have known her.

ANDRE J. DiPROFIO

Mr. Andre J. DiProfio passed on to his eternal reward on November 20, 1973. He was born May 12, 1940.

He is survived by his parents, grandmother and many other relatives.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul D'Amico and Paul Benyola.

"Sonny", as he was affectionately known, was the grandson of Sister Kate Cooper. Although his handicap confined him to a wheelchair, he is best remembered for his cheery smile and sense of humor. He will be missed by loved ones and friends.

THURMAN S. FURNIER

Apostle Thurman S. Furnier passed on to his eternal reward on November 17, 1973. He has been a member of The Church of Jesus Christ since August 23, 1914. He was born on April 21, 1888.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, three sons, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Brothers Frank Calabrese and Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services. Burial was in Flatwoods Cemetery, Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

Brother Furnier held almost every office in The Church; he was ordained an Elder in 1915, an Evangelist in 1916, and an Apostle in 1917. In April 1965, he was elected President of The Church. He served the Saints and The Church well in all his years. Truly we will miss him as a pillar of Our Church.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

MARCH

—California District Conference.

—Florida District Conference.

9 & 10—*Pennsylvania District Conference in Aliquippa.

9 & 10—Ohio District Conference in Youngstown.

16 & 17—Atlantic Coast District Conference in Hopelawn.

—Michigan-Ontario District Conference

16—Ladies Circle in Youngstown.

APRIL

18*, 19*, 20* & 21*—General Church Conference.

MAY

18*—G.M.B.A.

All church organizations (General, District, G.M.B.A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in dates of their coming events for publication in The *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar . . . send information to: Joseph Ross, #2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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THE TROUBLED MIDDLE EAST

After years of unrest and four wars, beginning with the 1948 Israeli war of independence, again in 1956, then again in 1967, and finally, the recent conflict that broke out in October of last year, Israel and her neighboring Arab states are still at odds. This is regrettable, and peace-loving people everywhere surely will hopefully trust and pray that the cease-fire will prevail, and that the Middle East peace conference in Geneva will be fruitful in bringing peace and security to Israel and her Arab neighbors.

The Palestinian Problem

The Balfour Declaration of 1917 was a noble starting point for a solution to the "Palestinian problem." On November 2, 1917 British Foreign Minister Arthur James Balfour wrote:

"His majesty's government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people. And (they) will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine..."

Following World War I the League of Nations granted a mandate to Great Britain to establish a responsible government in Palestine. The mandate was to terminate in 1948. However, in 1947 the future of Palestine was put before the United Nations assembly for disposition. The assembly's decision recommended a partition plan calling for an Arab state and a Jewish state, with the city of Jerusalem separate and open to both Arabs and Israelis.

Regrettably, a United Nations commission was unsuccessful in its efforts to implement the partition plan. There were charges and counter charges by the Arabs and Israelis, each state blaming the other for the failure of the plan. Finally, on May 15, 1948, war broke out between them and tension, unrest and hostility have raged ever since.

Arabs and Israelis Live in Peace?

The question has been asked, "Can the Arabs and Israelis live side by side in peace?" The answer is, "Yes!" It is reported that roughly 14 per cent of Israel's population is Arab; seven members of its 120-seat Knesset (Israel's parliament) are Arabs.

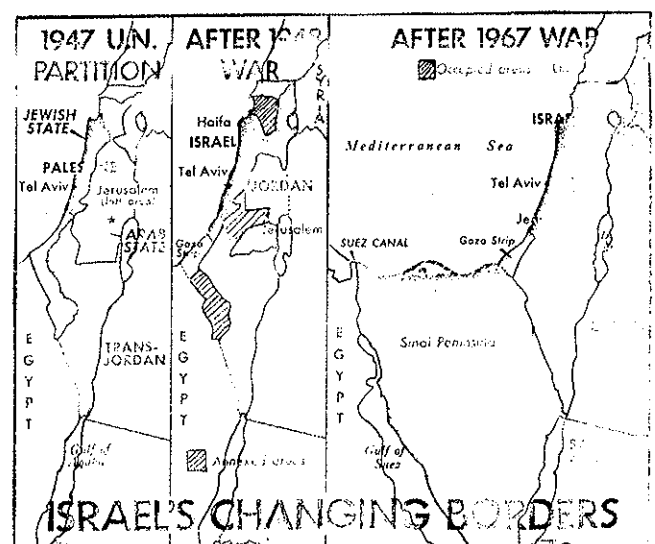
Recently, Mohammed Shaaban, a labor leader living in Acre, Israel was quoted as saying, "I feel very strongly an attachment to Arab nationalism, to my brothers in other Arab countries. But I also love the state of which I am a citizen. If I denied my national ties to the Arabs, I would be denying my own identity. There is no contradiction between this feeling and my loyalty to Israel, just as there is no contradiction between the loyalty of American Jews to America and their close ties with Israel."

It is appropriate at this point to quote from the writings of the great Apostle Paul:

"God that made the world, and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, . . . seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and hath made of ONE BLOOD ALL NATIONS for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the BOUNDS OF THEIR HABITATION; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: for in him we live, and move, and have our being. . ." (Acts 17:24-28)

Thank God! He is no respecter of persons as declared by the Apostle Peter, (Acts 10:34.)

May the Lord grant peace to the troubled Middle East!



— LEST WE FORGET —

by Mark Randy

When I was ordained into the Ministry, I became one of twelve Elders in our Branch. I was instructed to go easy on the preaching, to not be quick to open meetings, to wait on the Spirit to lead me, and to respect the older Ministers. Since they were all older Ministers, I did a lot of waiting. As a Teacher, I had been happy and active, but as an Elder, I seemed to find myself idle. I could not conceive why I had been called at all, but yet there was a blessing when I was called and ordained.

God's Purpose In My Life

I did much praying, mostly repeating these words, "Lord, make of me a Laborer in your harvest." I was convinced that God had some purpose in my life, and I continued with this kind of prayer for two years. Several weeks would go by without my taking the pulpit, and in spite of my determined prayer, I became frustrated. One Sunday, I went home very beset. In the morning preaching service, I respected the older Brothers; the afternoon meeting belonged to the Saints, that they might have the opportunity to bear their testimonies.

I went home very lonely and thinking that my ordination was a mistake. Shortly after I arrived home, Brother Fred D'Amico called, asking me to go with him to pray for Brother Stanovich's girl who had pneumonia. I told him to call on the older Brothers. They did all the preaching—they might as well do all the praying. Besides, I needed someone to pray for me. "But Brother Stanovich asked for you," Brother D'Amico said, "and I promised him to take you, so I am coming over to get you." Before I could say another word, he hung up the phone.

A Minister's Responsibility

The next few moments my thoughts seemed to collide, but one thing was sure in my mind—when I accepted the Ministry, I accepted a responsibility, not only to God, but also to my fellow man.

I retired to my bedroom and fell on my knees to pray. "Not for my sake, but for this little child," was my plea to God. When we arrived at Brother Stanovich's home, there was sadness and tears as the girl lay on her small bed. The mother was applying ice water to her forehead, while the father and the rest of the children looked on. The poor girl's fever must be very high I thought. I knelt beside the child, anointing her with oil. I was deeply moved as the family was so poor. They could not even afford a doctor, and in those days there was no medication for pneumonia.

After I prayed, the girl said, "I am thirsty." Her mother gave her water, and when she touched her, she said, "The fever is gone." The girl then sat up. Brother Stanovich said, "I am ill also; would you pray for me?" He too was feverish, having a cold infection. His fever left him after the prayer, and sadness turned to joy and thanksgiving. Fred said, "I, too, want to be anointed, for an infected boil in my neck." I anointed Fred also, and he began to praise the Lord. I went home asking forgiveness for doubting God's calling me.

Strengthening The People

From then on, I visited the Saints in their homes more often, read the Word of God to them and anointed the

sick. I soon found that preaching was the smallest part of a Minister's service to God. The real strengthening of the people was in the home where they could tell me their problems, their needs, and their wishes.

Not long thereafter there was a vacancy in our mission in Muncey, Ontario, near London (Indian Reservation), and I was chosen to be their Elder. Since God spared my life again recently, I would like to set forth my travels and experiences. He is a living God, and we are His people.

Jesus said, "Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven." Doctors say that it takes fourteen muscles to smile, seventy-nine to frown. No wonder people get tired so soon. It pays to wait on The Lord with patience.

● FLASHBACKS ●

by Charles Jumper

February 1954 — 20 Years Ago

Brother Michael LaSala who was stationed in Austria during service in the United States Army, visited some of the Brothers and Sisters of The Church in Italy. Brother Mike also introduced the *Book of Mormon* to a minister of the evangelist church while in Italy.

February 1959 — 15 Years Ago

The Cleveland, Ohio East Side Branch was visited by Brothers Eugene Kline and Anthony Piccuito. During the meeting, four converts requested baptism—Betty Miland, Aldo and Louis DeAngelo, and Sivilla Gibson.

February 1964 — 10 Years Ago

Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 held dedication services for their new building. Brother Reno Bologna, Presiding Elder, welcomed many visiting Brothers and Sisters. Brother Gorie Ciaravino, President of the Michigan-Ontario District, was the speaker. During the service the Elders blessed five children. Brother Joseph and Sister Rose Milantoni sang a duet "Precious Memories," accompanied at the piano by their little daughter Karen, nine years old.

Elizabeth Cadman Davidson was honored at an open house celebration in observation of her 92nd birthday at the home of Mrs. John Bickerton, Sr., West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania. Sister Davidson was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ 77 years ago.

February 1969 — 5 Years Ago

Brother Paul Palmieri of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania officiated at the baptism of Diane Salerno of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3. Lake St. Clair, the site of the baptism, was frozen and approximately a foot of ice had to be broken before the ordinance could be performed.

The Nigerian Church reports holding its Semi-Annual Conference during February. This was the first conference there since 1967, due to the civil war. All restrictions have been lifted since the liberation from the Biafrans, and The Church is functioning very well.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We submit herewith Brother John Ross' reply to The Church in Nigeria relative to their inquiry about a "Salaried Ministry." Brother Ross accurately and eloquently states the doctrinal position of The Church of Jesus Christ on this issue. This happened in the early days of Brother Ross' missionary tour of duty in Nigeria.

* * *

TO MY NIGERIAN BROTHERS:

My dear Brethren in Christ:

I am writing you this article (in part) on "Salaried Ministry" with intentions that it may clarify or make plainer to you this subject that we so often discussed while I was with you, furthermore, I hope it will help you to prove to the world that salaried ministry never has been, nor is, the doctrine of Jesus Christ.

We of The Church of Jesus Christ with headquarters in Monongahela, Pa., U.S.A. believe in preaching the Gospel without purse or script according to the Saviour's instructions: "Freely ye have received, freely give." See *Matt. 10:8*. The language is of supreme importance as containing the full force of both Christ's authority and example. (See *Faith & Doctrine No. 1, Article 7*).

In regard to a salaried ministry, as prevailing in this age, we regard it as entirely unscriptural, having no authority whatever in Scripture, when correctly understood and applied. On the other hand, it degrades the Ministry of Christ to the level of an earthly occupation or profession, and men seek to attain proficiency therein, with precisely the same object in view, as in any other worldly business; of course they make a profession that their principal object is the salvation of man, but when men have a double object in view in a ministerial life, the one being (they think) of a spiritual character, and the other temporal. Observers know that the latter interest predominates so decidedly, that the former is almost entirely lost sight of, and man's nature is such that it cannot be otherwise. (*F & D #1 paragraph 6, pages 14 & 15*).

The question of money comes in here, in which all religious bodies should certainly exercise great care, that it shall not be an object in the performance of any religious function, especially in the matter of preaching the Gospel. As a highly respectable authority (our ancient Brother Paul), in his First Epistle to *Timothy*, 6:10, declares, "The love of money is the root of all evil", and this species of love is very easily cultivated.

Our Elders (The Church of Jesus Christ) when at home, earn their living in their regular occupations, as all other honorable people are supposed to do. When they are sent away from their homes on special missions for the purpose of preaching the Gospel, their traveling expenses are paid to their field of labor, and their families are cared for (until they are called to return) by the Church.

The Saviour gave instructions to the ancient disciples, adapted exactly to these circumstances. See *Luke 10*. "And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, peace be to this house: And if the Son of Peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it; if not, it shall return to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking

such things as they give; for the laborer is worthy of his hire." What is their hire in this case? I say their food by the plain teachings of Jesus Christ; and a man who would torture or twist the words of Jesus Christ from their legitimate meaning would steal. We are told sometimes that "We must not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn", See *First Cor. 9:9*. Certainly not, but what has that do do with a Modern Hireling Ministry? Not anything. It simply proves, as before stated, "That the laborer is worthy of his hire", or his food: and that only in the circumstances described and nothing farther in that line can be proven by the passage. (*F & D #1, page 14 paragraph 5*).

Missionary expenses with us are provided by voluntary contributions; wherever we have a church (or what we call a Branch) organized, one person therein is authorized to receive voluntary contributions from the members of that Branch, or any other person inclined to assist our cause, and they are regularly required at each conference, to pay over the same and present a written account of the amount received, and so paid over. Special efforts have sometimes been made to raise money in emergencies, but we always confine ourselves to the voluntary principle. In regards to its distribution to the families of Missionaries, we made arrangements many years ago, which I am certain were just and Godlike; said arrangements since made were never deviated from, nor ever will be (in regard to the principal of equality contained in them) while I live, by my consent. The Church appointed a committee of three to make arrangements on that matter, which were adopted, viz.: "That when any Elder was sent abroad by proper authority, to preach the Gospel, his wife or other dependents should be paid by the Church the sum of four dollars per week, and also one dollar per week for each child under twelve years of age, until such time as he shall return, the amount of allowance subject to change in varying times, but always equal as to persons." (*F & D #1, page 15, paragraph 2*), also (*Law & Order, page 23, paragraph 3*).

In the *Book of Mormon* salaried ministry is referred to as Priestcraft, very well defined in 2 *Nephi 26:29-31*, which reads as follows — "He commandeth that there shall be no priestcrafts; for behold, priestcrafts are that men preach and set themselves up for a light unto the world; but they seek not the welfare of Zion. Behold, the Lord hath forbidden this thing; Wherefore, the Lord God hath given a commandment that all men should have charity, Which charity is love, and except they should have charity they were nothing, Wherefore, if they should have charity they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish, But the Laborer in Zion shall labor for Zion; for if they labor for money they shall perish."

In 3 *Nephi 16:10 and 21:14 to 19* the Saviour in referring to the Gentiles (in the latter days) after the Gospel would be restored and preached among them, among the many evils He condemns is also priestcraft. Please notice that priestcraft is classified among lyings, deceits, mischiefs, hypocrisy, murders, whoredoms, etc. The Saviour pronounces a woe upon the Gentiles except they repent of these things and if they reject the fulness of His Gospel.

Let us be reminded that the Son of God left His glory to come upon earth to do the work which His Father gave Him to do. *Jn. 17:4*. Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor that ye through His poverty

might be rich, 2 Cor. 8:9. He came to serve and not to be served, Luke 22:26-27. He established His church and finally gave His life a ransom for many.

He said to His Apostles, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends", John 15:13. The Apostle John had this to say to his brethren — "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: And we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren", John 3:16. Was the Apostle John thinking of salaried ministry when he said these words, the answer is No!, rather he remembered the words of His Master which are, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you", John 15:12.

The Apostle Paul among other things tells his brethren this, "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel, yea ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me, I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'. Acts 20:35-36. This is plain language that Paul supported himself as much as possible by working with his own hands. Paul felt the love of Christ in his soul to the extent wherein he stated, "and I will very gladly spend and be spent for you", 2 Cor. 12:15.

The Apostle Peter also in speaking to his brother Elders had this to say, "Feed the flock of God which is among you taking the oversight thereof, not be constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind," 1 Peter 5:2. In other words Peter tells his brethren among the things they were not to do, they were not to do it for profit or riches, but of a ready mind. And their reward would be given them when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, then they will receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away — v. 4.

In conclusion Jesus said, "If a man love me he will keep my words and my Father will love him and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings; and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Fathers which sent me". John 14:23-24.

To all who read let me add that if we love the Lord we will keep His words and examples. The Church of Jesus Christ is, of which I am a minister proud to state that our Ministers work with their hands to support themselves, their families, etc., and to support the work of the Church.

Much more could be written about salaried ministry but it sufficeth what I have written to prove that it is an evil thing before our God. Finally we The Church of Jesus Christ believe the Church of Christ in this age (in order to be worthy of the name) must be molded substantially and minutely after the pattern left us by Christ, that any important variation positively betrays a false origin and clearly exhibits a spurious character, of which all men should be aware. (F & D #1 article 5).

We believe there has been a gross and wide-spread apostacy among men from the true order and doctrine of the early church as set up by the Saviour. We believe that this apostacy from the true Gospel was so widespread and complete and general, that man himself was utterly unable to provide a remedy. (F & D #1 art. 18).

Therefore it was necessary for God to intervene by bringing about a Restoration of the Gospel of Christ in the latter ages of time, in the hour of God's Judgments. See Rev. 14:6-7, "And I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the Everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come, and worship him that made heaven and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of water."

As the Gospel was given freely to the Apostles, the Apostles gave it freely to the world, and because of the apostacy, Paid Ministry came into existence. And as the Gospel has been Restored and given to us again by God via the angel freely, we give it to the world freely.

God Bless you, I am your Brother in Christ

ELDER, JOHN ROSS

Through this troubled old world I'd travelled,
With a heart that was deeply dismayed.
Then I heard a sweet, gentle whisper,
It is I, so be not afraid.
And then I felt His loving arms around me,
For like the lost sheep, I had strayed.
And softly I heard the Shepherd whisper,
It is I, so be not afraid.

Through the deep lonesome valley I wandered,
Through the waves of the dark stormy sea.
Then I heard a voice softly whisper,
If you're weary, come unto me.
And then I felt His loving arms around me,
As He gently held me to His breast.
Softly again I heard Him whisper,
Come unto me and I will give you rest.

In this newness of life I now wander
With a heart that is happy and free.
As I hear that sweet, gentle whisper,
My peace, I leave with thee.
And I still can feel the loving arms of Jesus
As I thank Him for all He's done for me.
And again I hear Him whisper softly,
My peace, I leave with thee.

Don Green

Today!

With every rising of the sun,
Think of your life as just begun.
The past has cancelled and buried deep
All yesterdays. There let them sleep.
Concern yourself with just today.
Grasp it, and teach it to obey
Your will and plan. Since time began
Today has been the friend of man.
Today and you! Your soul sublime
And this great heritage of time,
With God himself to bind the two.
Go forth, brave heart; today's for you!

—Author Unknown

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

MEN ARE THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE JOY

In the beginning God created all things—the heavens and the earth and all things that are in them. He created everything to either act or to be acted upon. Of all the things created by God, none exceeded the creation of “man.”

God loved man, and He gave him power over all things in the earth. One restriction was placed on man, and that was that he should obey His Creator. Adam, the first man, was given a companion called woman, and she was named Eve. The restriction of obedience was placed upon her as well. Man and the woman were joyous in the sight of God, and they were innocent from all manner of evil.

Man and woman were not created to be mere puppets. God gave them freedom to choose right or wrong; but He instructed them which was good and which was evil, and He wanted them to do good. The time came that evil lured them to do wrong, and they broke the restrictions of obedience. God was displeased and caused them to be cast from the beautiful Garden of Eden. So man and woman were no longer joyous in God's sight, and consequently had to work the ground for their livelihood. They also brought forth children, even the whole family of the earth.

Although man disobeyed, God still loved him and wanted him to return to His presence or favor. God who knows all things had established a plan for this purpose. No one could atone or appease the disfavor man brought unto himself, so God sent His only Son to do this great task. Though God loved His Son, He gave Him to the world that once again man might have joy as he had in the Garden of Eden. So the Son of God, Jesus Christ, came into the world from His glorious position to become as the creature, rather than the Creator, and He lived with man to show him the way to joy.

To lead man to the state of happiness, Jesus Christ established a Church, that whosoever would—could have life, and have it more abundantly. He taught man once again what was good and what was evil and promised him a portion of His Spirit, which is the *mind* of the Father and the Son. Many believed the Son of God, and they started the greatest institution ever established, one that leads to eternal joy. But many more did not believe and reviled against Him and crucified Him on the cross. Thus God sacrificed His only Son to atone for man's sin that once again mankind could enter into His presence.

There is a way that seems right unto man, but the end leads to death. There is a way that leads man to eternal life and this way was taught by Jesus and is now taught by His Church.

Today in this world there is much despair, sorrow and discontentment. The way of joy seems far removed from peoples minds. The important things of life are achievements in social status, education, wealth and other materialistic things which lead men and women into the road that leads to eternal death. Jesus Christ said, “Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness and all things will be added unto you.” God intended man to live on this earth to experience joy and peace and to prepare for the new earth.

There exists only one way to the joy man was intended to have, that was by obeying the commandments taught by Jesus Christ.

If Adam had not transgressed and fallen, he would have remained in the Garden of Eden in an innocent state. They would have had no children, having no joy, for they knew no misery; doing no good, for they knew no sin. Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

GOOD KING BENJAMIN

Dear Girls and Boys,

Long, long ago on this land of America, lived a very good king named Benjamin. He was ruler over all the land of Zarahemla. God loved and trusted him to care for the precious records of his people.

One day king Benjamin called his son Mosiah to him. He told him, he was sending a proclamation to all the people in Zarahemla and the people of Mosiah. The message was, "to go up to the temple to hear the words which his father should speak unto them". When the people heard the message they all wanted to do as their king said because they loved and respected him. They took the firstlings of their flocks to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings as the law of Moses taught. They had a desire to thank God for bringing them to America, a blest land.

There were many, many people in the land. So many that King Benjamin could not teach them in the temple. He had a great tower built from which he could speak to them, but the crowd was too large to hear his words. So for all these good people he caused that the words he spoke be written and sent among them.

With love, humbleness and great kindness, the king spoke to his people. He told them the Lord had given him strength and might that he was able to serve his people. He had not sought gold or silver or any kind of riches from them, but had worked with his hands so that they would not have heavy taxes to pay. He had done all things that he might have a clear conscience before God. He did not want to boast of himself. He said if it were right for him to serve them then it was right for them to serve each other. Also if it were right for them to thank him, their earthly king, then it was more important for them to thank God, their Heavenly King. All their Heavenly King asked was that they keep His commandments.

King Benjamin was getting old and felt he could no longer be their king and the new king would be his son Mosiah. He asked the people to keep the commandments of God as Mosiah would deliver them to them and if they followed his teachings no harm would come to them. He told of an angel from God who had told him many things about Jesus. He would someday come to earth and live among them. Jesus would do many wonderful things such as heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind and cause the lame to walk. He knew Jesus' mother would be Mary. The angel also told of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

King Benjamin continued to speak urging his people to be kind to each other, to visit the sick, to share what they had, to feed the hungry, clothe the needy and help others to learn the teachings of the Heavenly Father. As

the king finished speaking he sent his helpers out among the people to find out if they believed his words. They all cried with one voice, "Yea we believe all the words which thou hast spoken to us and we want to do good continually." They were willing to enter into a covenant or a promise to do God's will and be obedient to Him. This made King Benjamin very happy. He had the names of all those who had made this promise written down for his record. Everyone except the little children had taken upon them the name of Christ. Mosiah, the new ruler was consecrated to be king over all the kingdom. He was thirty years of age. His father, King Benjamin, lived three more years. He was happy to see Mosiah walk in the ways of the Lord and observe all the commandments. The people continued to be happy under their new king.

Questions—Find the things King Benjamin gave Mosiah charge over. Since all the people could not get into the temple to hear the king, what did they do? *Mosiah 1 and 2.*

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

LIGHT FROM THE WATCHMAN'S LAMP

(Isa 21:6)

"... Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth"

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS A MAN OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE?

Christopher Columbus has been noted as one of the most remarkable Christian layman of all time. It has been stated that the enthusiasm he put into everything he did derived from the intensity of his spiritual life. He was convinced that his name predestined him to be, like his patron Saint, A "Christ-bearer." This is reported to be the meaning of the words "Xpo FERENS" in his somewhat enigmatic signature, much discussed by scholars.

He was born in the Olivella district of Genoa, the son of a simple wool weaver, amid the decay and death throes of that once great city-republic. Rivalry and revolution, which caused the fall of the Mediterranean republic of Genoa also served to spread its sons to neighboring countries, including Spain, where they became bankers, ship builders and men of importance.

The forty year reign of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain had served to make that country a new nation, subdue its enemies, and put down all opposition. What further accomplishment, as one historian asks, could be expected?

Nothing more — or less — than the conquest of a new world. Now was the time.

Columbus read widely, always with pen or pencil in hand. He was a self taught man. In one of his letters he states—"I have had dealings and conversation with learned men, priests and laymen, Latins and Greeks, Jews and Moors and many others of other sects. I found our Lord very favorable to this my desire, and to further it, He granted me the *gift of Knowledge*. He made me skilled in seamanship, equipped me with the sciences of astronomy, geometry, and arithmetic, and taught my mind and hand to draw this sphere and upon it the cities, rivers,

mountains, islands, and ports. . . . During this time I have made my business to read all that has been written on geography, history, philosophy and other sciences. Then Our Lord revealed to me that it was feasible to sail from here to the Indies and placed in me, a burning desire to carry out this plan. . . ." Columbus' voyage to America was the realization of a vision drawn entirely from the Holy Scriptures.

Columbus' use of the *Bible* is one of the best documented facts of his remarkable career and yet the general public remains unaware of this fact. All of his sailing journals and most of his private letters support his knowledge of the *Bible* and his love for Jesus Christ.

Reference to one of the least known of his works, the only book he ever wrote, reveal the Columbus that few people know. This book, the *Libro De Las Profecias* or *Book of Prophecies* was a careful compilation of all the teachings of the *Bible* on the subject of the earth, distant lands, seas, population movements, undiscovered tribes, prophecies of the future spread of the Gospel throughout the whole world, prophecies of travel between distant places, prophecies of the end of the world and the establishment of the earthly kingdom of Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Columbus' entire world view was firmly grounded upon biblical teachings about geography and eschatology (Prophecy).

He believed especially in the prophecies concerning the climax of world history, the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ and the formation of His Universal Kingdom. Columbus believed this could not take place until all nations and tribes of the distant isles had been evangelized. Only then could the promised new age come into being.

"Christopheros — Christ-bearer," the name given to him in baptism was taken as a sign that God had predestinated him to become the Evangelist who would open up the unreached tribes of the "Isles" to the saving knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He believed the Holy Spirit had given special assistance in understanding both scripture and the sciences of navigation and geography required for such an undertaking and mission for his life. His zeal and assurance were not derived from love of adventure or greed for gold and glory, but were founded wholly upon the revealed Word of God in Scripture. He regarded the successful outcome of his voyages as confirmation of the truth of Scripture and the faithfulness of the sovereign God.

Columbus named his first landfall "San Salvador" (Holy Saviour).

The following quotations tell the story in Columbus' own words, translated from fifteenth century Spanish of the introduction to the *Book of Prophecies*:

"At a very early age I began to sail upon the ocean. For more than forty years, I have sailed everywhere that people go."

"I prayed to the most merciful Lord about my heart's great desire, and He gave me the spirit and the intelligence for the task."

"It was the Lord who put into my mind (I could feel His hand upon me) to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my project rejected it with laughter, ridi-

culing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit because he comforted me with rays of marvelous illumination from the Holy Scriptures, a strong and clear testimony from the 44 books' of the Old Testament, from the four Gospels, and from the 23 Epistles of the blessed Apostles, encouraging me continually to press forward, and without ceasing for a moment they now encourage me to make haste."

Before continuing let's compare what Columbus wrote with what God revealed to Nephi through his vision recorded in *The Book of Mormon*;— "And it came to pass that I looked and beheld many waters; and they divided the Gentiles from the seed of my brethren. And it came to pass that the angel said unto me: Behold the wrath of God is upon the seed of thy brethren. And I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles (Columbus) who was separated from the seed of my brethren (Nephites and Lamanites) by the many waters (Ocean); and I beheld the Spirit of God, and it came down and wrought upon the man; and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren, who were in the promised land. (Americas) 1 Ne. 13:11-13.

Now back to Columbus' own explanation:— "Our Lord Jesus desired to perform a very obvious miracle in the voyage to the Indies, to comfort me and the whole people of God. I spent seven years in the royal court, discussing the matter with many persons of great reputation and wisdom in all the arts; and in the end they concluded that it was all foolishness, so they gave it up. But since things generally came to pass that were predicted by our Saviour, Jesus Christ, we should also believe that this particular prophecy will come to pass. In support of this, I offer the gospel text, *Matt. 24:35* in which Jesus said that all things would pass away, but not his marvelous Word. He also affirmed that it was necessary that all things be fulfilled that were prophesied by himself and by the prophets."

"I said that I would state my reasons: I hold alone to the sacred and Holy Scriptures, and to the interpretations of prophecy given by certain devout persons."

"It is possible that those who see this book will accuse me of being unlearned in literature, of being a layman and a sailor. I reply with the words of *Matt. 11:25*: 'Lord, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.'

"The Holy Scripture testifies in the *Old Testament* by the prophets and in the *New Testament* by our redeemer Jesus Christ, that this world must come to an end. The signs of when this must happen are given by Matthew, Mark and Luke. The prophets have predicted many things about it."

"Our Redeemer Jesus Christ said that before the end of the world all things must come to pass that had been written by the prophets. The prophets wrote in various ways. Isaiah is one of the most praised by Jerome, Augustine and by the other theologians. They all say that Isaiah was not only a prophet, but an evangelist as well. Isaiah goes into great detail in describing future events. . . ." (3 *Nephi* 23:1-3 says: 'And now, behold, I say unto you, that ye ought to search these things. Yea, a commandment I give unto you that you search these things diligently; for great are the words of Isaiah. For surely he spoke as touching all things concerning my people which are of the house of Israel, therefore it must needs be that

he must speak also to the Gentiles. And all things that he spoke have been and shall be, even according to the words which he spoke.’)

“Most of the prophecies of Holy Scripture have been fulfilled already. . . .

(His Testimony)

“I am a most unworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolation since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous presence.”

(His Adominiton)

“No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Saviour, if it is just and if the intention is purely for His holy service. The working out of all things has been assigned to each person by our Lord, but it all happens according to His sovereign will, even though He gives advice. He lacks nothing that it is in the power of men to give him. Oh what a gracious Lord, who desires that people should perform for Him those things for which He holds Himself responsible! Day and night, moment by moment, every one should express to Him their most devoted gratitude.”

(His Conclusion)

“I said that some of the prophecies remained yet to be fulfilled. These are great and wonderful things for the earth, and the signs are that the Lord is hastening the end. The fact that the gospel must still be preached to so many lands in such a short time — this is what convinces me.”

Christopher Columbus died on May 20, 1506 and with his last words he echoed those of Jesus: “Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit.”

Spencer Everett

CONGRATULATIONS

We, of the Greensburg Branch, are very happy that Brother Joseph Saeli has recently completed all requirements for his Doctorate in Education. We congratulate him and are happy along with him and Sister Alice, that this difficult task is now behind him. Both Brother Joe and Sister Alice have been very active with the young children of the Branch in teaching Sunday School. We hope they will continue to use their education and talents to the honor and glory of God all the days of their lives, and surely God will bless them in all their efforts.

I was stumbling through the darkness,
Amid the blackness of the night.
And then, I looked to Jesus
And He showed me peace and light.
He took away the burden
That I carried with my shame.
And His loving arms embraced me
As I called upon His name.
And He promised life eternal
If I proved faithful to His Word.
So I'll forever praise my Saviour,
As I await my coming Lord.

Don Green
Six Nation

NEW YEAR — NEW POSSIBILITIES

by James D. Gibson, G.M.B.A. Editor

Another year has come and gone. During its existence, we again saw many things transpire for our M.B.A. organization.

The annual G.M.B.A. Campout was held along the shores of Lake Erie at Dunkirk, New York. It saw an overflow of campers, and its size could in no way hold the anxious throng that desired to assemble together. This is not to say that camps in preceding years were not as fruitful, only that more sought to attend.

The present year of 1974 finds us beginning to look to August when campout will again be held. This year, camp will begin August 25 and conclude on August 31.

It will be held in the northern regions of Michigan. We know our fellow M.B.A. members in that area have begun to extol its existence well located amid surrounding areas of interest.

But each camp will only, as in the past, be as successful as you and I can—and will make it. As committees are selected with the appointment of a camp director, we should all look forward to rendering all available assistance to them.

This new year we have a new President and Vice President. Brothers Paul Palmieri and Don Ross were elected to these new offices. With the veteran Chaplain, Brother Joe Milantoni, we know they will all do us proud.

The past year also saw the locals and areas of the M.B.A. complete various projects. Some may still be under consideration and functioning toward their ultimate completion.

The locals and area of California continue to work among the Indian people in their section. But some are not that close in distance and some time is required for them to travel where an existing project may be.

The Michigan-Ontario Area continues to pay attention to the available work to be done at the Muncey Reserve. The lesson plans are nearing completion in that Area and also the gathering of school books for use in Nigeria.

Pennsylvania Area has supplied motorbikes for use in Nigeria and sewing machines have been purchased for the Indian people in Whiteriver, Arizona.

The Spanish and Indian people in Ohio have felt the influence of Church concern and work in their area.

Also the Atlantic Coast and Florida Areas have endeavored to initiate projects and ideas within their respective districts.

The new year again as in the past will present opportunities for us as a group to assist others. We hope and trust by this years end we will have accomplished more than in the past.

We encourage all to help in the endeavors and support all officers in local, area and national groups. For in helping others, we help ourselves in realizing we are capable and able to accomplish much good with God's help.

— A TRIBUTE —

I, along with you, would like to take time to thank our outgoing GMBA President. Brother "Augie" D'Orazio has served that office for quite a few years and served it well.

It takes much time and effort to head such a group. There are many meetings to call and attend, and many miles to be traveled. All of this involves expenses which Brother Augie "dug deep" into his own pocket as some well know.

One major time-consuming function was preparation for the GMBA Conferences held every six months. In an effort to expedite the business at hand, and what was spontaneous from the floor, required pre-planning.

GMBA Activity Committee meetings were held on a regular basis, and they were not necessarily in his "back yard". Visits to prospective campout sites and serving on most committees.

If it sounds like I'm making a loud and resounding ring of praise for our Brother Augie, so be it. I have got to know him personally and feel that he always carries the "proper credentials".

Our Brother suffered a heart attack some time back. Thank God he is well on the road to recovery. I would like to pay special tribute also to those who assisted in the higher offices. Brother Paul Palmieri who served as GMBA Vice-President (now GMBA President) and Brother Joseph Milantoni who has served for many years as GMBA Chaplain.

May God continue to bless these Brothers and others who serve Him. We appreciate your effort and dedication. Thank you from all of us. After all, isn't this what our Church is all about?

GMBA Editor

James D. Gibson

—o—

Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch Welcomes Two New Converts

The Greensburg Saints experienced a wonderful day in the service of The Lord on Sunday, December 2, 1973 and another wonderful day on the following Sunday, December 9. The edifying events were the baptisms of two Sisters.

Sister Elaine More was baptized by Brother Dan Todaro on Sunday, December 2. She was confirmed by Brother Oskar Hagen. Sister Gloria Leftwich was baptized by Brother George Johnson the following Sunday and confirmed by Brother Dan Todaro.

The addition of these new members to the Greensburg Branch has been cheering and uplifting. May the Lord continue to harvest in many souls to His Church everywhere.

—o—

Tribulation is God's thorny but blessed way to glorious victory!

THE HOLY LAND TOUR

(Continued)

Nearby is Qumran, made famous by the finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls. A sect called Essenes lived here and it is believed they copied the sacred scriptures. By uncovering ruins it was believed these people lived a communal type of living. One place it is believed, is where scrolls were copied because long tables, benches and two ink wells were found. They put their precious scrolls in pottery jars and hid them in the caves nearby.

A very interesting story is connected with the finding of these scrolls. In 1947 a Bedouian shepherd boy was grazing his sheep and goats in the desert near the Dead Sea. One of his goats started up a steep track and the boy started after it. It was a very hot day so he took shelter for a few minutes under a rock. He looked across and saw a cliff with a cave entrance. He picked up a stone and threw it into the cave. Then he heard a crash like pottery breaking. He pulled himself up into the cave and saw jars inside. He found a number of pottery jars containing rolled up scrolls of leather. He took them to a merchant in the town of Bethlehem thinking they could be used to resole shoes. The merchant realized they were old scrolls and took them to the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem. As a result they are preserved in the beautiful building called The Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem.

The scrolls contain some Old Testament Books. One parchment is the complete text of Isaiah. It is 24 feet long and 10 feet high. This manuscript is 1,000 years older than any other portion. It is encased in a circular receptacle that can protect it in time of attack. Our guide read from his scroll when we toured the Shrine. Some of the parchments took as long as four years to unroll while there are still some under study. One wonders just what mysteries are yet to be found.

Our next stop was Bethlehem, a small quiet town. We noticed a street named Manger Square and interesting terraced hillsides. This is the birthplace of Jesus. Micah states this as the place where Israel's Messiah would be born (Micah 5:2.) Here the shepherds heard the glad tidings as they watched their sheep at night (Luke 2:15-16.) Here also the wise men came from the East, following the bright star, to find the King (Matthew 2:7-11.)

To honor Jesus' birth, the Church of the Nativity has been built over the cave where tradition believes Jesus was born. It is the oldest church in Christendom. Parts of it are connected and belong to the Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Armenians. On the floor marking the birthplace is a silver star surrounded by candles, ancient tapestries cover the walls. The old chandeliers in the room above were beautiful.

To enter the church we had to bend low at the doorway. This was made low to prevent horsemen from riding in among the congregation and destroy the church, and injure the people. The church is a fortress type structure of gray stone. Many churches were built like fortresses because of the need for protection.

Sunday—March 18

Up early, ate breakfast, and ready for our tour of Jerusalem, the greatest city in the Holy Land. Before leaving the hotel our group held a short service.

Our motorcoach was waiting for us and off we went. Jerusalem is the capital of Israel. The population is 300,000. The religions are Christians, Jews, and Muslims. Parts of Jerusalem date back 1000 B.C. The city is divided into two parts, the Old City and the New. Extensive construction is going on in the new part. It is built of Jerusalem stone. Lovely gardens surround the homes. The Old City is surrounded by a high wall.

We visited the Mount of Olives where Jesus ascended into heaven. Then we went to the Garden of Gethsemane, a lovely place with its old olive trees. The place where Jesus went often to pray (Luke 22:39.) Jesus suffered his agonizing prayer here, was betrayed by Judas and arrested. Beside the garden is the Church of All Nations, in which is the rock near which Jesus prayed. The altar back of the rock is beautiful. The rock is called the "Rock of Agony" (Luke 22:39.) This church is named All Nations because 16 nations contributed to its construction.

Calvary and the Garden Tomb are outside the walls of the Old City. Many have doubted this to be the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Regardless of whether this is the exact tomb or not, one has an idea of the ancient tombs. Because of the service we were not able to enter the tomb.

The garden was very pretty with many spring flowers in bloom, trees green with foliage, brown stone walls and old stone walks. The scripture recalled here was of Joseph of Arimathea, who went to Pilate and begged for Jesus' body. Nicodemus and Joseph took the body of Jesus, wrapped it in linen clothes with spices and placed it in the new tomb belonging to Joseph. The scripture "and there was a garden," was in that vicinity (John 19:38-42.)

From the garden, we walked up a few stone steps where we could view a very high hill. This is Calvary or Golgotha, the place of the skull. The hill is of rough, weatherbeaten, grayish brown rocks. The rocks are formed into a large skull, thus getting its name from this. A very sad feeling came over us. Someone in the group started to sing, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" We felt some of the sorrow connected with this place.

As we looked at the top of Calvary, we could picture three crosses. The words of Simeon to Mary, "Yea a sword shall pierce thru thy own soul. . .," surely was fulfilled here (Luke 2:35.) Then the words of Jesus, "Father forgive them. . . ." The scriptures had so much more meaning here. With heavy hearts we returned to the bus as one does after laying loved ones away.

Jerusalem is surrounded by the old wall which has eight interesting gates. A very interesting gate is the Golden Gate or Eastern Gate because it is on the east side facing the Mount of Olives. It is believed this gate was built on the place where Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The gate has been sealed and a cemetery made at the entrance. The Jews believe that when their Messiah comes, he will enter through this gate and they will proclaim him King of Kings. The Christians believe that when Jesus comes again the gate will be opened and He again will enter the Holy City.

Our tour inside of the Old City was a walking tour. We went to the Western Wall or Wailing Wall. This is the western wall of the Temple. The Romans destroyed it about 70 A.D. The bottom stones of the wall are the original foundation stones of the Temple wall. The upper part is made of small pieces which were recovered later.

This is a very sacred place for the Jews who come to pray here. Separate sections are for men and for women. The men must wear a hat or covering on their heads and the women require long sleeves or have arms covered. In the cracks of the rocks, the people have pushed money. The Jews believe God is very close to them here since this is part of God's Holy Temple.

We drove through the Valley of Elah where the Philistines and the Israelites gathered for a great battle. It was here that David proved to be a great hero in killing the giant Goliath. We could picture the Philistines on one mountain and the Israelites on the other. We stopped at the brook and got five smooth stones for a souvenir. After our visits like this the scripture becomes alive. (I Samuel 17.)

(To be continued)

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

The Dallas Mission

"One will find rich enjoyment in its inspiring articles." This statement appeared in a recent issue of *The Gospel News*. I must admit my total agreement with it; it, *The Gospel News*, brings "rich enjoyment" to my heart and soul. I cannot conceive of a better medium than *The Gospel News* to convey the feelings and desires in The Church.

I was baptized on November 18, 1956 and recently celebrated my 17th birthday in The Church of Jesus Christ. Most of my time was spent in New Jersey, The Hopelawn Branch. This Branch will forever remain dear to my heart; because it is where I "grew up" spiritually. This is where I first experienced and received the love that Jesus speaks of; the knowledge and understanding of God's plan of salvation; the desires and aspirations which are to dwell in The Kingdom of God for all eternity.

Blessings In Texas

It is written that God is unchangeable and His decrees unalterable. Whatever the venture—as long as you go with Jesus in your heart and mind, He will bless you. I can testify that this is true. Recently, my family and I moved to Dallas, Texas. After living so many years in New Jersey, I confess and my family will agree, that it seems unbelievable that we now reside in Texas. Nevertheless, it is true. We have felt and enjoyed the presence of God in Texas just as we did in New Jersey. We continue to enjoy His blessings and find there is an unending pleasure in the experiences He gives us.

We arrived in Texas in February 1973 and it is evident there is spiritual potential in this part of the country. Our prayers are, and we ask you to join us, that God may open the door and make it possible for The Restored Gospel to take root here—in many hearts.

Because there was no meeting place, I opened my home to those who desired to attend the meetings. Those who attend are: Brother Douglas McLellan, his wife Sister Pat and their family; Brother Doug's parents, Adeline and Ernest; Sister Virginia Freberg and her children—Sister Virginia is the daughter of Brother Dominick and Sister Belle Rose of Brooklyn, New York; Hank and Jane Ardinger, the son-in-law and daughter of Brother William and Sister Theresa Gennaro of Youngstown, Ohio. My

prayer is that God will work with those who are not yet members of The Church; that He may bless them with a perfect understanding of The Restored Gospel. Hopefully, He will permit them to come aboard the Gospel ship and journey with us to that foreign shore. We have been meeting every Sunday at 10:15 A.M. for Sunday School, at 11:00 A.M. for preaching and fellowship. Every Wednesday we convene at 7:30 P.M. for a *Book of Mormon* lesson or fasting and prayer.

From February through May we met in my home. During this time, Brother Doug, his father and myself were working and completing a room in my garage. This is our current meeting place. We are very thankful for Brother Doug's father, Ernest McLellan. He is not a member of The Church, but has worked and helped a great deal in finishing the room in my garage and also for making a beautiful pulpit that is, without a doubt, a very important part of our meeting place. Through everyone's cooperation, we purchased 20 chairs with hopes that they will be filled in the near future.

A Beautiful Dream

While visiting us in May, Sister Stella Arcuri testified of a dream she experienced at my home. In her dream she saw, through the back window of my home, a beautiful vegetable garden. She stated the entire backyard was filled with delicious looking vegetables, ready to be picked. We all felt the Spirit of God during her testimony and pray that this garden represents a spiritual growth in this part of the vineyard. I mentioned that God has blessed us and has not left us alone. An experience we had shortly after we settled here confirms this and continues as a source of strength to us. I would like to share it with you.

My son Tony (eleven years old) awoke one night with pains in his stomach. After getting up several times, he came to me and asked if there was something I could do. He also complained of chest pains and said it was hard for him to breathe. I told him I could pray for him and ask God to help. He quickly agreed and asked me to anoint him. After petitioning God in prayer, we noticed he fell asleep immediately. He slept through the entire night. I returned to bed and thanked God for answering our prayer. When I awoke, I thanked God again for the wonderful blessing.

"How Great Thou Art"

If this was all, it would surely be sufficient for me because I was perfectly satisfied that God had relieved our son from his illness. But, this was not all! At work I received a call from home. It was Tony. He was extremely anxious to relate a dream he had after falling asleep. He dreamed he was rushed to the hospital because he became very ill. During the examination, he heard the doctors say that it was completely hopeless and that he did not have a chance. He heard them say that he would not live through the night. After the doctors left his room, a Personage, dressed in radiant white, appeared at his bedside. The Personage spoke to him saying, "I am Jesus and I have come to heal you." Jesus placed His hands on his head and anointed him. The next thing Tony remembered was waking up the next morning, still in the hospital. The doctors came to examine him. They found him healed and said it was a miracle, that there was nothing wrong with Tony. The doctors told Tony he was free to go home immediately. This concluded his dream. Needless to say, after hearing this dream, I felt the Spirit of God like a fire burning. I am reminded of that hymn, "How Great Thou Art." How can we sufficiently praise God for what

He does for us. As God was with us in New Jersey, He is with us in Texas.

During the past nine months, several Brothers and Sisters from various parts of The Church have visited us. I would like to extend an invitation to anyone who may be passing through this area, especially our Brothers in The Ministry, to stop and visit whenever God permits. It will make us very happy to welcome visitors. My address is 511 Spring Creek Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080; telephone 214-234-4637. May God bless and keep us all strong and firm to the promise we made at the river's edge.

Brother George Benyola

Twice Blessed

Sunday, December 2, 1973 our Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 was blessed twice. In our morning service, Brother Gorie Ciaravino surprised us with a visit. He explained that with the energy crisis, he felt to visit the District Branches while he could. For perhaps one day soon, he may not be able to visit at all.

Brother Gorie left us that morning with two very important thoughts. He spoke to us concerning time. In terms of thousands of years, God thinks of them as being just moments.

It made me think of how we must all learn to have greater patience and a firm hope. We ourselves may never see the things which are to come, but the hope that one day they will come, is what keeps us going.

Brother Gorie also spoke on the life of Joseph. He spoke of the long suffering Joseph had endured, before all things were fulfilled to the glory of God.

That also brought a thought to my mind. Through all the evil that had come upon Joseph, God used it and turned it to good.

As I mentioned before, our Sunday meeting was blessed twice. In our afternoon meeting, we had another visitor, Brother Reno Bologna. He spoke to us on the importance of learning to do without many of the things we now take for granted. He told us that with the shortages, now just beginning to appear, we may one day have to do completely without them. He asked how many of us would be able to stand the extreme changes. He reminded us that all should be able to, as long as the Lord abides in us.

Brother Reno made another point. The people of this world will have nothing to cling to. He believes as I do, that if and when these changes come about, those lost souls of the world will not survive.

I remember as a child my father telling me how in 1929 many people committed suicide, because all they had materially was lost. We must have faith that our God, in spite of all things, will forever be with us. So when the changes do come, we will be able to say, Lord I am ready.

It is important to be reminded that we must have different kinds of strength to shine before the world and before he sight of God.

Several of these strengths were given to us this Sunday, they are—patience, faith, hope, and longsuffering.

We thank our dear Brothers for their spoken words and visits in our behalf. I was greatly blessed from their efforts.

Sister Diana Thompson

Baptism At Lorain

The Lorain, Ohio Branch was blessed with a new convert making a decision to serve God on November 4, 1973. It was a beautiful day with many visitors in attendance as Sister Janet Beckett went to the waters of baptism.

Our new Sister, who lives in Indiana, was baptized by Brother Frank Calabrese and confirmed a member of The Church by Brother Joseph Genaro.

Sister Janet Beckett was introduced into The Church by Sister Georgiana Love. May God Bless our new Sister.

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Jason Timothy to Alfred and Maureen Guerrier of Windsor, Ontario,

Joan Elizabeth to Robert and Ruth Stanek of Windsor, Ontario,

Renee Lynn to Thomas and Peggy Stroko of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania,

Patricia to James and Betty King of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania,

Jeffrey Edward to Edward and Elizabeth Eiler of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania,

Margaret Louise to Anthony and JoAnn Rossi of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

● OBITUARIES ●

JOHN CONGETTA

Brother John Congetta, a faithful member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his eternal reward on December 4, 1973. He was born on April 11, 1886 and was baptized on January 14, 1923. He was 87 years of age.

He is survived by his three daughters, seven grandsons and two great grandsons.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Alfred Domenico.

Brother John was a charter member of our branch. In the early days, he was the only member that owned a car and he transported the brothers and sisters to many places. He often took the Brothers to conferences.

ARTHER DeCURSIO

Brother Arthur DeCursio passed on to his heavenly reward on November 1, 1973. He was a member of the Yucaipa, California Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother DeCursio was born on March 15, 1915.

He is survived by one daughter.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers John Azzinaro and Frank Genaro and our brother was laid to rest in the Coachella Valley Cemetery.

ADA (HAWK) FEDERER

Sister Ada (Hawk) Federer a faithful saint of the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on December 27, 1973. She was born on August 3, 1895 and was baptized on June 28, 1931 at Big Rock, Pennsylvania.

She is survived by her husband, twelve children, thirty grandchildren, thirty-four great grandchildren and one sister.

Brothers Joseph Bittinger and Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services.

Sister Ada was a faithful member since the day she gave herself to the Lord. She will be sadly missed by her loved ones and the members of The Church.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

MARCH

—California District Conference.

—Florida District Conference.

9 & 10—*Pennsylvania District Conference in Aliquippa.

9 & 10—Ohio District Conference in Youngstown.

16 & 17—Atlantic Coast District Conference in Hopelawn.

—Michigan-Ontario District Conference

16—Ladies Circle in Youngstown.

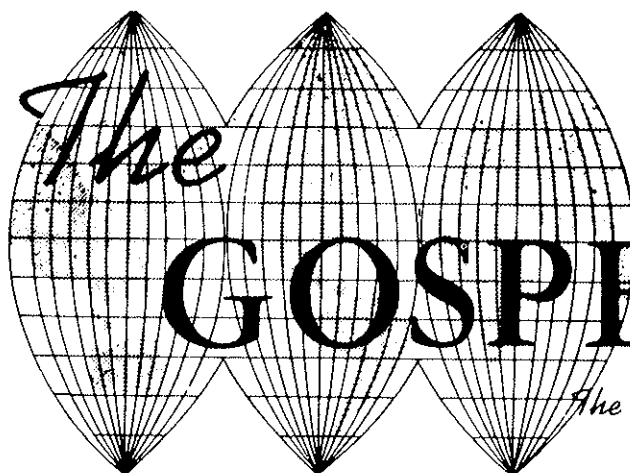
APRIL

18*, 19*, 20* & 21*—General Church Conference.

MAY

18*—G.M.B.A.

All church organizations (General, District, G.M.B.A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in dates of their coming events for publication in The Gospel News 1974 Church Calendar . . . send information to: Joseph Ross, #2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.



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FLOWERS AND THORNS

by V. James Lovalvo

(Reprinted—November 1945)

Since the beginning of time, it appears, that human beings have been quicker to see the faults in others, rather than the good. Cain saw no good in Abel regardless of God's acceptance of Abel's offerings, therefore he arose and killed his brother. Apparently it is the nature of some people to get rid of those in whose presence they feel inferior, as not only was the case with Cain but with Laman and Lemuel against their brother Nephi, with the sons of Jacob against Joseph, with Saul against David and others I could mention. The Jews sought and finally succeeded to put Jesus to death, because he blasphemed (according to them) by admitting his relationship to God; although the truth was that they feared lest the whole world was going "after Him," and that He in time would destroy their despicable lucrative schemes.

In Jesus' case—He became in death, the Saviour of the world. So much for this at present:—I wish to dwell more on the subject of "quicker to see evil than good."

Strange as it may seem, things sometimes that appear evil or faulty may not be so badly in the eyes of God. On the other hand, things that sometimes appear to be "Good" are not so good in His sight.

For example, Rebecca's scheme to obtain the birth-right blessings pronounced upon Jacob might not seem very good to the puny eyes of man, nevertheless Jacob was the choice of God.

The slaying of Laban by Nephi might not appear so well either, however, it was God's will. "Better for one man to perish than a nation dwindle in unbelief."

On the other hand, the sons of Jesse appeared wonderfully fit to be anointed kings to Samuel because of their outward appearance but it was David a little shepherd boy upon whom God commanded should the oil of anointing be poured.

Remember Herod? When he gave an oration to his people they exclaimed: "It is the voice of a God," and at the same moment the angel of God struck him dead!

Man Weak and Puny

How weak and puny can mortal man be! Will man ever learn to judge, not by the seeing of the eye, nor the hearing of the ears, but with a righteous judgment?

Jesus, among his many wonderful discourses, also taught the fallacies of fault finding. "How wilt thou say

to thy brother, let me pull the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye?"

How easy it is to see the faults of others, while we ourselves may have many more faults than our fellow man!

It would be more becoming as Christians to seek rather the good points in one another, to the extent that encouragement and edification might be the results.

There is a story told of a King who once upon a time sent two servants out to spend some time in his garden and then to report what they found. One of the servants reported to the King that his garden was full of thorns, while the other reported that the garden was full of beautiful flowers. When the king heard these conflicting reports, he asked the first servant why he had found only thorns. The reply was "I sought for thorns only." Then the King asked the second servant why he had found beautiful flowers, the reply was "I sought only for flowers."

Seeking Good

The moral of this story is that we only find what we seek. If we seek "Thorns" in one another, we shall be blinded to the "beautiful flowers." On the other hand, if we seek the "beautiful flowers," we will ignore the "thorns." So much good could be found in each other if we but took the time to seek it. No gold came from the streams or the mountains unless man strove to obtain it by hard labor and diligent seeking. On the mountains where gold is, there are definitely many rocks, torturous paths, thorns that tear the flesh apart, obstacles on every side; and still, when man sought, he found, beneath the earth, rocks and thorns,—that glittering dust—GOLD!

So it is with us as individuals, too often we see the rocks, thorns and thistles in one another, while if we would only seek, we would find behind these apparent faults, some gold, regardless how small the amount. It becomes us very much to seek for the "Gold," the good in people, for if we went to find mistakes, errors or faults, there would be many to find as we sojourn in this tabernacle of clay. If we seek "good" we shall find it also.

The whole Sermon on the Mount is centered upon this thought, "As ye would others do to you, so do ye likewise," "Judge not, lest ye be judged," "Blessed are the poor, Blessed are the meek," "Do good to them that do you evil," etc.

Let us each strive to be our brother's keeper. Let us each resolve that we shall always be seekers of "Good," and as the Apostle Peter said, "Eschew evil."

GREETINGS IN CHRIST

Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in Christ. The Lord most holy is almighty and compassionate toward all mankind, because He so loves man. It is difficult both to understand and to explain the depth of God's love to man, but to the believing it is not difficult, since the believing abides in God's love.

Praises and Thanksgiving

I left Modesto Saturday, January 19, 1974 at 6:30 A.M. to go to Bell, California with Brother Leonard Lovalvo and my son Samuel. Two meetings were scheduled there Saturday night and Sunday morning. Brothers Anthony Picciuto and L. Lovalvo were the speakers. Many attended and the spirit of The Lord was manifested in both meetings. There was a baptism on Sunday morning; this was a time of praises and thanksgiving. I left Los Angeles Monday at 7:30 A.M. and arrived at Phoenix at 6:55 P.M. Brother Barry Mazzeo took me to his home; there I met several of his family, and there was singing, testimonies, and prayers. It was truly a wonderful short visit. I left Phoenix at 11:10 P.M. and arrived at Gallup at 7:50 A.M. on Tuesday. Brother Larry Watson was there to take me to his apartment. I was able to get a little rest. We had meetings every night with a wonderful spirit prevailing. Sunday morning we had the first feetwashing ever held at Fort Defiance, Arizona.

There are five young men living here, and a young girl, Candee Calabrese. There are two girls at Flagstaff, Arizona—Lana Rich and Gail Santilli who attend North Arizona University.

The two girls came to Fort Defiance to partake of the ordinance of feetwashing. We truly felt the spirit of The Lord. After the morning service, we went to the local hospital after asking permission from the chief nurse, several hymns were sung, bringing cheer to the sick. A young Navajo girl attended both the meetings and the singing at the hospital. Her name is Barbara, a fine girl. She was blessed all day.

There was also a Sunday night meeting. With another Navajo young man attending. On the previous day I was taken to the experimental farm which our young Brothers are projecting. I was very impressed as to what is being done here.

A Progressive People

They have both the approval of the tribal counsel and the help from the state agricultural department. The object is to help the Indians help themselves, by cultivating their own lands. These Navajos are a very progressive type of people, willing to do things for themselves.

I left Monday, the 28th of January from Gallup at 7:40 A.M. by bus and arrived in Santa Fe, New Mexico at 1:55 P.M. I was met by a snow storm, and I started looking for Sister Skinner. I found their drug store, but she and her husband were out of town. I had written to her but evidently she had other engagements. The drug store personnel spoke very highly of them.

I left that same night at 9:15 P.M., a little disappointed since I have had some very kind correspondence with Sister Skinner.

Some Happy Moments

I arrived at Dallas, Texas at 5:15 P.M. on Tuesday. Brother George Benyola took me to his home. There were some very happy moments with them and Douglas Mc-

Clellan. Wednesday I spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Ardinger, daughter and son-in-law of Brother Bill Gennaro of Youngstown, Ohio. It was a pleasant day, since Brother and Sister Gennaro are visiting their daughter. The day was topped by a meeting at night and refreshments. Brother Gennaro was anointed and also his daughter. We had two new visitors; they enjoyed themselves and pray for their return. I will stay here till Sunday and depart for Tucson on Monday to hold meetings there and possibly at Sells, Arizona. There is a nice little group here. Brother George Benyola is a God-send here. He will succeed with his lovely family.

Brother Douglas McClellan has long prayed for a minister. I feel Brother George is the minister for Dallas. He is full of God's spirit. Please pray for me, not that I may live long, or without pain, but live for God's children and to His glory. If I can bring a smile, renew hope, and a soul comes to God by my testimony, I shall count my lot happy.

Brother Mark Randy

● FLASHBACKS ●

by Charles Jumper

March 1949 — 25 Years Ago

Brother and Sister Watson, Brother Cadman and Brother Henderson spent a weekend on the Grand River Indian Reservation. They visited with Sister Sadie Jamieson and then went on to Brother Beaver's home.

The Windsor Branch Choir sang on The Church broadcast from Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. Brother D'Amico was the featured speaker.

March 1954 — 20 Years Ago

Brother Nicholas Iorio of Warren, Ohio left on a missionary trip to Italy. This was Brother Iorio's second trip to his native land to preach the Gospel.

The General Ladies Circle meeting was held in the Cadman home in Monongahela, Pennsylvania. The sisters had donated \$9,542.00 to the Indian mission work since that fund was started in 1920.

March 1959 — 15 Years Ago

The first meeting of the General Church Mission Board was held in Monongahela, Pennsylvania. Brother William Cadman was in charge of the meeting. Brother Meredith Griffith outlined a plan to place missionaries in the field.

March 1964 — 10 Years Ago

The Greensburg Branch held a farewell reception for Brother and Sister Alvin Swanson who will make their home in Florida. They were presented with an album of pictures of all the members of the Greensburg Branch.

Brothers Joseph Benyola, Atlantic Coast District President, Rocco Ensana, First Counsellor and Domenic Rose, Second Counsellor attended the organization of the Brooklyn, New York Branch.

March 1969 — 5 Years Ago

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, General Church President visiting in Florida, spoke at the Sunday service of the Lake Worth Branch.

IT IS NO SECRET WHAT GOD CAN DO

By Darlene Large

"It is no secret, what God can do, what He's done for others, He'll do for you."

When we returned from camp last summer, we were discouraged because Bruce's vacation was temporarily cancelled. My parents were visiting from Florida. I was praying and fasting and trying to discover some way to go to Red Lake, Arizona with the children. My mother spoke with me and said that I should ask my Dad to take us. I did, and he said, "No." He said that he loved my mother and that he would worry about her because of her health. Then he went out to do some errands and when he returned, he said, "When do you want to go West?" (He later told me that the Lord told him to take us West.) He said he would have to go home to Florida to collect his tools, and clothes and then return to Pennsylvania and from there we would leave.

All the way back North, he hummed and sang the hymn, "It Is No Secret, What God Can Do." He said it just kept going through his mind. I couldn't help remembering that a few years before, he had told my mother that he wanted to work with the American Indians when he retired. At that time, he didn't know much about the Church.

Growing In the Love of God

We learned many things on our way to and from Red Lake, and while there. The children grew to know and love their grandfather in a special way that only happens when you share a unique experience with someone. Hopefully we'll be able to participate in a similar venture again, in the future. All of us grew tremendously. We learned how true love is unselfish and generous when Mom volunteered to stay home and care for the dog so that Dad could take the children and me West. That's what knowing Christ is all about, giving of yourself so that others can benefit. We all prayed that God would be with us and He was.

Bruce met us in Kansas City, and rode with us until Albuquerque. He flew back to work and would join us in two weeks, for the rest of the trip.

We arrived at Red Lake about 11 o'clock on a Sunday night. There was an eerie quality to the landscape as huge rock formations cast shadows in the light of a full moon. We arrived at the site to find no one there. I remembered that everyone from "Side by Side" (a group of young folks who had volunteered time and talents to erect a quonset hut as the beginning of a demonstration farm project) was going to stay at a B.I.A. (Bureau of Indian Affairs) school and I thought it was in Fort Defiance.

How the Lord Provides

As a beginning, we drove there, and Dad's headlights picked out a yellow school crossing sign. We turned in and I asked about our group. The man sent me to the school principal who was a couple of doors away and he led me to Paul Bell, the county agent, who was the only contact with our group on the entire Navajo Reservation which covers 25,000 square miles. He let us spend the night there and fed us a lovely breakfast and then directed us to our group. May the Lord bless him and his wife, Betty, for all of their help.

We had a wonderful week with everyone. We knew only three or four persons when we arrived. Dad didn't know anyone. Brother Ron Brutz told Dad about the Hopi prophecies and about the Church and this was the beginning for Dad. When we left he felt so much love for Ron, Dennis Calabrese, Ken Surdock, and all the others. They were so good and kind to us. God bless them all. I enjoyed knowing the Watson family, and Sister Martha. She told me her husband Bill was to be in charge of this undertaking but was hurt in a car accident. My Dad's name is Bill, and he put up quonset huts in the South Pacific during World War II. How the Lord provides! It always amazes me.

Kindness of A Missionary Couple

Another incident that I remember vividly was when we were outside of Albuquerque and had a tire blowout. Our car was traveling at 65 miles an hour and when the tire blew, we nearly turned over. Fortunately, the camper helped us to stay right side up, but we found ourselves turned around on the highway facing oncoming traffic. The car that stopped behind us was a missionary couple on their way to their Indian mission. They stayed behind us with their lights on to offer protection while we changed tires and moved the car off the road. God bless them too.

We're all home now, safe and sound, thanks to the Lord, and since that time, Larry Watson was ordained an Elder. He, Brother Ron Brutz, and Candy Calabrese and the others are working near Red Lake. They go to an Indian Hospital and sing hymns and are doing God's work. Please remember them in your prayers, they are a blessing to so many.

For us, as a family, the best result of 1973, is that on Sunday, January 27, 1974, my mother and dad, Sophie and Bill Terrill were baptized in Florida. I know that my sister was as thrilled as I was. We have both prayed for this for so long. How wonderful God is to us. I thought that going to Red Lake was my idea, my trip, but now I think it was the Lord's idea and Dad's trip. I was glad that the Lord let me go along for the ride. It was a trip I never would have missed. "It is no secret what God can do. What He's done for others, He'll do for you."

Golden Anniversary

Brother Dominic and Sister Minnie DePiero of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch will observe their fiftieth wedding anniversary on March 16, 1974 with a reception at the Foster Memorial United Presbyterian Church at 566 West Indianola Ave., Youngstown, Ohio at 6:45 P.M.

They have two children, a son Caesar, a daughter, Mrs. Ruth Hughes, two grandsons and three great-grandchildren. As Sister DePiero's parents passed away at an early age, she and Brother Dominic reared seven of her brothers and sisters with God's help.

Brother Dominic has been in the Gospel since March 28, 1919, and Sister Minnie since December 14, 1919. God has blessed them with many wonderful gifts and blessings and a zeal and love for the Gospel.

The following is a poem written by Sister Minnie:

*O God of Love, look down and bless this couple that
has been married fifty years,
And grant that they may always be as joyful as they
are today. Amen.*

THE HOLY LAND TOUR

(Continued from last Issue)

Monday — March 20

Today is our last day of sightseeing. Our first stop was Nazareth. We found Nazareth to be an old, hilly town, with narrow streets and small shops. Along the street we noticed a carpenter shop, probably the work here being done by hand as in the time of Jesus. We recalled his father was a carpenter. The Scripture states Jesus too was a carpenter. The Church of St. Joseph is said to be built over his shop.

The Church of the Annunciation is in Nazareth where tradition states the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told of the coming birth of Jesus. It is a lovely old church. We walked down several steps to the grotto. (*Luke 1:26-38.*)

After leaving Nazareth, we drove through Cana in Galilee on the way to Tiberias. It was here Jesus performed his first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding. (*John 2:1-11.*) Cana was the home of Nathanael, one of the close followers of Jesus.

Tiberias is a lovely city on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The sea is also called the Sea of Tiberias, taking its name from the city. The city was built about 20 A.D. by Herod Antipas as his new capital.

The Sea of Galilee is beautiful and clear. It is also known as the Lake of Galilee. The water is good for drinking. It abounds with fish, although it is only 13 miles long and $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide. We were reminded of the great catch of fish in Jesus' day. (*Luke 5:4-11.*) and (*John 21:6-8.*); also of the time Jesus came walking on the water (*Matthew 14:22-23*), (*Mark 6:45-52.*) and (*John 6:15-21.*) As we read these Biblical accounts we never thought someday we would be here.

We boarded a cruiser and rode across the sea to Capernaum, the home of Jesus when He began his ministry, is today nothing but ruins. Capernaum was the home of a number of disciples. This is where Jesus told Peter to catch a fish and take the coin from its mouth and pay tribute to Caesar. (*Matthew 17.*) More of Jesus' miracles were performed here than in any other city, but in spite of all this, the people failed to repent; so judgement came upon it. (*Matthew 11:23-24.*)

Again back on the bus, we returned near Tiberias. We saw the Mount of Beatitudes where it is believed Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount.

"All aboard," back on the bus again not wanting to miss a thing. Our next stop was the River Jordan, where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. Here He set the example for us to follow (*John 1:29-34.*) A group was here when we arrived. They were baptizing. Two from our group were baptized, a seven year old boy, and a man. The Jordan River flows into the Dead Sea. It is NOT a very attractive river and one can understand why Naaman did not want to dip seven times here for the healing of his leprosy. He said he had better rivers nearer his home. (*II Kings 5*)

We continued on our tour to Mount Tabor, the scene of Christ's Transfiguration. We had a great view from here over the valley and upper Galilee.

On our way back to port, we took our last look at the lovely city and harbor of Haifa. It has been called 'the gateway to Zion.' It is Israel's main port. Through its docks have come most of Israel's million immigrants of the last twenty years.

Off we sail for Famagusta, Cyprus. We all dress in our best for the Farewell Dinner. The dinner was a gala affair, ending with ice cream bomba-regina, one we cannot forget. Ann Gentry, our ship hostess, introduced the chef, the captain, waiters and chief steward. An accordion player played, "Auld Lang Syne" and we all sang. Ann Gentry bid us farewell and gave each the "Widow's Mite" as a little remembrance. After dinner we enjoyed a "get-together" in the Morocco Room. All to bed, praying that the sea would be calm.

Tuesday — March 21

From Haifa to Famagusta, Cyprus. We boarded a bus for Nicosia to Athens, Greece for our plane.

Upon arriving in New York, Kennedy International Airport, our group separated. The Ohio folks boarded a bus for home. Marilyn Fowler was there to meet her mother again. After going through customs, showing our passports, and health booklets, we were ready to go to the Allegheny Airlines building for our flight home. The five of us, Sara, Maxine, Ruth, Jean and I, (Rose went with the Ohio group) got a plane at 9:40 P.M. for Pittsburgh. Our families were there to meet us.

Truly we can say of our dream come true, "We walked today where Jesus walked and felt his presence there."

Mabel C. Bickerton, Ruth Akerman, Sara Vancik, Rose Corrado, Jean Saffell and Maxine Fowler.

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to thank all our Brothers, Sisters and friends who remembered our son during his recovery from a recent automobile accident. The many cards, phone calls, visits and prayers were greatly appreciated. Randy is doing fine and is now back at school.

Sincerely,

The Blosser Family
Greensburg Branch

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Following is the change of address for Brother Rocco V. Biscotti:

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

LIVING FOR TODAY

By Mark Randy, Guest Editorialist

In North Africa, in the former city of Timagad (or Thimugadi) there is an inscription in the ruined forum which reads "venari, lavari, luderi, rideri, (ho est) vivere," meaning to hunt, to bathe, to play, to laugh, that is life.

When Rome was in power and the empire ruled in North Africa, over fertile fields and rich cities, this came to be the Roman philosophy. It was also a reason for their down-fall.

Rome felt secure and ceased to think of the future. It became "living for today's pleasures" oriented. They found it difficult to believe that their great empire would ever decline. They boasted of their conquests and fabulous achievements in government and the rule of law.

The Island of Crete, Minoan civilization reached an amazing advancement. They were surprisingly modern. They had running water, flush toilets and a sewage system at Kossos. A Scottish professor looked at the ruins of the palace and said, "The moral of Kossos is that good plumbing will not save a civilization." Whenever civilization loses its faith, it lives in a "today" oriented way of life, failing in their responsibility to their children and future well-being.

Conflict Between Belief and Unbelief

Goethe, who was not a Christian, still saw the basic issue when he observed that the meaning of history lies in the conflict between belief and unbelief. A nation without faith is without vision. Unbelievers are present oriented. Let us eat and be merry for tomorrow we die, strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. *Ephesians 2:2*.

The Romans were a powerful kingdom but became pleasure oriented, having no hope, because they lived for today and tomorrow would be more of the same, so they thought. It took a small army of Lombards to overthrow them in a day that found them hopelessly disorganized and corrupt. It was the same hopelessness that destroyed the early Saints. The persecution from without did not destroy them but the corruption from within. Whosoever is born of God overcomes the world, (1 John 5:4)

This is true of individuals as well as of nations. It is the most unnoticed, harmless evil that works slyly, and in some way persuades the mind that after all, we pass this way only once, so why not enjoy life and all that it offers.

The Psalmist's Appraisal

But is it really enjoyment? Does it offer peace of mind? The psalmist looked at those of the outside who were without care and came up with this appraisal: "They are not in trouble like other men; neither are they plagued like other men. Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain, violence covereth them like a garment. Their eyes stand out with fatness, they have more than their heart can wish. They are corrupt and speak wickedly concerning oppression. They speak loftily. They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth. Therefore his people return hither and waters of a full cup are wrung out to them. They say, how doth God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High? Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches. Verily I have cleansed my heart

(Continued on page 7)



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

A LOVE STORY

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a beautiful love story from the Bible in the *Book of Ruth*. Everyone likes love stories.

Once there was a man named Elimelech. His wife was Naomi and their two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They lived in Bethlejudah. There was a famine in their homeland so they moved to Moab. They were not there very long until the father died. Naomi was left with her two sons who were now young men.

In the land of Moab lived two sisters named Ruth and Orpah. Naomi's sons fell in love with the sisters and they were married. Naomi loved these girls as she would have loved her own daughters. For ten years they all were very happy, but one day all was sad. Naomi's two sons died. She decided to return to her own people in the land of Judah. She heard there was no famine there now. Ruth and Orpah decided to return with Naomi.

Soon after leaving the city, Naomi said to the sisters, "Each of you go back to your mother's house. You were good to my sons and to me. May the Lord be kind to you." As she kissed them, they all wept. Both of the girls said they would go to Judah and live with Naomi's people. But Naomi felt it best for them to stay in their own country. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye and returned to Moab. But Ruth clung to Naomi and said, "Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee; for whither thou go, I will go; and where you lodge I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God. Where you die I will die and there will I be buried; the Lord do so to me and more also if ought but death part me and thee." Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her so they went on their journey.

As they came to Bethlehem it was the time of barley harvest. It was a busy time of the year. Many of the people still remembered Naomi and came to see her. But she had changed. They asked, "Is this Naomi?" Naomi said, "Call me not Naomi but Mara," (which means bitter). She had left her home happy with her husband and sons but was returning now without them. Naomi told her friends she had much sorrow. One of her daughters-in-law had returned with her and she was like her own child.

It was the custom for the poor to gather grain in the fields after the reapers were through. It was the law given by Moses years before. There was a relative of Naomi's husband named Boaz who was a rich man. Ruth said to Naomi, "Let me go gather corn in this man's field." Naomi said, "Go my daughter." Ruth was a stranger there but went to the field. As she was gleaning, Boaz

came. He saw she was a stranger and he inquired about her. He greeted the workers with, "The Lord be with you", and they answered, "The Lord bless thee."

Boaz was told by his servant that the young stranger was Ruth from the country of Moab who had returned with Naomi. Boaz went over to Ruth and told her to glean in his fields whenever she wished. He gave her permission to drink from the vessels when she was thirsty. Ruth was pleased and asked, "Why are you so good to me, a stranger?" Boaz replied, "I have heard how good you have been to Naomi. How you have left your own country to come here. May the Lord bless you." Ruth told Boaz that these words had comforted her.

When mealtime came, Boaz invited Ruth to eat with them. As the reapers ate together Boaz gave her extra parched corn. As they returned to the fields, Boaz told the reapers to leave fall, on purpose, more barley than usual so Ruth could have plenty.

At the end of the day Ruth returned home to Naomi. She told her all that happened in the fields of Boaz. Naomi thanked the Lord for His care. She told Ruth that Boaz was a relative of hers. She felt it was good for Ruth to go to Boaz's fields to glean. Every day she gathered grain and every day Boaz watched her. He saw that she was good and soon he fell in love with her. Soon they were married. Everyone was happy. Naomi too was very happy but her happiest day came when God sent a baby boy to Ruth and Boaz. They named him Obed. The neighbors saw how happy Naomi was, she was like a nurse to the little boy. They all blessed the Lord that He had not left Naomi without a kinsman. They told her Ruth was better than seven sons.

This is a true love story. It tells of the great love Ruth had for mother-in-law and also for the God of Israel. Obed became the father of Jesse, who was the father of David. Look in *Matthew Chapter I* and find all these names listed, even down to the name of Jesus.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

Brothers To Visit Nigerian School

On March 12, 1974, Brothers John Ross, Joseph Bittinger and Gorie Ciaravino left the United States to attend the formal opening of the Nigerian Technical Secondary School.

The ceremonies will be held on March 30, 1974. Our Brothers are planning to stay in Nigeria for thirty days, visiting different branches of The Church.

Brothers John Ross and Joseph Bittinger are being sent by The Church, and Brother Gorie Ciaravino is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Area M.B.A.

Also planning to attend the ceremonies was Brother V. J. Lovalvo, but he did not receive the application back from Nigeria. Brother Lovalvo had planned to pay his own way for the trip. (Note: An inaccurate report has been repeated that Brother V. J. Lovalvo's trip was being defrayed by an individual. This was incorrect.)

Editor
The Gospel News

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT — continued

in vain, and washed my hands in innocency. For all the day long have I been plagued and chastened every morning. If I say, I will speak thus; I should offend against the generation of thy children. When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me; Until I went into the sanctuary of God, then understood I their end." (*Psalm 73:5-17.*)

A Great Civilization

The inhabitants of the Americas reached great heights of civilization. Their ruins bear mute witness of so great achievement. But when Columbus found them, they were naked and with very little culture. The writings of *Fourth Nephi, verses 24-25-26* tell the sad story. Lifted up in pride, wearing costly apparel, all manner of fine pearls and of the fine things of the world. They no longer kept their substance in common among them and became divided into classes.

When I was a missionary among the Muncey Indians, I saw some strongly built log cabins and houses. I asked Brother Nichols, the Chief, "Why can't you build these same houses?" He said, "Our great-grandfathers did build, but now we are satisfied with a hand-out from the government."

Are you "today" oriented? Are you an easy prey to the alluring glamour and glistening things about you? Are you strong enough to weigh the dangers that may follow; the easy innocent looking traps that may lead to a lasting destructive element? Have you thought of taking God into your confidence, have you asked God for counsel? Have you read the word of God today? Have you told someone about Jesus today? This will help you to be "celestial" oriented, heavenly minded, living forever, rather than for just today. This kind of attitude will supersede that of the Romans, the Cretians and even the people of today. This attitude is oriented on the wise counsel of Jesus. "Seek you, first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." (*Matthew 6:33.*)

There is a more gratifying feeling in helping another to know the way of true living than being self-centered. The wise old Indians say, "Teach our children the good way of everlasting life." "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." (*Malachi 4:5, 6*)

MUNCY NEWS 1973

by Tony Gerace

The year of 1973 has quickly come to an end. Once again we look back on a year filled with activities at the Muncey Mission.

Above all, I want to thank our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for His goodness and mercies and many blessings He bestowed on us during the past year.

It was indeed a blessing to be working with a group of Brothers and Sisters who are filled with so much enthusiasm for spreading the Gospel among the Seed of Joseph. Our group in Muncey, the membership and all who attend the mission, have made the year 1973 an outstanding one of fellowship and experiences.

We want to thank the Ohio District for our Labor Day Campout. It took a great deal of organizing and work on the part of the Ohio group to give us a wonderful fellowship and spiritual reunion. From time to time, we have large groups coming from Detroit and Windsor Branches. They are truly uplifting and edifying to our mission.

On one occasion, Brother Everett Spencer brought a group of young people from Detroit. It was prophesied that there would be three baptisms. Sure enough, before the day was over, three young Sisters made their covenant with The Lord. It was a glorious day with the wonderful manifestation of the Spirit of The Lord.

On December 16, Brother Sam and Sister Theresa Palermo donated their annual Christmas spaghetti dinner. We fed about seventy people, many coming back for seconds. There was plenty of food left over. We want to thank the Palermos for their wonderful generosity. Muncey looks forward to this spaghetti dinner so much!

The most outstanding event of the year was our summer Vacation Bible School. This type of activity had never been attempted before in Muncey. When Sister Mary Coppa first suggested this to me, I said, "Wonderful!" But when I went home that day, I was filled with apprehension, for I had no idea of what it was going to be like. We fasted and prayed that The Lord would direct us. An activity of this type is expensive, requires time and effort, as well as coordination and cooperation. It was necessary to make arrangements to live together at the mission for a whole week. My wife, daughter and I rented a trailer and parked it next to the church building. Brother and Sister Maness, Sister Sandra and their children set up a tent on the church grounds. About fifteen to twenty teachers, assistants and children used the apartment. Some slept on the floor in sleeping bags, some on mattresses and cots.

Sisters Mary Coppa and Elizabeth Gerace supervised the kitchen and organized the meals. They were assisted by Sisters Alvira Maness, Elizabeth Groesbeck and several others from New Jersey, namely: Sisters Rose Rizola, Sophie VanBree, and others. Everybody was eager to participate—the enthusiasm was great!

The children under six years of age were supervised by Sisters Janet Stienrock, Lana Rich, Sandra Maness, Mary VanBree, and Florence Rizola. The six to nine year old group was under the supervision of Sisters Elizabeth Gerace and Marlene Voltaggio. The ten and eleven year

olds were supervised by Sisters Judy Coppa and Margie D'Amico. The twelve to fifteen year olds were directed by Brother Gary Coppa, with assistance from Brothers John Straccia and Mike Kavasik. Brother Gary and Sister Judy Coppa organized and coordinated all of the arts and crafts. They had the responsibility of initiating the work and instructing the teachers. They did a tremendous job, and without their know-how and energy, it would have been a difficult task. The adult classes, about ten to twelve people, gathered together every morning for a discussion outside under the trees and enjoyed the beautiful summer morning. Teachers were Brothers John Gammichia and Tony Gerace.

Every morning we had ninety children or more. We began the schedule with prayer and singing. The song leaders had the children singing at the tops of their voices.

In the evenings we had preaching, prayer and testimony meetings for the adults. The Spirit of The Lord was with us, and we enjoyed wonderful fellowship. Many experiences were related, concerning how The Lord had directed and encouraged us. The entire school was a tremendous success, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Throughout the year we have had wonderful experiences. On one occasion, Brother Mario Coppa anointed a handkerchief and sent it to a child in the hospital. The following Sunday, the child was attending our Sunday School. Many have testified of the healing power of God, and the wonderful blessings we have received.

Another remarkable experience was related by our Lamanite Sister, Barbara Claus. One Sunday, for some personal reason, she decided not to go to church. So when the church station wagon arrived to pick her up, her husband, Brother Jesse, and grandson Freddie were ready to go. When they left, she went back to bed. About twelve o'clock she heard a knock on the door, and she heard a woman's voice say, "This is not the way to do it." Sister Barbara got up and looked around outside, but there was no one there. She went back to bed. Again she heard the knock on the door and the woman's voice said, "This is not the way to do it." This time Sister Barbara got up and decided to go to church. It would have taken her at least an hour to walk the distance. As she started to walk down the road, a car stopped. The driver was a woman. Sister Barbara got into the car, and the woman asked her where she was going. Sister Barbara said, "I'm going to church." The woman asked, "What church do you belong to?" Barbara replied, "I belong to the true church." The woman answered, "Well, I know where that church is." She brought Sister Barbara to the Muncey Mission and went on her way. Sister Barbara entered the church while we were having our afternoon fellowship meeting. When she had the opportunity, she arose and related this experience. We felt the Spirit of The Lord, as this was indeed a wonderful experience for all of us.

I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the Muncey Mission to thank everyone who has helped us in 1973. I want to personally thank the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Sunday School for their Christmas donation; G.M.B.A. for financial assistance for Vacation Bible School; the Michigan-Ontario Area M.B.A. for financial help; all those who assisted in packaging the food baskets at Christmas and collecting the Christmas gifts for the children. In addition, our Area M.B.A. has done a

great job in helping us with the Christmas project. Their help throughout the year is certainly appreciated. We want to give a special thanks to all our Brothers and Sisters of the Windsor Branch who took time off from their own work to come to Muncey and work on the building. Brother Bob Collison and his construction group with our friend Joe Elzby have done a tremendous job on the building, both inside and out. There is not enough space to thank everyone for what they have done, but we know that The Lord will bless all for their contribution that made the year a wonderful year at Muncey-town.

We are looking forward to a greater year in 1974. Pray for us that we may have a closer walk with God. Pray for the Ministry and those that assist us, that we may go forth by the gift and power of the Holy Spirit. May we see a greater manifestation of the power of the Spirit among the Seed of Joseph.

We hope to have another summer Vacation Bible School at Muncey; we would like to expand the lay missionary program and increase the activities on the reservation. We would also like to expand our facilities in the church building. All those interested and want to help, please contact Brother Milantoni or Brother Anthony Gerace.

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

San Diego, California Branch News

Greetings from the San Diego, California Branch to all our Brothers, Sisters and Friends throughout The Church. It seems that just yesterday we had a "watch" meeting for 1973, and now it is already 1974. Time truly does fly! One fact becomes more evident and soul-awakening—we are in the latter days prophesied so long ago. Our prayer is that God will be our Helper every day, as many things come about in this changing world that challenge the very survival of man. Only by staying close to Him and to our Redeemer Jesus Christ will men survive. Then come the beautiful things in store for the children of God.

In reminiscing over the last few months, much sorrow and affliction have touched many; on the other hand, God has surely blessed His people when they look to Him. Many of us think about tomorrow, but we know only God holds tomorrow. We have had some changes take place in our spiritual family here in San Diego. Some have left us to join their Heavenly Father... two of these were our beloved Sisters, Carmella Lombardo and Rose Turano. Both lived a long life, faithful to God and The Church. Although we miss them so much, we remember the beauty of their service to God until the end. May we be able to do the same also.

Some of our young people, like Sister Debra Liberto and Brother Michael Jackson, were engaged in the year 1973, and they plan to be married in 1974. Others, Sister Tina (Tucker) and Brother Gary Anderson were married in 1973. So life goes on. Some of our young ones are in the service of our country. Seeing Brother Bob Womack during the holidays and hearing his inspiring testi-

monies of God's love and care for him was a great joy to us. He has returned to the Canal Zone, Panama again and requests our prayers. May God bless all those in the service of our country.

Brother Steve DeCaro left us before the holidays for Redlake, Arizona, joining other young people there to work among the House of Israel. Brother Larry Watson, recently ordained an Elder, has resided there since September 1973. He requests our fervent prayers in his behalf and for all those there. We know God will bless the efforts of any one who desires to work for Him and His people.

Still reminiscing on the wonderful blessings, we recall when our three Brothers, Gorie Ciaravino, Joseph Bitteringer and Rocco Biscotti, left their homes and many pressing duties in the East to spend a few days with us here in the West. We here in San Diego wished their visit would never end, for their love and words of inspiration and exhortation will never be forgotten. But as we know, all things come to an end in this life. We appreciate their sacrifices and pray God's blessings on each one of them as they seek to help His Church.

There were three wonderful days in December too. Brother Joseph Lovalvo and his wife Sister Virginia visited with us. Brother Joseph spoke to us in three evening seminars devoted to the plan of God, from the creation to the present day, and the future of this Church. He spoke in length about the House of Israel and God's work to be done by this Church among them, the coming of the Choice Seer, the Peaceful Reign, the building of the New Jerusalem, and many more things.

To think of the great part this Church, our Church, plays in this plan, makes us realize how we should treasure this "pearl of great price," the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ in these latter days!

It has also been a blessing to see our Brother Chris Thomas in our midst. He suffered deep affliction for years, and we know he has been helped by The Lord. We give thanks and praise to God for the miracle He has performed in him.

It was nice to see Brother Jim and Sister Jeanette Velardi of Florida here during the holidays. We also enjoyed the visit of Brother Jim and Sister Catherine Aquilino of Detroit, Michigan. Hearing the testimonies and fellowshiping with these and other Brothers and Sisters and Friends who visit us from time to time refreshes our souls.

We extend an invitation to all who desire to visit with us here—you are welcome! Our prayer is that God will bless all who read this everywhere. May we seek to draw closer to The Lord and each other, so that as His will unfolds in this year of 1974 and in the future, His Church will be ready in whatsoever work lies ahead. God bless you all in this year of 1974 and always!

God's Blessings at Glassport

God has blessed the Glassport Branch during the last two months, for which the Glassport Saints are truly grateful.

On December 9, 1973, young Tammy Walker was blessed into The Church. She was born on August 28, 1973. She is the daughter of Lawrence and Patricia

Walker. Also blessed was Clifford Rolland Warner, the son of Clifford and Sharon Warner.

On December 16, 1973 Brother Samuel Kirschner visited our Branch. He spoke concerning how we should love God with our all, that we should soften our hearts and overlook one another's faults. He reminded us that we are Saints of the most high God, and that we should be willing to put on the whole armour of God.

A blessing was felt that day by all, but God continued to bless us as Mary Patello asked to be baptized. She was baptized into The Church by Brother Alma Nolfi and confirmed by Brother Samuel Kirschner.

Our prayers are that God will bless our new Sister Mary and her husband in their efforts from this day forward.

News from St. John, Kansas

Evangelistic meetings were conducted at the St. John, Kansas Mission from November 11 to November 17 by Brothers Joseph Bitteringer and Emmett Dale.

On Sunday, November 11, 1973, Brother David Robinson was ordained a Teacher by Brother Bitteringer, Brother Charles Robinson was ordained a Deacon by Brother Dale, and Brother Paul Robinson was ordained a Deacon by Brother Alex Robinson. A wonderful spirit of dedication was felt by the entire congregation. "God's Way Is the Best Way" was sung.

On December 16, 1973, Brother Joseph and Sister Vicky Calabrese, along with their son Joel worshipped with the St. John, Kansas Saints. During the service, Sister Maude Budge was ordained into the office of Deaconess.

News from Fort Pierce, Florida Branch

Having completed the year 1973 with a total of seven baptisms, the Brothers and Sisters of the Fort Pierce Branch continued to rejoice when three new converts were added to their fellowship in the first two weeks of 1974.

On January 6, 1974, Brother Ray and Sister Betty Eckert were baptized in Lake Ann at Lakewood Park by Brother Frank Rogolino. Brother Ray was confirmed by Frank Rogolino and Sister Betty was confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana.

On January 13, 1974 William Wittack requested baptism. Brother Bill was baptized by Brother V. James Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana.

Brother Wittack's baptism took place five days after the burial of his mother, Sister Emma Wittack, who had been baptized just two months previously, shortly after coming to Florida from New Jersey.

Since this article was written, two more converts were baptized in Tampa on Sunday, January 20, making a total of five baptisms to date for Fort Pierce in 1974. We are thankful to God for His great blessings upon us. Continue to remember us in prayer, that He may abide with us always.

Charles E. Smith,
Editor of Fort Pierce Branch

Lake Worth, Florida Branch News

On January 28th the Lake Worth Branch witnessed the baptisms of Brother Bill and Sister Sophie Terrill. They are the mother and stepfather of Sister Lettie Obradovich of Lake Worth and Sister Darlene Large of Fairless Hills, N. J. Both our Brother and Sister were baptized by Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. on a beautiful day in Florida.

Our regular meeting opened with an overflow crowd. We had visitors from various parts of the Church including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, and many regular friends. Brother Ernest Schultz, visiting Elder from Fort Pierce, opened our meeting using various Scriptures touching on the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Brother and Sister Terrill were then confirmed into the Church. Brother Bill was confirmed by Brother V. J. Lovalvo and Sister Sophie was confirmed by Brother Joseph Perri.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo then gave an inspiring sermon on obedience to the commands of God.

In our fellowship meeting many glorious testimonies were expressed by our Brothers and Sisters. We thank God for His goodness and mercy toward us.

Vanderbilt News

A month before Christmas the young people from our Branch visited the Nursing home where I work. The patients were very impressed with our people. A blind lady, named Myrtle Giffin, asked me several times if our Church would be in for the Christmas Holidays. She told me she could feel something different about our people.

Our Sunday School went to visit the Nursing home and when she heard we were there, she told me she had a poem for our Church people. We all gathered by her bed side and she told us this poem. We felt the presence of our Lord, and many tears flowed.

*Nearly two thousand years ago a little babe was born,
The shepherds followed the guiding star early Christmas morn.*

*The star hung over the stable where the Baby Jesus lay,
No crib for His bed, no pillow for His head,
Just a mound of sweet smelling hay.*

*The blessed Virgin Mother gazed in wonder at her child,
The little Baby Jesus, Holy infant tender and mild.*

*The angels up in Heaven sang their joyous themes,
today a little Babe is born, Jesus Christ our new born King.*

—Myrtle Giffin

Myrtle Giffin is a blind patient, but she is always happy. She can recite many, many poems which she makes up herself.

My husband and I went back to the Nursing home to tape the poem she recited for us. I hope you all enjoy it as much as the Brothers and Sisters and youth did in our Branch.

Sister Donna Fleming
Vanderbilt Branch Editor

New Member Received Into Perry, Ohio Branch

The Perry Branch experienced an extra blessing on Sunday, January 26, 1974. They rejoiced in the baptism of Vivian Jacqueline Elliott. Sister Elliott was baptized by Brother Eugene Kline and confirmed by Brother Rocco Biscotti, who spoke in the gift of tongues during his prayer.

Sister Peggy Jarvis experienced a vision of the face of God while Brother Kline immersed Sister Elliott in the waters.

It is always good news when a new convert is added to the fold.

AN EXPERIENCE

by Brother Hary Abrams, Jr.
Metuchen, N. J. Branch

One evening before retiring for the night, I knelt down beside my bed to pray. Suddenly I felt a little chilled as if a slight draft was moving. I knew there was no draft, because the apartment was not cold. Continuing with my prayer, I asked The Lord to strengthen my faith and help to increase my works, for faith without works is dead. Therefore, I asked The Lord to increase my works so that my faith would increase also.

Suddenly I heard a faint cry come from my wife; I felt like I was dead for a split second. At the same time, I felt a deadly evil cold in the room and all over me that made me quiver greatly. I felt as if Satan was ready to grab me by the neck from behind. I jumped up, terrified, and jumped on the bed. My sleeping wife gave a brief soft chuckle of a laugh; I thought she was dreaming. I began to shake her and as she awakened, she said to me, "What, what?" I told her Satan tried to get me, and she asked how I knew. I related what happened and said, "He's still in the room." I could not see him, but there was an evil presence I could feel in the room. She reminded me that we are taught to pray. As soon as she said that, I could feel him leave the room and go into the next room, the living room. I began to get myself together by this time. My wife knelt down to pray so I stood in the room watching her pray, sort of guarding her in case he should come back. After she was through, I ventured into the living room even though I still felt the evil presence in the apartment.

My eyes focused on an art statue on the coffee table in the center of the room. I felt that Satan seemed to be near the statue. I did not go near the statue but do not know why. I imagined Satan was near it, or in it. I went back into the bedroom and told my wife I was going to finish praying, which I did. When I finished, my wife told me that she felt something evil still in the room while I was praying. I ventured into the living room again, looked around and returned. We talked for a while to comfort each other and then went to bed.

I still thought about our experience and felt Satan might return. So, I closed my eyes while in bed and prayed, "Heavenly Father, please watch over us. Keep

Satan away from us and from our home. Please, Lord! Send us guardian angels to protect us this night and forever." And while I was praying I saw a vision. The heavens opened and two angels descended toward us. I finished my prayer the same time the vision ended. I opened my eyes and felt the angels in the room, one on my wife's side of the bed and one on mine. I felt the evil was gone.

I felt a wonderful blessing of security in the room. The Lord knew I was afraid and He answered my prayer. What a comfort! THIS WAS MY ANGEL STANDING NEXT TO ME. I went to sleep with a smile on my face. Thank The Lord for answering my prayer.

THE POWER OF GOD

Once again our trip to Tampa was a joyous and a prosperous one. The weather was balmy and sunny with beautiful blue skies. Upon our arrival, we learned of the desire of a young woman to be baptized. We all rejoiced in this happy occasion.

Accompanying Brother Lovalvo and his wife Sister Mary was Brother Timothy D. Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio, as well as other Brothers and Sisters from Fort Pierce. During the morning service, Brother Bucci spoke, using Romans 6:1-7 as his text. The sermon was a very inspiring one, concerning Peter's revelation of the Christ, and concerning the power of the Holy Ghost and how we come to love Jesus, and that there is no other name under heaven worthy of the name of Jesus. He also touched briefly on the Restoration and the American Indian, for the benefit of our visitors who had no knowledge of the Restoration.

During this service, there were approximately 22 adults in attendance, besides teenagers and children. We then sang "He Touched Me," one of Brother Bucci's favorites.

Brother V. James Lovalvo then spoke, stressing the need and importance of baptism. He told those gathered in the meeting that baptism is an acknowledgment of our sinful condition in the sight of God. He referred to Israel's sinful condition and how Joshua reproved them and said, "Choose ye this day whom ye shall serve . . ."

Following the service, we went to Davis Island for the baptism of our Sister. Again the power of God was manifested, for the new Sister's husband came dressed and ready to be baptized. How wonderful to have a spiritual life together! May God bless our new converts abundantly in the years ahead. Brother Joe Tucker confirmed Sister Nell and Brother Timothy Bucci confirmed Brother John Murray.

We were saddened to hear the news that Brother and Sister Turner are to be transferred to Dayton, Ohio by the U. S. Airforce, while Brother and Sister Murray are to be transferred to Texas. We pray that others may come under the sound of the Gospel to fill their empty place. We ask for prayers in their behalf and also for the work in Tampa. We urge those living in the area to support this wonderful work and attend the services there.

Services are held every first and third Sunday of the month at 2:00 P.M. at the Tampa Federal Savings and Loan Bank. We extend our thanks to all who labor in making this mission possible. May God bless one and all, and may His peace and love abide in you always.

Brother Lou Pandone

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Vincent to Frank and Rose Velasco of Hopelawn, New Jersey;

Eli Joseph to Timothy and Shiela Naro of Lorain, Ohio.

— WEDDINGS —

STALEY — ROSS

Brother Kenneth Lee Staley of the San Fernando Valley Branch and sister Sharon Kay Ross of the Aliquippa Branch were united in holy matrimony on February 16, 1974 at the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. The brother of the bride, Brother Donald Ross of Edison, New Jersey officiated at the wedding ceremony, assisted by Brother Paul Palmieri, uncle of the bride.

Sister Donna Amormino, vocal soloist from Detroit, Michigan, was accompanied at the organ by her husband, Brother Eugene.

The newlyweds will make their home in Canoga Park, California and will attend the San Fernando Valley Branch of The Church.

● OBITUARIES ●

HERBERT B. SEIGHMAN

Brother Herbert B. Seighman passed on to his heavenly reward on November 11, 1973 at the age of 71. He was a faithful member of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was baptized on July 28, 1958.

Left to mourn his passing are eleven children, over fifty grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Brothers James Moore and George Johnson officiated at the funeral services.

Our Branch will surely miss Brother Herb's example of attending every meeting and encouraging others to do likewise. He often read a verse of a hymn as his testimony and continually urged all of us to be active in serving The Lord.

MARTHA COWAN SEIGHMAN

Sister Martha Cowan Seighman, a member of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed from this life on December 25, 1973 at the age of 68. She was baptized with her husband on July 28, 1958.

Since the passing of Brother Herb, our Sister's only desire was to be where he was—in the Paradise of God. We feel that her prayers in this matter were answered and we saw an example of "Blessed Assurance."

Brother James Moore was in charge of the funeral services.

Many of us in the Monongahela Branch grew to love our late Brother Herb and sister Martha as spiritual parents in the Gospel. Their involvement in Church meetings and activities provided us younger ones with a greater desire and determination to be more active in our efforts to serve God. Our sincere prayer is that God would bless us with more confidence that His way is the best way.

FREDERICK ROSS COLLISON

Brother Frederick Ross Collison passed on to his eternal reward on December 27, 1973. He was a member of the Windsor, Ontario Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Collison was born on February 15, 1894 and was baptized August 16, 1934.

Left to mourn his loss are three sons, one daughter, twenty-two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Brother A. Henderson.

He was preceded in death by Brother Joe Collison, his son, who died fourteen years ago. Our Brother Frederick will be sadly missed.

MARGARET HEAPS

Funeral services were held for our beloved Sister Margaret Heaps on January 24th, 1974, officiated by our Brothers Alan and Otto Henderson. The Lord called our Sister to rest on Sunday afternoon, January 20th, after having served the Lord for over 58 years. She was faithful to her last day and loved the Lord and all of her brothers and sisters with all her heart. She is survived by six children, five of whom are in the church, 20 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and 1 brother. She will be missed by all of us.

CARMELLA LOMBARDO

Sister Carmella Lombardo passed from this world to her eternal home on August 17, 1973. She was a member of the San Diego, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Sister Carmella was born on May 20, 1883 and was baptized on June 23, 1940.

Surviving is her daughter, Sister Mary Trevulle. The funeral services were conducted by Brother Lou Ciccati at Cypress View Chapel.

She was a wonderful Sister, a source of inspiration and encouragement to all. We miss her very much.

ROSE TURANO

Sister Rose Turano, of the San Diego, California Branch went to meet her Redeemer in Paradise on October 7, 1973. She was born on September 8, 1887 and was baptized in September 1927.

She is survived by two sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Ben Ciccati and Brother John Azzinaro at Roger Mortuary Chapel.

Our Sister was unable to attend meeting for a long time, but was always staunch in the faith.

When God designs for His people extraordinary trials, He prepares for them extraordinary comforts.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

MARCH

8, 9 & 10—California District Conference in Bell.

—Florida District Conference.

9 & 10—*Pennsylvania District Conference in Aliquippa.

9 & 10—Ohio District Conference in Youngstown.

16 & 17—Atlantic Coast District Conference in Hopelawn.

—Michigan-Ontario District Conference

16—Ladies Circle in Youngstown.

APRIL

18*, 19*, 20* & 21*—General Church Conference.

MAY

18*—G.M.B.A.

All church organizations (General, District, G.M.B.A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in dates of their coming events for publication in The Gospel News 1974 Church Calendar . . . send information to: Joseph Ross, #2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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TO OUR READERS:



*May God Our Father,
His Risen Son, and the Holy Spirit
grant you many joys this Easter
and special blessings every day of your life!*

"HE IS RISEN"

"In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake; for the Angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the Angel answered and said unto the women, "Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here; for HE IS RISEN, as he said, Come, see the place where the Lord lay." (Matthew 28:1-6)

This is without doubt one of the grandest declarations as recorded in our *Holy Bible*.

SEASON OF REVIVAL

April is the month and spring is the season when the thoughts of many people seem to dwell increasingly on the story of our Lord's resurrection.

This is the season when our hopes and expectations are revived and strengthened. We seem to muster up a little more faith in God and renew our trust in His promises.

We are stirring reminded here of the following grand Article of Faith as set forth by The Church of Jesus Christ in the *Minister's Manual*, Section VII, page 5, article 15 which reads in part:

We believe in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Scriptures, which was a victory over the power of death, and a reintroduction of the principle of continuous or eternal existence; that this principle of continuous existence was not only attained for himself but for all Adam's race; the wicked as well as the righteous, by which the former will be held accountable for their conduct during this life and receive due punishment. Also, that the latter may be duly rewarded for their righteousness or good conduct. We also believe that the righteous that lived previous to the days of Jesus Christ expected their resurrection through, and as a direct result of Christ's resurrection; also, that there was a general resurrection of the righteous that lived before the days of Christ (in the flesh) immediately following Christ's resurrection. The Scriptures inform us, "That many of the Saints which were dead arose and appeared unto many."

This Scripture is taken from *Matthew 27:52,53*, and a similar Scripture is found in the *Book of Mormon, III Nephi 23:9,10,11* which records that this same notable event also took place in the land of America. We read that "many Saints arose from the dead, and appeared unto many, and ministered unto them."

* * *

Finally, the last stanza from Robert Lowry's grand hymn:

Low in the grave He lay — Jesus my Savior!
Waiting the coming day — Jesus my Lord!
Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His Saints to reign.
He Arose!
He Arose!
Hallelujah! Christ Arose!

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT TRAVELS TO OAK GLEN PINES CAMP

By Lucy DeCaro and Paul Liberto

Something "old", something "new", something borrowed", and something "beautiful." A wedding? No! It was the California District Conference on December 8 and 9, 1973.

Something "old" was the same excitement and fellowship that accompanies every conference. Something "new" was a full day of seminars for all age groups. Something "borrowed" was Oak Glen Pines Camp, a Christian camp near Yucaipa, California. And the something "beautiful" was the presence of the Spirit of God.

Many who attended arrived late Friday evening and settled into various lodges, cabins and dorms. They were welcomed by Brother Bob Watson, District President, who showed them to their quarters. Before retiring for the night, however, everyone gathered around the fireplace in the main lodge for snacks and fellowship.

Song And Prayer

Saturday morning's activities began with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. After breakfast everyone gathered in the chapel for songs and prayer before dismissing to seminar groups.

The children and young folk had arts and crafts. The men and women had individual seminars. The men's discussion dealt with fasting and prayer. The women's seminars were on the energy crisis and the role of officers' wives in The Church. The Elders also had their own discussion group. Later, seminars were offered for mixed groups. Topics presented were personal finance, witnessing, and children in relation to The Church. Many fine thoughts were brought forth. The seminars were coordinated by the District Ladies Circle and the Area MBA.

Saturday afternoon a combined meeting was held for all. Brother Joe Lovalvo spoke on how The Church should prepare itself for the work of the Lord.

Ready To Do God's Work

Saturday evening, the Area MBA presented an impromptu program. Participants included young, old and middle aged. The message brought forth was how all should be ready to do God's work at all times and how many are too involved in the things of the world. Many fine songs and wonderful thoughts made it a memorable evening.

The Sunday morning meeting was begun with much singing. Songs of praise rang out and filled the nearby woods. Brother Mark Randy was the principal speaker and warned that we must beware of the vain philosophies of man. He admonished all to follow the true doctrine of Christ. Brother Tom Liberto followed and warned of the consequences of disobeying God's will. He urged everyone to work for the Lord. While the ministry was speaking under the power of God, Sister Catherine Carneval arose and said, "Jesus is here, look and touch Him." After the sermons, the ministry began anointing many Brothers and Sisters, and the power of prayer was with them. As they were praying, Sister Benny Jones arose and said she saw a vision of Jesus walking up the aisle of the chapel telling the people to take their problems to the ministry. Jesus also presented a sceptre to the ministry. After this, many went forward and were prayed on by the ministry. Prayer was continued for over an hour.

When the conference was finally ended, most of those in attendance agreed that the weekend was much too short. For some, it was a time to renew old acquaintances and make new friends. For others, it was a time for relaxing beneath the deep blue sky and the tall green pines. But for all, it was a time to search one's soul and get closer to God.

MICHIGAN-ONTARIO EVANGELISTIC MEETING

On January 20, 1974 many Brothers, Sisters and friends braved the freezing rain that fell upon the city of Detroit to attend the Michigan-Ontario Evangelistic Meeting at Edsel Ford High School, Dearborn, Michigan. Pre-meeting singing included "Something Beautiful" sung by the mixed ensemble from Branch No. 1, a solo, "To Be Used of God" by Sister Loretta Lovalvo as well as congregational singing.

Visitors from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and California were in attendance.

Brother Joseph Milantoni spoke concerning the appearance of Jesus Christ upon the Land of America and how the people, after thrusting their hands into His side and feeling the prints of the nails in His feet exclaimed, "Hosanna! Blessed be the name of the Most High God!" *III Nephi 11:17.*

Brother Milantoni stated, "After suffering three days of darkness and the loss of their cities and loved ones the people felt secure at the feet of Jesus. This darkness can be likened unto the spiritual darkness of men before Jesus comes to lighten their minds."

From Darkness To Light

We have the opportunity to say as the people of Nephi said, "Hosanna! Blessed be the name of God." This praising is in respect to what Christ has done for us in our day that we have been turned from darkness to light. We can exult and rejoice in the name of Christ as Ammon boasted because of the many miracles that were wrought and many of his brethren were loosed from the pains of hell and were brought to "sing redeeming love."

Also Lehi was grateful to God for the precious fruit of the "Tree of Life" and tried to give it to his sons so that they could experience the same joy. We can also share that precious fruit with those around us.

Relationship Between Christ And Man

Brother Reno Bologna followed saying Christ came to establish a relationship with man. Sometimes we feel alien to God. However, Joseph Smith was able to feel the impact of Christ when he appeared to Joseph and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

Brother Anthony Lovalvo also spoke. When Jesus was born into the world, the angels praised and glorified God. While Christ was with His apostles He gave comfort and healed the sick providing security for those who believed in Him.

Brother Peter Capone, president of the District Evangelists, noted at the closing that the people in the land of America felt the security of the Lord when they felt the nail prints in His body.

After closing prayer by Brother Nick Pietrangelo, we convened in the cafeteria for a box luncheon and visited with one another.

The time spent was truly uplifting to all.

Brother Nephi DeMercurio
District Editor

DEAR BROTHERS, SISTERS AND FRIENDS — GREETINGS:

"I taught in the temple, having first obtained mine errand from the Lord." (*Jacob 1-17.*) The man who receives his errand from the Lord is moving with positive assurance. Have we received an errand? Is His spirit directing us in the way we ought to go? If not, why not? I am still on the road by the grace of God, most glorious. We had a miracle at Brother Christman's home. His daughter Cindy had a kidney infection, which caused severe pain. I prayed for her, but she continued to suffer though she was somewhat relieved. Toward the evening of the following day she was crying with pain. There was an agony in my heart for her, asking God why was she not healed. The Spirit of God spoke to me saying anoint her on the side where it pains. After talking to Brother Christman, I ordered Sister Pat to go into a bedroom and anoint her daughter on the side where it pains. The rest of us remained in the living room praying in our hearts. Suddenly as the oil touched her side the pain disappeared. There was gladness and joy in our heart and praises to God.

If this is not the love of God, what is it?

I held two meetings at the Papago Indians. We spent Sunday at Phoenix—showered by the blessing of God. I have been visiting the Saints daily. Tonight I am scheduled to meet with The Church of Christ, Temple Lot people. I am prayerful as usual, waiting on the Lord. May God be glorified in our midst. I will continue this after we come back tonight.

The meeting at the Church of Christ was well attended by both their people and ours.

I was well received, my subject was *Jacob 4th Chapter 14 verse*, "Wherefore, because of their blindness, which blindness came by looking beyond the mark."

After the meeting I was greeted by most of them and was asked publicly to return soon. I bless the Lord for this.

Thursday morning I boarded a bus to Pinetop—a long weary ride. I became a little tired on this trip as some of the roads are rough dirt.

My visit here was somewhat fruitful. Brother Isaac Smith took me visiting several of the Saints. One of the Sisters made me an Indian seven-point star tie of beads, a very nice one. Brothers Smith and Steven Safron are doing a good work here. Both God and His Church can be very happy for this work of love.

I had the opportunity to visit Brother and Sister John Bickerton. It was a blessing to visit them. We had prayer with them, Brother Safron and I. Let us pray for them.

We came to San Carlos Saturday afternoon and in spite of all the gas shortage, we had many of our people from as far away as San Fernando and San Diego, California. Brother and Sister Bob Watson were present and some Navajo Indians. We had two great meetings and one baptism. I can only tell you one hundredth part of the blessings of this journey. I believe that it was a profitable trip both to me and those I have visited.

The Navajo's that came with our young Brothers from Fort Defiance, Arizona are young people and they truly came for a blessing and they received a blessing. There

may be some of them baptized soon. As one fine young Navajo (whose name is Barbara) said, "When I get baptized I want you to be present." "Do not wait for me, make sure Jesus is there," I answered.

My heart is full of love as I write these last words to you. You see, the Brothers present at San Carlos met privately and agreed to buy my plane ticket, rather than have me go home on the bus, which would have taken me two days, so I am writing these last lines aboard the plane.

The young men met Sunday morning with me at 8:30 A.M. to have a session of prayer. A young visitor also came in, also Steven Dixon, Ben Ciccati and Isaac Smith, Evangelists. I am sure those present at this pre-meeting, moment of prayer agree this was an ecstasy of glory.

I love these my Sons in Christ. Please pray for San Carlos. I love you all in Christ Jesus.

I pray to see some of you at our forthcoming Conference.

Brother Mark Randy

MY TESTIMONY

By Angelina Ippolito

It all began one day when I asked my neighbor, Florence Benyola, if she would set my hair. She said yes, so I went to her home.

When I got there, we started to talk about The Bible. We were so involved in what we were saying and reading, that the Spirit of God came upon me and I started to cry. Florence said, "don't be afraid, God is here."

A few days later, she called me and asked if I wanted to go visit Sister Stella Arcuri. I said, "sure." When we arrived, Sister Stella began to bear her testimony. Later, Sister Jennie Schmitt walked in with her son, Jimmy, who recently had an operation on his leg. She told me that Brother Harry Abrams had a vision and he saw an angel standing by Jimmy's bed, which was proof that the Lord had been with him.

It was not long before I met Sister Florence's mother-in-law, Sister Ann Benyola. This was when I asked her when would I know this is the true Church. She told me to pray. Then, I related a dream I had the night before, about Brother Philip Arcuri. I had not met nor did I ever see Brother Philip. In my dream, all I saw was Brother Philip's face. Sister Ann said that was my answer! Why? Because, we are all one in the body of Christ.

Sister Florence asked me if I would like to attend Church with her. I agreed to go. A month later, my husband Joseph became curious; so he started to come to Church with me. The Spirit of Repentance came upon me approximately five months after my introduction to The Church. The Lord called me and I was baptized. I promised God that I would serve Him all the days of my life.

While God's ways may be in the deep seas of mysterious providence, He still guides by the unerring compass of His divine love!

PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania District met in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania on March 9, 1974 for their semi-annual conference. There was a very good representation of Elders and Teachers from the District.

The election of officers was conducted in the afternoon meeting:

Recommended for President — John Manes
First Counsellor — Russell Cadman
Second Counsellor — Fred Olexa
Secretary — Arthur Gehly
Assist. Secretaries — Harry Robinson, Paul Palmieri
Financial Secretary — Thomas Ross
Treasurer — Anthony Ross
Auditors — Paul Gehly, Carl McCartney
Librarian — Richard Scaglione
Assist. Librarian — Glenn Collins
Historian — Idris Martin
Editor — Robert Nicklow

The Sunday Service was held in the General Church Auditorium with a large number in attendance. The subject of "Faith" was the theme for the meeting. We thank God for the love and fellowship felt in our service.

G.M.B.A. CAMPOUT

The G.M.B.A. 1974 Campout welcomes all individuals to share a week of fellowship on August 24 to August 30. Due to the Energy Crisis, we will break camp on Friday, August 30, 1974. A week of living with the Saints has been likened unto a "glimpse of the peaceful reign". During this week we should cast off worldly habits generally frowned upon by the Church.

At some moment during this week, the Spirit of God will manifest itself. Let's not allow anything to rob us of a blessing.

Bring with you only things that will allow you to enjoy God's Holy Spirit; leave at home items that will hinder your spiritual growth.

Don't forget! Bring *Bible*, *Book of Mormon*, *Hymn Book* and a *Spirit of Revival*.

Camp Director
Brother Joe Carlini

A Note of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. for their financial help in sending me to Nigeria. I along with Brothers John Ross and Joseph Bittinger left to attend the official opening of our Technical Secondary School on March 30, 1974. I will also be visiting as many of our people as I can.

The Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. raised \$1000.00 in a very short period of time. May God bless them for their goodness to me.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino
General Church President

MY FIRST SMALL LESSON

My dear Brothers and Sisters, I would like to relate an experience I had when I was newly baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ.

It was early spring, almost two years ago. I was traveling on my way to Church. I heard what seemed like a voice say, "Return home and change your dress." I looked at my dress to see what was wrong. It had a high ruffled neck and long ruffled sleeves. I then noticed that this dress was shorter in length than the rest of my dresses.

After pondering a moment I asked my husband to turn the car around and take me back home so that I could change my dress. To say the least he was quite upset. For, after traveling some distance, we were only a few short blocks away from The Church. However, when he realized I was not going into The Church dressed as I was, he drove me home.

I was late for the meeting that Sunday, but I knew that day I had pleased the Lord.

I have since learned that a little moderation in all things, goes a very long way in pleasing our Heavenly Father.

I have not written this experience to cause anger or conflict. I only write these words because my Heavenly Father has repeatedly requested it of me. May God be with you all.

Sister Diana Thompson
Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1

My Praise

I want to praise my Lord you see,
For all the blessings He's bestowed on me.

He's done so much for my sinful soul,
I don't know why He's made me so whole.

I want some work to do for Him,
For He has found me in the world of sin.

I know He has promised me eternal life,
And that is why I ended my strife.

For if you ask you shall receive,
More blessings and goodness for eternity.

And now I know of an assurity,
That He, my Lord, has truly loved me.

I have a path in life to walk,
Of all the things that Christ has taught.

I know that Satan is here to pull me down,
But I know my Lord is always around.

He is all-knowing and answers prayers,
For the Lord will surely chase away your cares.

So I ask you all to pray for me,
That at the end of my life my Savior I'll see.

And this is the goal of all who serve,
The most precious gift a person can deserve.

By Sister Janet Mancini

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

PERFECTION

By BROTHER EUGENE KLINE

(Guest Editorialist)

"PERFECTION"

Webster says to have something without blemish or spot.

I have never met an individual who is perfect. The Son of God was the one perfect man who walked upon the face of the earth. If we would examine His life, we would see that He was never a failure no matter what He attempted to do. He always accomplished His goals. When He cursed the fig tree, it died. When He cast out the demons, they left never to return. Even when He called Lazarus from the grave the impossible was accomplished.

Mark 7:37 says, "He has done all things well." God is not confusion but with Him all is orderliness. He set down a way of life for His children and if we can follow in the footsteps of His only begotten Son, we shall attain the perfection that we see in Christ. He does not expect us to become perfect the moment we accept Him but He does expect us to strive with all our energy and to put Him first in our life.

Many say I can't go to Church because I have to do this or that. Ask yourself the question, "Am I putting God first in my life or is there other things that are first and God second?" Remember God is a jealous God and expects us not only to say we love Him with our lips but show Him with our actions.

We are living in perilous times and ought to examine our stature to see if we measure up to the fullness of the stature of Christ, 4th Ephesians.

It tells us in II Nephi, 28 Chapter: "And there shall be many which shall say eat, drink and be merry, nevertheless fear God. He will justify in committing a little sin yea lie a little, take advantage of one because of his words, dig a pit for thy neighbor. There is no harm in this and do all these things for tomorrow we die. And if we're guilty God will beat us with few stripes and at last we shall be saved in His kingdom."

In the 16th verse he says: "Woe unto them that turn aside the just for a thing of naught for they shall perish."

It would certainly be a shame for us to struggle all our life with one foot in the Gospel and the other in the world only to be turned away in the next life. Jesus said, "It would be better not to have put our hand to the plow than to turn back when once we have started." Paul said, "I fear lest I become a cast-away." If it was possible for him to fail, what about you?

Think about it and examine yourself and then if you see you are not perfect, renew your promise and covenant with God and He will once again bless you.

The Perry Newsletter



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

King Lamoni And Ammon

Dear Girls and Boys,

This month we have another story from the *Book of Mormon* about a king who learned about God in a very miraculous way.

There was a Nephite named Ammon who went to the land of Ishmael. The people here did not follow the teachings of the Lord. As Ammon entered the land, the Lamanites took him and bound him. It was their custom to bind all the Nephites and take them before their king. The king, whose name was Lamoni, would slay them or cast them out of the land. Ammon was taken before the king and asked if he desired to live there among the Lamanites or return to his own country. Ammon replied, "I wish to live here for awhile, maybe until I die." This pleased the king. He ordered Ammon's bands removed and made him his servant.

Ammon, with other servants, watched the king's flocks. Some of the Lamanites who were watering their flocks met Ammon. They began to scatter the king's flocks. The king's servants were worried for fear the king would slay them. Ammon thought this was his opportunity to win favor with them and maybe they would believe him. Ammon ordered the servants to gather their flocks together. He took his sling and stones and with mighty power began to throw them at these wicked men. They were surprised at his great strength but they thought they could slay Ammon. Six of the Lamanites fell and others were driven back. The king's servants saw the great strength of Ammon and hurried to tell the king. King Lamoni said, "Surely this is more than a man." The Lamanites started to call Ammon the Great Spirit. King Lamoni thought Ammon must be the Great Spirit and he remembered his father had taught him these things.

The king called Ammon to him. Ammon asked, "What wilt thou that I should do for thee, O King?" An hour passed before the king could speak because he did not know what to say. Ammon asked again, "What do you desire of me?" Still the king did not answer. Ammon was filled with the Spirit of God and he knew the king's thoughts. He said, "Behold, I am a man and your servant. Whatever you desire of me, I will do." The king was amazed that Ammon knew his thoughts. Then he spoke, "Who are you? Are you the Great Spirit that knows all things?" Ammon replied, "I am not." Then he began to explain many things. He told the king, the Great Spirit was God who made the heaven and the earth and he looks down on all His children and knows their hearts. Lamoni asked, "Are you sent from God?" Ammon said, "I am a man, created after the image of God. I am called by His Holy Spirit to teach these things unto this people." He explained about Lehi who left Jerusalem and came to

America, the Promised Land, and that Christ would come to America. Many, many wonderful things he told Lamoni.

The king believed Ammon and began to cry unto God, "O God have mercy. The mercy you had for the people of Nephi have for me and my people." As he said this, a very surprising thing happened. King Lamoni fell to the earth as if he were dead. His servants took him to his wife and they laid him upon the bed. For two days and two nights he lay there as if dead. His family mourned for him. It was a very sad time. When they were preparing to bury the king, the queen heard about Ammon. She sent for him and said, "The king's servants say you are a prophet of the Holy God and have great power. If this be true, go in and see my husband. He has been on his bed two days and nights as if dead. Some say he is dead, others he is not. As for me I do not know." Ammon knew the king was not dead but was under the power of God. He went in to see the king and said, "The king is not dead but sleepeth. Tomorrow he shall rise again. Do not bury him. Do you believe this?" She answered, "Yes, I believe." She was blessed for her great faith and watched over the king until the next day.

Just as Ammon said, the next day the king arose. He stretched forth his hand to the queen and said, "Blessed be the name of God. I have seen my Redeemer." Through this great experience the king, the queen and many of the servants were converted. Their hearts were changed and they were baptized. Angels were seen among them. But there were others who would not listen and therefore they went on their way.

If you would like to read more of this experience read in the *Book of Alma*, Chapter 19. The account of Abish, the queen's servant, is interesting too.

Next month I will tell you a story about another king in America. He was a wicked king and taxed the people heavily.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

At Day's End

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?
Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?
The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word to you?
Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,

That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said;
Does the man whose hopes are fading, now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or sorely spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?
As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,

"You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?"

— John Hall

A MEMORIAL TO MY FATHER

This is a memorial to my father, Brother Ross Collison, who passed away on the 27th of December, 1973. It was just 14 years to the day of the burial of my brother Joe. My dad would have been 80 years old this February 15th, if he had lived.

When I think back to 1934 when my father and mother and I embraced this Gospel, this was the beginning of a new life for me.

Brother Gerace was instrumental in bringing the Gospel to us. He met my dad on the street and stopped him and told him his testimony. He arranged for a trip to Muncey. It was feet washing that Sunday and he was deeply impressed with the humble and loving spirit that was displayed.

When he returned home and began to pray unto the Lord, he had an experience showing him the church he was raised in and this Church, and what he must do. He was the first Gentile baptized in Canada. Our doors were open and we held meetings in our home. For three years there were only six members, Brother and Sister Gerace, Dad, Mother and myself and Sister Winer.

In the last few years of his life when he was no longer able to take care of himself, Brother Robert Collison and Sister Wilda welcomed him in their home. He still was able to enjoy the fellowship of his Brothers and Sisters when they came to visit him. Surely the Lord was merciful in calling him home after a lengthy illness.

The family is very thankful for the kindness and consideration shown toward them by all the Brothers and Sisters.

Sister Ilene Collison Smith

Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

On Friday, February 1, 1974, the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch, Sunday School, M.B.A. and Ladies Circle honored Sister Sharon (Ross) Staley who has moved to the California District. Remarks were made by the heads of each organization, each wishing the best for Sharon and expressing their gratitude for her support. She was presented with a gift of appreciation. Sharon expressed her thanks and gave her testimony stating she was happy that she was in the Church and that Aliquippa would always be home to her. A pot luck supper was then held in the basement of the Branch.

A Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your prayers, cards and visits. It was thoughtful and very much appreciated.

My cast was removed four weeks earlier than scheduled and I'm sure that if it wasn't for the prayers of the Saints this would not have been.

I thank God that all went well and that no further complications set in. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Sister Dottie Benyola

AUNT DEE NOW 102

Mrs. Elizabeth Davidson of West Elizabeth celebrated her 102nd birthday Saturday, February 16 in her home with her many friends and relatives. She is the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Worrall Cadman who came to the United States from England in 1856.

Mrs. Davidson was born February 16, 1872, in a log house, on the Mose Thompson farm in Jefferson Township, now known as Jefferson Boro. She was the youngest girl in a family of twelve children. She is the sister of the late William and Alma Cadman of Monongahela, Pa.

This remarkable lady has enjoyed traveling throughout the States and has also visited England. She was a nurse-companion, for many years to Miss Anna Scott of Elizabeth. They made their home in Florida and North Carolina. "Aunt Dee" as she is known to her family and friends worked as a Practical Nurse. She still maintains her own apartment in West Elizabeth and enjoys excellent health. She is an inspiration to all who know her. She is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ.

After the death of Miss Scott she married the late William Davidson of McKeesport. She has two step-daughters, Mrs. Ada Griffiths and Mrs. Garnetta Pinetta of McKeesport, two step-sons, James of McKeesport and Larry of Lorain, Ohio. Mrs. Davidson has three nieces residing in Monongahela. They are Mrs. Sara Vancik, Mrs. Grace Landrey and Mrs. Jean Cattaneo.

(Taken from local newspaper).

50th Anniversary

Brother Antonio and Sister Raffaella DiFalco of Detroit, Michigan have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

They have 10 children, 34 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Brother and Sister DiFalco were married on January 28, 1924. However this year, they celebrated their anniversary early so that the entire family might be present.

A dinner was held on September 25, 1973. There were about 500, both family and friends, who attended the occasion.

May the Lord bless them in their 50th year together.

LIFE'S RECIPE

- 1 cup of good thoughts
- 1 cup of kind deeds
- 1 cup of consideration for others
- 2 cups of sacrifice for others
- 3 cups of forgiveness
- 2 cups of well beaten faults

Mix these thoroughly and add tears of joy and sorrow and sympathy for others. Flavor with little gifts of love and kindly service. Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith to lighten other ingredients and raise the texture to great height of Christian living. After pouring all this into your daily life, bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve it with a smile.

Helen Dusek

THE CHOICE SEER

By William H. Cadman

Many people are in error in believing that Joseph Smith was the Choice Seer spoken of in *Second Nephi*, Chapter 3.

Joseph Smith could not have been this Choice Seer, because he is to be of the seed of Joseph, (of Egypt) and the seed of Lehi, who is a descendant of Joseph who was sold into Egypt, which Lehi came over to this land (America) from Jerusalem 600 years B.C.—The American Indians (Lamanites) being of the remnant of that seed. To make it plainer, the man who is not learned and spoken of in *Second Nephi* 27:19, refers to Joseph Smith; But the Choice Seer spoken of in *Second Nephi* Chapter 3 is another man, and he is to come from the fruit of the loins of Joseph of Egypt, that seed being the Branch which was broken off at Jerusalem, to whom this land (America) was consecrated for their inheritance forever—being Lehi and his seed; Lehi's son Joseph who received this blessing from his father Lehi, that his seed should not utterly be destroyed; for out of his (Lehi's son Joseph) seed which should not all be destroyed (American Indians), should come this Choice Seer. It is very plain that this Seer is to come from the Lamanites (or Indians), and Joseph Smith is not of that seed. The name of that Seer will be Joseph, after Joseph of Egypt, and his fathers name is to be Joseph. He is to translate sealed records yet to come forth. "And not to the bringing forth my word only, saith the Lord, but to the CONVINCING them of my word." Joseph Smith did not convince the Lamanites.

Like Unto Moses

This Choice Seer is to convince the Lamanites (Indians) in person, and to do a great work among them (his brethren) in person. It can plainly be seen by reading the two passages referred to, that "the man who is not learned" is a different man from this Choice Seer. There is no identity between the two persons referred to in the two passages. In one passage, it calls the person referred to "the man that is not learned:" while in the other, the person referred to is a Choice Seer, who shall be great and mighty like unto Moses; and the whole chapter is devoted to this Seer and to Moses. We will now analyze this chapter (*Second Nephi* 3) concerning the Choice Seer.

It is plain to be seen that the whole chapter refers to this one Choice Seer and to Moses. Some of the Latter Day Saints have interpreted "one mighty" to arise from the Lamanites. A clause in the last part of the chapter makes it very plain that the Choice Seer spoken of all through the chapter, is to come from the Lamanites. It is also very plain that the last part of this chapter refers to this same Choice Seer. Lehi in making his conclusion and closing remarks concerning his sons (Joseph's) blessing; which blessing can be seen in the first part of the chapter, the blessing being this; that his Joseph's seed would not all be destroyed, for out of his seed should arise one mighty, who would be a Choice Seer. "And now, behold, my son Joseph, after this manner did my father of old (Joseph of Egypt) prophesy, Wherefore, because of this covenant thou art blessed; for thy (Lehi's son Joseph) seed shall not be destroyed, for they shall hearken unto the words of the book. And there shall rise up ONE MIGHTY among them (this same Choice Seer) who shall

do much good, both in word and in deed, being an instrument in the hands of God, with exceeding faith, to work mighty wonders, and do that thing which is GREAT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD." Before this it says he shall be GREAT IN MINE EYES. Why is it that all Latter Day Saints cannot see this? The closing of this chapter is only a rehearsal and conclusion about this same Choice Seer.

Lehi Blesses His Son

This whole chapter treats on the one matter; a blessing is pronounced upon Lehi's son Joseph, because a Great Seer is to be of his seed, which should not all be destroyed. That seed being a "branch which was to be broken off" at Jerusalem, to whom this land (America) was consecrated for their inheritance. In verse 5, Lehi makes it plain that Joseph (of Egypt) was not referring to the Messiah, but to a branch which was to be broken off, nevertheless to be remembered in the covenants of the Lord, that the Messiah should be made manifest unto them in the latter days in the spirit power, unto the bringing of them out of darkness into light; out of hidden darkness and out of captivity unto freedom. "Is it not plain that the Choice Seer is to come from the seed of Lehi via his son Joseph? They are the people (Lamanites) here referred to. "For Joseph (of Egypt) truly testified, saying, a Seer shall the Lord my God raise up, who shall be a Choice Seer unto the fruit of my loins." This is the testimony or prophecy of Joseph (of Egypt) which Lehi refers to in his closing remarks in verses 22, 23, 24. "And now, behold, my son Joseph, (Lehi speaking to his son) after this manner did my father of old prophesy. Wherefore because of this covenant thou art blessed; for thy seed shall not be destroyed, for they shall hearken unto the words of the book; and there shall rise up ONE MIGHTY among them" — In other words, the Choice Seer shall rise up from the American Indians and do much good.

Again, it says this Choice Seer will do only according to the commandments of God. He will be faithful and break none of God's Commandments. This alone proves that Joseph Smith was not the Choice Seer. In a revelation given to him while he was translating, the Lord said, "Behold how oft have you transgressed the commandments and laws of God, and have gone on in the persuasions of men—if thou art not aware thou wilt fall." May I ask, does this agree with the description of the Choice Seer? It certainly does not. This alone should satisfy any one, and will satisfy any one who is not trusting in an arm of flesh, that Joseph Smith was not the Choice Seer.

Again, it can be seen from this point that Joseph Smith was not this Great Seer. He is to come from the SEED that shall write the word of the Lord! and this is the Nephite seed. It says "But a Seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins;— wherefore, the fruit of thy loins (from which the Seer is to be raised up) shall write; (the Nephite records), and the fruit of the loins of Judah shall write." So we again see that the Choice Seer is to come from the Nephite or Lamanites seed.

The same can be seen from a clause which follows in this connection: "and bringing them to the knowledge of their fathers in the latter days."

The same can be seen from this clause which says, "He shall do a work for the fruit of thy loins. HIS

BRETHREN, which shall be of great worth unto them, even to the bringing of them to the knowledge of the covenants which I have made with thy fathers." From this we see that his brethren are to be the Lamanites. Then he (the Choice Seer) is to be of the Lamanites seed.

This scripture also says: that they who seek to destroy this Choice Seer shall be confounded. I beg leave to draw attention to the fact that those who sought to destroy Joseph Smith were not confounded, but they destroyed him.

A Deliverer

To all that believe Joseph Smith was the Choice Seer you surely have little or NO conception of the great work that is to be done by him. The Church of Jesus Christ properly maintains that Joseph Smith was of Gentile extraction and of such the *Book of Mormon* was to come forth. We also believe that the Shepherd spoken of in *Genesis* 49:24 is this Choice Seer that is yet to arise. Christ the Shepherd, came from Judah. We also believe the Choice Seer to be the person referred to in *Romans* 11:26, as the Deliverer that shall come out of Zion (America) and turn away ungodliness from Jacob. He shall deliver the seed of Joseph (the Indians from Gentile oppression). Neither one of these two scriptures has reference to Christ, which is plain to be seen by reading the context. In conclusion, The Church of Jesus Christ takes a stand as follows; The Choice Seer is to come from the seed of Lehi. Joseph Smith was not of that seed. Second: He is to convince the Lamanites in person, Joseph Smith did not. Third: His tongue will not be loosed that he can speak much, and the Lord is to raise up a spokesman for him. Joseph Smith was a good speaker. Fourth: Those who seek to destroy the Choice Seer will be confounded. Joseph Smith was slain by a mob in June 1844. Fifth: The Choice Seer will be faithful in all things, while it is evident that Joseph Smith fell short from the beginning. To make the position of The Church of Jesus Christ clear, we proclaim that the unlearned man referred to in *Isaiah* 29:12 was Joseph Smith and of Gentile extraction, while the Choice Seer referred to in *Second Nephi third chapter*, is another man, and a descendant of Lehi, him being a descendant of Joseph who was sold into Egypt by his brethren.

Ordination At Glassport

On Sunday, February 3, 1974 the Spirit of God was evident in our Branch. Brother Alfred Nolfi was ordained a Teacher.

Brother Alma Nolfi related a dream he had had concerning Brother Alfred's ordination. Brother Larry Ali, a Teacher in our Branch, washed Brother Alfred's feet. Brother John Ali ordained him. The gift of tongues was spoken and a confirming spirit was felt.

We pray that God will bless Brother Alfred in his work that he may be an asset to our Branch.

Robin Nicklow
Branch Editor

Remember, you cannot "run with the devil now" and expect to "reign with the Lord later."

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

GREETINGS FROM OKLAHOMA

Greetings from Oklahoma. My children Louie, Sara and I are now living among the Seed of Joseph. There are no reservations here but many Indians.

Brother Bill is still working in Cleveland, Ohio until he can retire in late August.

The past two summers we have spent our vacation in the Anadarko, Oklahoma area. This is the area that Brother Dom Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio has often visited. We have made friends with the Indians whom Brother Bucci has visited.

This past summer Brother Alex Robinson and family of St. John, Kansas came to visit with us and also became acquainted with many of our Indian friends. They are from the Kiowa, Apache, Missouri-Oteo tribes.

February 18, 1974, having our worldly goods packed in a truck we journeyed to this rich area. We had no trouble buying gasoline for the truck and car. We arrived at Swan Lake on February 20th. It is a small area on the northwestern corner of Fort Cobb Reservoir. We are located about 30 miles west of Anadarko.

If you are in the area and care to visit with us, we are located west of Oklahoma City on Route 40. Travel to Route 281 then turn south to Binger, then you will turn west on Route 152 and travel west until you come to a small sign that says (Swan Lake Baptist Church) turn south again until you come to a small store called Matie's. Here you can inquire as to our exact location.

We have a beautiful house on top of the hill overlooking Fort Cobb Reservoir.

With our family in two states and Brother Bill in Cleveland, Ohio we will need your prayers. I pray that my life I live here will have a good reflection on The Church.

I plan to attend church in St. John, Kansas about 250 miles away where Brother Alex Robinson is Presiding Elder or I will attend church in Richardson, Texas about 225 miles away, where Brother George Benyola is the Elder in charge.

Remember us in your prayers.

Sister Evelyn Crall
Route No. 3
Hydro, Oklahoma 73048

Fairless Hills Mission

Countless prayers are being answered. There is wonderful news from Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania. After several years of laboring, the "first" converts were baptized in their immediate vicinity! Previously, the baptisms occurred in New Jersey.

The "first" convert is Brother Gary Foster. He was introduced to The Restored Gospel a few months ago by Brother Horace Connors. Brother Connors' personal testimony and missionary zeal prompted Brother Gary to attend services. Brother Gary was baptized on January 6, 1974 by Brother Samuel Dell and confirmed by Brother August D'Orazio. Brother D'Orazio introduced the ser-

vice. His text was from 3 Nephi concerning Christ's visit to America. The topic related how the multitude felt the crucifixion wounds. Christ died that we might live. Brother Dell supplemented the theme by confirming the need for baptism.

Two weeks later, January 20, in Trenton, we were blessed by witnessing the baptisms of Brother Jim and Sister Nancy Speck. Brother Samuel Dell baptized Brother Jim and Sister Nancy. They were confirmed as follows: Sister Nancy by Brother Dominick Rose; Brother Jim by Brother Dell. The Speck family met The Church through the testimony and effort of Sister Arlene Risola. Brother Rose opened the meeting and his remarks concerned faith, repentance and baptism. The blessings did not stop! The Speck children, Susan and Jim, were blessed in The Church during the service. Though the weather was extremely cold, the warmth from the Spirit of God was evident the entire day.

Meetings are conducted in the home of Brother Samuel and Sister Josephine Dell. Several attend, baptized and unbaptized. Efforts are underway to purchase land in Fairless Hills. The ultimate goal is to erect a building, dedicated to God and Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that God will open the avenue that many might hear, accept and obey The Restored Gospel here and everywhere. Please remember us.

Sister Mary Jane Cervone

Renewals At Roscoe Mission

The Brothers and Sisters in Roscoe Mission again rejoice to have two sisters return to the fold and being renewed to fellowship.

On November 12, 1973, Brothers Gasper Karelli, B. J. Martin and John Kendall went to visit and to renew Sister June Shriner back into fellowship. Brother Karelli renewed our Sister back into fellowship by the laying on of hands. The Lord's Supper was passed and our Brothers had a wonderful visit with Sister June and her family. Our Sister has been sick for a very long time and was anointed at this time. She stated her only desire is to get strong and well enough to come to Church.

On January 23, 1974, a meeting was held in the home of Sister Ruth Lytle. There were about fifteen Brothers, Sisters and friends present. Brother Fred O'Lexa opened our meeting, speaking on the 15th Chapter of St. Luke, beginning with the 16th verse concerning the parable of counting the cost. Brother Kendall followed and the spirit prevailed and all present received a blessing as our Brothers spoke. Brother Fred O'Lexa and John Kendall then renewed our Sister Ruth back into fellowship in which Brother Fred O'Lexa officiated.

Sacrament was given to all the Brothers and Sisters who were present. We were blessed by the Spirit in testimonies, exhortation and the singing of hymns. We stayed a while after the meeting to sing happy birthday to Sister Ruth and were served refreshments. We had a wonderful fellowship together. We thank God for these blessings and welcome our Sisters back with us again with joy in our hearts. Praise God.

Brother John Kendall
Roscoe Mission

Aliquippa Branch Bids Brother John Ross Godspeed to Nigeria

On Monday, March 11, 1974, the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch held a special meeting honoring Brother John Ross who was leaving for Nigeria, Africa, the next day. The Imperial, Pennsylvania and the McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branches were invited and were well represented along with many friends.

The Elders, in their speaking, trust that the Lord will bless and strengthen Brother John in his travels, for surely he must have a great love for the people in Nigeria being that this is his fifth trip.

Brother John told of an experience he had in 1954. He had a dream that he would be going to a foreign land on missionary work. He related that on one of his visits to Nigeria he had an infected finger and witnessed the infection disappearing, thanks to God. He told how he taught the people the doctrine of Christ. He described the Brothers and Sisters of Nigeria as humble, obedient, and willing to learn. He prays that upon his return he will have a good report to tell.

Sister Patricia Giannetti sang a most appropriate hymn, "I WILL PILOT THEE".

The Aliquippa Branch presented Brother John with an attache case as a going away gift.

Refreshments were served in the church basement.

Blessings At Bell, California

Several weeks ago Brother Jim Scalise, the Presiding Elder of Bell Branch, told us he had received notice that Brother Tony Picciuto and Brother Leonard Lovalvo planned to visit our branch to have meetings with us on Saturday night, January 19 and Sunday morning, January 20. This was very welcome news to us as Bell is a small branch.

The meeting on Saturday began with a lively and lengthy congregational songfest. Brother Leonard opened the meeting using "God's Love" as his subject. He reminded us of our Heavenly Father's great sacrifice for us. He asked us all to place ourselves in this same position and examine our hearts and reactions should we be called upon to make so great a sacrifice of a loved one. Brother Tony continued on this same theme.

Sunday's meeting found us gathered together with Saints from all over the California district as we were the night before and still blending our voices in praise to God. These meetings seemed to be emphasized by, as Brother Tony so aptly put it, the ministry of song.

Brother Picciuto opened Sunday's meeting and rehearsed to us a brief summary of the birth and life of Jesus. He read to us from the Beatitudes telling us how Christ started his ministry with blessings. He went on to remind us of the Golden Rule and brought it home to us by telling us to ask ourselves how we really feel about the people around us in our daily life.

Brother Leonard followed speaking to us of peace. That Jesus brought peace and we believe in a literal time of peace here on this land. Brother Leonard also gave us a personal challenge to ask ourselves if we all still felt the beautiful love in our hearts as we did when we came

out of the waters of baptism. God's message preached to us this day was to live a truly transformed life and to keep alive in the spirit that this change might shine through us for all the world to see.

Brother Jim Scalise was very touched with the blessings of God and told us he felt his cup was really full this day. Little did he know his cup would be full to overflowing before the day was finished.

Brother Tony and Sister Betty Capone's daughter, Nancy, had brought her infant son to be blessed and Brother Jim was greatly moved as he asked the blessing on little Jason Miltier who is his great nephew.

We all felt the strong evidence of the spirit of God in our midst and many asked to be anointed and prayed for amidst who was Brother Edmond Buccellato and his wife who asked for prayer for their young son who has a serious blood disease. As each one had hands laid upon them the spirit seemed to swell within us all until Brother Jim's daughter-in-law, Sandy Scalise sobbed brokenheartedly. Brother Jim put his arm around her to help her come forward and she asked to be baptized. Sister Sandy had been seeking and questioning for many months and God answered all her questions this day.

Sister Harriet Meo rose to her feet and said she had had a vision as the baby was being blessed. God had shown her many of the children of the Saints being called into The Church in a definite pattern and grouping.

Brother Allen Henderson, visiting here from Windsor, spoke a few words of testimony. His testimony brings precious memories to me for it was during his testimony God touched my heart many years ago.

This was a glorious meeting and the entire congregation formed a huge circle as we dismissed singing "Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow."

Brother Dwayne Jordan opened our afternoon meeting and he besought us to make an effort to touch the heart of God. We sang "There's a New Name Written Down in Glory" as our Sister took the chair to be confirmed by Brother Mark Randy.

Sister Betty Capone
Bell Branch Editor

Windsor, Ontario Branch Welcomes Another Soul to the Fold

The Windsor Branch experienced an extra blessing on Sunday, February 3, 1974. The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Marie Curtis.

Brother Ken Wright baptized Sister Marie and Brother Don Collison confirmed her.

This is uplifting to the Windsor Saints and good news to the Church everywhere.

May God bless our new Sister and use her instrumentally among the Saints and friends.

Greensburg Branch News

On Sunday, February 3, 1974, the Greensburg Branch was visited by Brother and Sister Joseph Bittinger, Brother and Sister James Moore, and several Sisters from the former West Elizabeth Branch. Often times one is promp-

ted to note visitors coming to the various Branches because of an outstanding event of the day, such as a baptism, speaking of tongues, a vision, etc.; however, this report of Branch news contains no note of baptism, gift of tongues, visions, etc.; but rather it reports of something much greater—the presence of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. As our visiting Brothers and Sisters told of their experiences and of the ways God has blessed them, the Spirit of God descended upon the other members at the meeting. Although time did not permit all the Brothers and Sisters to testify, their countenances expressed their testimonies.

As I thought about this meeting, it was exactly like so many of the other meetings we have had. When you go to The Church of Jesus Christ and find the Spirit of Jesus Christ there, what more could you ask for. Without this Spirit, there could be no baptisms, gift of tongues, visions, miracles, etc. I am thankful today that I have recognized the importance of going to God's house and feeling His Presence.

In conclusion, I would like to quote Brother George Johnson as he summed up this particular Sunday's meeting because it is descriptive of many of our meetings: "This is The Church of Jesus Christ in action."

Brother Joseph Saeli
Branch Editor

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Anglia Denise to Samuel David and Alberta Rucker of Columbus, Ohio;

Laura Ann to Richard and Lorraine Thomas of Branch No. 1 Detroit, Michigan;

Dominick Jr. to Dominick and Gelsa Risola of the Bronx, New York.

— WEDDINGS —

DAGUE - VANCIK

Thomas Dague and Karen Vancik were united in holy marriage on February 16, 1974 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

Brother James Grazan officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were rendered at the organ by the bride's aunt, Sister Mabel Bickerton.

The newlyweds are residing in New Eagle, Pennsylvania.

COWELL - WANTUCH

Dennis Michael Cowell and Karen Florence Wantuch were united in marriage on January 5, 1974 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn, New Jersey.

The wedding ceremony was officiated by Brother

James Benyola of Hopelawn, New Jersey. Musical selections were presented by Brother Richard Benyola.

The couple is residing in Beltsville, Maryland.

KLEM - GARLOW

Roger E. Klem and Kathy Dawn Garlow were united in holy wedlock on February 16, 1974 at Rochester, New York. The wedding was performed in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Ansel D'Amico officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Lydia D'Amico.

The couple will reside in Williamson, New York.

● OBITUARIES ●

ANDREW ANGELO

Mr. Andrew Angelo of Detroit, Michigan passed on to his heavenly reward on June 7, 1973. He was born on January 13, 1895.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Sister Francesca Angelo, two daughters, seven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Brother Peter H. Capone officiated at the service in the Bagnasco Funeral Home.

DAVID CAMPITELLE

David Campitelle of Detroit, Michigan passed from this life on February 6, 1974. He was born on October 26, 1922 and baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 12, 1955.

The funeral services were officiated by Brothers Louis and Frank Vitto. Left to mourn his loss are his wife, two daughters, one granddaughter, three brothers and five sisters.

Into the lives David Campitelle touched, each one has been able to say, I'm glad he passed my way. His great love for mankind, and for the American Indian people will live far beyond him. He worked hard in the Indian missionary field, and planted a little love in each one of us who knew him.

SALVATORE TRAINA

Brother Salvatore Traina of the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch passed on to his heavenly reward on February 1, 1974. He was born on February 25, 1907 and was baptized on June 16, 1963.

Brothers Domenick Persico and James Benyola officiated at the funeral services.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, one son and three daughters.

Brother Sal suffered greatly in his affliction but everytime he was visited by the members of The Church, he always had a smile and words of encouragement.

VALERA M. TIMMS

Sister Valera M. Timms of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania passed on to her eternal reward on February 8, 1974. She was born in August 29, 1905 and was baptized into The Church in 1921 at the Smock Branch, Smock, Pennsylvania.

Left to mourn her passing are six sons, three daughters, twenty-four grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.

Brother Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral service.

Sister Valera M. Timms will be sadly missed by her family and the Saints of the Vanderbilt Branch. May God bless and console her loved ones at this time.

HELEN E. MILLER

Helen E. Miller of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania passed on to her heavenly reward on February 4, 1974. She was born on January 21, 1911.

She leaves two brothers and two sisters. Brothers John R. Thomas and Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services.

She will be sadly missed by her family and the Brothers and Sisters of The Church.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

APRIL

18*, 19*, 20* & 21*—General Church Conference.

The Bronx Branch

The Bronx Branch is happy to state that it ended the year of 1973 with the baptism of a new Sister, Diana Papa.

Although the weather was cold, all of those who gathered at the shore to witness the baptism experienced a warm feeling as Sister Diana was immersed in the water by Brother James Link. We were privileged and pleased to have in our midst, Brother Dominick and Sister Belle Rose from the Brooklyn Branch.

Sister Diana was confirmed into The Church by Brother Rose. The loving Spirit of God prevailed throughout the meeting. Sister Diana was introduced to The Church by her fiance, Brother James Link, Jr.

The GOSPEL NEWS

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A MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

In 1907 Miss Anna M. Jarvis of Philadelphia urged that on the second Sunday of each May, a carnation be worn in honor of Mother. The day was first observed in Philadelphia, May 10, 1908 and is now widely celebrated. In England, Mother's Day was first observed in 1913, although there already existed an ancient rural custom of visiting one's parents on Mother's Sunday in mid-Lent on the fourth Sunday of Lent. For living mothers a carnation of any color may be worn; for a mother not living the flower should be white. Gifts are now also presented to mothers on that day.

This is what the encyclopedia states about Mother's Day. But to you and me, just what does Mother's Day mean? Mother's Day should be a day when we know the most outstanding person in our lives. She has taught us by love, by deeds, by actions, by words all that is right and good. Her voice, the tone always sweet, firm but never angry, steady but never irate, a voice which commanded respect.

She is truly a saint of God; one who has taught us to pray and read our Bible, one who has watched over us since we breathed our first breath of worldly air. We owe her a debt which can never really be paid in full. A mother's life is lived with disappointment, troubles, wor-

ries and surprises. Mother is a woman who leads us through a storm, her head high, full of courage, her eyes clear, her heart true, warm and unafraid. This is truly a person to acknowledge. For rich or poor, great or humble, every person loves their own good mother.

Mother's Day is a gentle reminder that we should show this love and appreciation, if we are fortunate enough to still have her with us in this world of the living, not just one day of the year, but the year around. And if she has gone on to the other happier world, we can honor her memory reverently. Abraham Lincoln once wrote a verse dedicating it to his mother saying:

She sits by our side in sickness;
She comforts our every pain;
She shares our joy and sorrow;
Her kiss heals the hurt again.
Then when you stop to consider
The mother of truest worth
Is the truly Christian mother —
The dearest mother on earth.
Her prayers that ascend to heaven,
Her love of God's holy Word,
Prove to me she's the dearest mother —
THE DEAREST MOTHER ON EARTH!

Are we making every day Mother's Day, or is it just a Sunday in May a Mother's Day to us?

Brother Melvin Mountain

DEAR READER

Due to the rising costs of printing our paper, it is necessary to raise the subscription price from \$3.00 per year to \$4.00 per year, effective May 1, 1974. We trust you will understand and cooperate with us in this matter.

The Editor

DISTRICT CONFERENCES

OHIO DISTRICT

The Ohio District Conference was held at Youngstown, Ohio, Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10. The Saturday sessions were restricted to business with the Spirit of unity prevailing throughout the day which enabled us to accomplish a great deal of business.

On Sunday, the sun shone bright and clear, which I am sure, helped swell the attendance to a capacity crowd. The Ohio Area M.B.A. choir under the direction of Sister Theresa Pandone sang three selections to open the service and Brother A. A. Corrado offered the invocation.

Two Great Civilizations

Brother Elmer Santilli of the Perry, Ohio Mission introduced the service using for his text, *Third Nephi* 21:20-29. These verses deal with the commencing of the work of the Father in the day when He will gather the dispersed of His people. Brother Elmer called to our attention the decree of God regarding those who would inhabit this land: as long as they would serve Him, they would prosper, but in the day that they would turn away from God, He would execute His judgment against them. Brother Santilli recalled the fate of two civilizations that once existed on this land. The Jaredites, the first inhabitants of this land, were very much blessed by God for a period of time, but they eventually dwindled in unbelief and they were left to their own devices, which finally resulted in their ultimate destruction.

The Nephites were the next to migrate to the Land of the Americas. God chastened them from time to time and pleaded with them to serve Him, but they did not heed. They developed a very rich culture, which in many cases rivalled our own. They built many beautiful buildings, and were skilled in the making of steel and other metals. Some of the things they were able to do cannot be duplicated today. This all came to naught, however, and their disobedience to the commands of God eventually led to the climax of their downfall at the Hill of Cumorah where a great slaughter took place.

Our Brother emphasized God's warning to the Gentiles, wherein he decreed, "In the day they forget Me, I will execute vengeance upon them such as never has been seen before."

Self-Evaluation

Brother Vince Gibson was our next speaker and he posed the question, "Do we know God?" He also stated that we must believe in God with a righteous love. He noted that the world today offers many religions but, The Church of Jesus Christ offers man salvation. He urged us all to conduct a self-evaluation of our lives to determine how we stand.

Brother Frank Calabrese, in his discourse, drew a parallel to the similarity of conditions that led to the fall of the Roman Empire, and those now taking place in our own nation.

At this point in our service, many were anointed for their afflictions and handkerchiefs were anointed for some who were unable to be present. Brother Paul D'Amico spoke a few words regarding the energy crisis and its effects upon our country. He also invited those who were not baptized to put into effect the words found in *Moroni* 10:4.

Brother Rocco Biscotti, our District President made a few closing remarks and the conference was closed in prayer by Brother Paul Benyola from the Lockport Branch.

Brother James Alessio
Ohio District Editor

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

The California District convened on March 8 and 9 for its spring conference. The Saints gathered from all over the District packing the Bell Branch auditorium on both days. An entire bus load came from Arizona, demonstrating the growth that has taken place there.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President: Robert Watson (re-elect)
First Counselor: Tom Liberto (elect)
Second Counselor: Ben Ciccati (elect)
Secretary: Jim Tucker (re-elect)
Assistant Secretary: Ken Surdock (re-elect)
Treasurer: Dwayne Jordan (re-elect)
Financial Secretary: Dennis Calabrese (re-elect)
Librarian: Ken Jones (elect)
Historian: Paul Liberto (re-elect)
District Editor: Larry Watson (re-elect)
Recorder: Frank Genaro (re-elect)
Auditors: Tom Jones (re-elect), Frank Ciotti (elect).

Saturday evening a program was presented by Arizona featuring slides of the Papago Reservation and the singing of Phoenix, Pinetop, San Carlos, and Fort Defiance (our newest mission).

Brother George Heaps opened the Sunday morning service on the subject of preparing our lives for the work of the Lord. He chose *Luke* 12 as his text. Brother Dick Christman followed on the same theme. Both brothers stirred up the congregation into remembrance of the special work we must be doing in these latter days. I can witness that the spirit of God was so evident in the meeting that no one wanted to leave.

I'd like to leave the reader with one parting thought. How should we prepare ourselves for the great work of the restoration? Perhaps there's no better example for us to follow than that set by the four sons of Mosiah hundreds of years ago when they departed to preach the gospel to the Lamanites. It says they fasted and prayed oft and read the scriptures diligently. (*Alma* 17:2-3)

Brother Larry Watson
District Editor

ATLANTIC COAST DISTRICT

The Atlantic Coast District held its Semi-Annual Conference on March 16 at Hopelawn, New Jersey. Our attendance was excellent and included Brother George Benyola from Texas.

A wonderful spirit of harmony prevailed at the meeting. Much was accomplished. The Conference recommended that The Freehold Mission be organized as a Branch. It was a unanimous approval. A Mission in Dallas was formally recognized and will be under the jurisdiction of The Hopelawn Branch.

The Conference elected officers and they are:
 President: August D'Orazio (recommended)
 First Counsellor: Richard Lawson
 Second Counselor: James Benyola
 Secretary: Dominick Rose
 Financial Secretary: Donald Ross
 Treasurer: James R. Link
 Historian: Carmen Sgro
 Librarian: Salvatore Sgro
 Auditors: James Howard and Anthony Vadasz
 District Editor: Donald Ross

The Sabbath was a wonderful day. Thank God; it began with a baptism. Our Sister attends The Edison Branch and her name is Sheryl Gray. She was baptized by Brother Donald Ross and confirmed by Brother August D'Orazio. Our Service was opened by Brother George Benyola. The text was *Alma 37*—Alma's discourse to his son Helaman. Specifically, the verses read and expounded were those about the Liahona; the ball and director made and prepared by the hands of God. Brother Benyola related the Liahona to Christ. He mentioned the willingness of Lehi to heed the command of God to leave Jerusalem. He was followed by Brothers Richard Lawson and Salvatore Sgro. Both stated that it takes determination; that we must stand and obey the commandments of God.

We thank God for another opportunity to fellowship together. Isn't it wonderful that someday we will meet—never to part any more?

MYSTERIOUS WAYS OF THE LORD

(Copied from the Gospel Reflector of January 1906)

Joseph was forgotten all about for about two years, when the King had two dreams which troubled him, and he called all the magicians and wise men of Egypt to interpret the dreams for him; but could they? No. Why couldn't they? Because spiritual things are only spiritually understood and the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the sight of God, and while Joseph was a despised prisoner, he was under the guidance of heaven and God blessed him with the gift of interpretation, in so much that he was brought before the King and interpreted his dreams to the effect, that there was going to be seven years of great plenty and then seven years of famine. The King rejoiced and said, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?" He then robed Joseph in the finest apparel and set him in authority next to himself over the whole land of Egypt.

I cannot recall another case in the Scripture where a man was exalted to such an extent as was this prisoner (Joseph) except our Lord and Savior, who rose triumphantly over the grave and became Lord of all. Joseph was then in a different position and proceeded under the authority of the King, to provide for the famine while there was yet plenty. The Lord, no doubt, blessed Joseph with wisdom in this matter. Not only to preserve the Egyptians, but also to provide for his own people who had previously sold him. The famine finally came and was very sore in all the lands, and Jacob hearing that there was corn in Egypt sent his sons down there to buy. After his boys made the second trip they recognized and became reconciled to their long lost brother, whom they had sold when but a boy. While they had sold him on account of his childhood dreams, they did the very thing

which caused the dreams to be fulfilled. They all bowed to Joseph just as his dreams had indicated and the whole family of Jacob moved into Egypt.

Now the declaration to Abraham was that his seed would be a stranger in a land that was not theirs. We now see this fulfilled, they were taken from the land of Canaan into Egypt and enjoyed the blessings of that land, but the word of the Lord was that they should be in bondage and should be afflicted for four hundred years, yet at present they are enjoying its blessings. It is said that the word of the Lord will not return unto Him void, but accomplish the end to which it had been sent. Now things had to take a turn in order for that which had been spoken to be fulfilled, Abraham's seed to be in bondage. Suffice it to say, the Lord took Joseph into Egypt in order to preserve his people, the children of Israel, from the famine and also for future generations, for the Lord had also declared that in Abraham should all the nations of the earth be blessed. Therefore, a king rose up that knew not Joseph and placed heavy tasks upon them, also grievous burdens hard to be borne. We understand that they were to serve this nation (Egypt) for four hundred years.

The King eventually gave a command that all the male children of the Hebrews were to be put to death, but the females were to be spared. The Hebrews feared God and did not as the King had commanded. He then commanded them to be thrown into the river. One woman kept her child concealed for three months and then for fear of the King's command, made an ark of bulrushes and placed her child upon the water, and the child was later picked up by the King's daughter and cared for. He was raised up in the King's palace and was named Moses, because he was drawn out of the water. This child turned out to be a wonderful man in the purposes of God. He saw the affliction of his people, and in defending some of his brethren he smote the Egyptian. He then fled for his life.

Their tasks and burdens became so severe that their cries ascended up unto God, and He heard them, for He remembered the covenant which He had made to their fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The Lord then appears to Moses in a flaming bush and tells him that He has heard the cries of His people which were in bondage in Egypt and He had come down to deliver them. After instructing Moses, we see him and his brother Aaron sent on that mission. The Lord had said that He would judge that nation. Did He fulfill His word? Yes. We see that He sent plague upon plague on them, and last of all the Egyptian army was swallowed up in the Red Sea, while the children of Israel were even delivered. Now, my readers, some few hundred years have passed away since the time that this declaration was made in the 15th chapter of Genesis, until we have an account of its fulfillment in the 14th chapter of Exodus. Therefore, if the Lord has been so strict with His word in ages of the past, how about the present time and the future? Christ came and instituted a plan of Salvation that all might be saved. Joseph was sold into Egypt to preserve his people from famine. Christ was crucified that He might overcome death and so establish the great plan of redemption, prepared from before the foundation of the world. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, while he that believeth not shall be damned. Seeing that the word of God has been fulfilled in the past, what shall the future be?

W. H. Cadman

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, GREETINGS:

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

We bless God for such love, may we answer to Jesus with gratitude and walk as He walked.

I spent a blessed week at Dallas each evening we visited someone. The Lord was with us. Brother George Benyola is a humble minister of God, full of enthusiasm and his untiring efforts will pay off. He has a lovely family.

Brother Douglas McClellan is equally enthusiastic and hungry for righteousness and has a desire to see the Gospel have full sway in Dallas. He and Sister Pat, his wife, were the first to move to Dallas. Brother Bill Genaro's daughter Jane and her husband Hank Ardinger are equally interested in the cause of righteousness. I believe that God will grant them their heart's desire to obey The Gospel soon. They bear their testimonies and appreciate God's love. Brother and Sister Genaro are still visiting here. May they witness their daughter and son-in-law's baptisms before they go back east.

We felt the Spirit of God Sunday for which we praise God. I pray that my visit there was of some value. I am writing this from a bus terminal at Midland, Texas. I was stranded here after the bus stopped. I came in for a few minutes to get a drink of water and the bus hurriedly left. My stay here was seven long hours, but some good is coming out of it. There are many here who are of Mexican origin and a young man, Raphael Bustamente, cannot seem to do enough for me to make me comfortable. He gave this paper that I am writing on, envelopes and stamps, called ahead so my luggage will be taken care of and called the Christmans informing them of my delay. This is a beautiful city with a population of 60,000. I pray that the Gospel will reach every city and hamlet in the world.

Last Saturday George Benyola took me to Fort Worth. There we met Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Casillas. We were made welcome, we read the Bible some and had prayer with them. May God bless them.

I am looking forward to some meetings at Tucson and San Carlos. I shall continue this letter after I get to my destination.

I am at Tom Everett's apartment continuing to inform you of the grace of God. I finally boarded the bus at 11:30 P.M. As I fell asleep I dreamed of someone speaking to me saying, "Marco, do not feel bad for being stranded. I caused the bus driver to go on without you because I wanted you to rest a little. The trip would have been too much for you. Now get your brief case, place it against the side of your seat so the higher side of the case will protect you from the arm of your seat, then lay on it so you can rest better. I did so and did not realize that the whole thing was a dream until I woke up well rested having my case for a pillow. My soul was filled with gratitude for such care for an imperfect man like me. I bless the name of God daily. Pat Christman picked me up at the bus station in Tucson. Last night I visited Brother Tom Kochuba and Divida, his wife. There was also Brother and Sister Jake Christman. We enjoyed

a good visit talking of the things of God. I was overjoyed to see them.

This morning I came here with Brother Christman on a bus to The Papago Reservation. They have several employees come on the bus to save energy. The bus leaves approximately at 6:30 A.M. They have 60 miles to drive. Brother Dick Christman has a nice office, being in charge of the Education Component here. He provided a driver for me to come to Tom Everett's apartment. As we were traveling, a school bus was coming in the opposite direction. Both my driver and the other bus driver stopped. I got off to see John Ross, Jr. who was riding on the bus. I felt good to see him.

On arriving at the Primary Grade School, I went in as Valerie was attending her class. It was like meeting my own girl. Wednesday 6th we had Bible class at Phil and Val's house with two visitors. Thursday night we held a meeting at Brother Christman's home back at Tucson. Saturday 9th we will go to Phoenix with the Christmans. I will stay there a few days, and on Thursday if I do not get a ride I will travel by bus to Pine Top and on Saturday 16th, I will be at San Carlos for the appointed meetings. I will continue to inform you in the next issue of God's loving kindness to his people.

When by grace we reach Paradise, we will also sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, His mercy endures forever."

Pray for me. "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem the other better than themselves." (Phillippians 2:3)

Mark Randy

JESUS IS THE BEST

By Sister Evelyn Mapes

Jesus is the best of all
He will guide you all day long
He will watch you day and night
He will guide you with all His might
Jesus is so mighty kind
So is the Gospel you will find
Jesus is the way and the light.

Jesus makes the stars to shine at night
He sends the rain and sunshine bright
He also sends the snow so white
Why do they say there is no God?
When the Bible says there is a God
The truth that goes around the world
To them who like His word.

Jesus is the one to save
Through His gospel which He gave
The miracles Jesus did those days
He does today in every way
So trust in His good will
And obey His good word
He will guide you all the way.

Sister Belle Rose
Brooklyn New York Branch

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

PROVE ALL THINGS

By William H. Cadman

(Reprinted — August, 1958)

"PROVE ALL THINGS: hold fast that which is good." — is the admonition of Paul as recorded in *First Thessalonians* 5:21.

It has always been my contention that the spiritual man should be found among the *broad minded* men of all time. Men who are *broad* enough to know that they cannot depart from the simplicity of the teachings of the Master and at the same time keep their feet on the narrow path that leads to Eternal life — men who are not only broad in their mind, but wise enough to know the necessity of proving before condemning and having *courage* enough to choose the good and shun or discard the evil, letting the consequences be what they may. To me the all-important thing is, not to confuse the good with evil.

GOOD AND EVIL

I read in the *Book of Mormon* (*Omni* 1:25) as follows: There is nothing which is *good* save it comes from the Lord: and that which is *evil* cometh from the devil." Hence the word of God is the "Yardstick" for us to use. In *First John* 4:1, "Beloved, *believe not every* spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many *false* prophets are gone out into the world." The following verse is very plain — "That not *every spirit* that confesseth (or believeth) in Christ is of God." I heard Brother Cherry once say, that there was a bug for everything. It matters not what you may be interested in, in the way of vegetation, there is an insect to destroy it. Likewise, it makes no difference what your chief interest may be in your spiritual life, there is a spirit ready to deceive you if possible, and as I have sometimes expressed myself, that as long as I am in this tabernacle of clay, it is possible for me to be deceived and led astray into things that I might be *much* interested in, and find myself too narrow in the mind to keep my feet on the narrow way, unable in my prejudiced mind to separate the good from the bad. Jesus answered His tempter, "It is written."

SIGN-BOARD TO HEAVEN

In my younger life I used to hear commonly that the word of God was a sign-board from earth to heaven. Very good indeed, and how wonderful are the sign-boards on our highways of today. You may not know much about the geographical lay of our great country, yet we have a number of highways here on the Eastern Coast — No. 30 or 40 for instance. If you get on them here in the east and follow the signs, you will eventually arrive on the Western Coast.

The word of God points out the way from earth to heaven, that is one of the reasons the word of God has been preserved — that the commands or direction of the All Wise Creator might be preserved, that all creatures might be able to travel the road to eternal bliss. If the minds of men are so narrow or prejudiced that they cannot obey the admonition of the man Paul by proving all things, and holding fast to the good, separating the good from the bad, it would seem to me, to be one of the signs that does not direct us to heaven. The command of our Saviour is, to be wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

King Noah, a Wicked King

Dear Girls and Boys,

This is another story taken from the *Book of Mormon*. It is about an old king named Zeniff who wanted to choose one of his sons to be king. In choosing a new king, Zeniff wanted a son who would follow the Lord. Zeniff had been a good king and had taught his people about the Lord. He had chosen good men as priests. He built a temple during his reign for worship and there was peace in the land.

The time came to choose a king. Noah was chosen but he did not rule as his father had. This young man became wicked and taught the people to do wrong too. Of course when the people saw how their king lived, they too felt free to sin and they forgot God.

King Noah made the people pay heavy taxes so he could live luxuriously. They were required to pay one fifth of all they had, their crops, animals, gold and silver to the king. The good priests Zeniff had chosen were dismissed. New priests were picked who would not rebuke Noah for his sins. They were as evil and proud as he was. They did not teach the true way, instead they set up images and told the people to worship these. They flattered the people and many believed the priests.

Noah built a beautiful palace with a golden throne and many other lavish buildings for himself and his priests. He had plenty of money since the people were taxed so heavily. His father, Zeniff had built a temple for the Lord and Noah soon changed this. He put costly ornaments in the temple and made expensive seats for his priests. Costly pulpits were made too so the priests did not have to stand to speak to the people. They were made so they could recline as they taught the people. This displeased the Lord. Noah wanted more and more riches. He planted many vineyards and from these, he made wine. Soon he became a drunkard and of course the people followed his example.

King Noah built a high tower near the temple. He could stand there and see all the land about. He placed guards on top to watch for their enemies. They came upon his people in small numbers and slew them as they were in the fields. King Noah called out his army and attacked them. His army was victorious. They delighted in shedding blood and were lifted up in pride. The priests had taught them to be proud and boast of their strength.

The Lord saw all this and sent a prophet named Abinadi among them. As he traveled among them, he told them the Lord said if they didn't repent and turn to Him, he would visit them in his anger. They would be taken by their enemies and put in bondage. Of course Noah and

his people did not like to hear this. They tried to kill Abinadi but the Lord delivered him and he fled. King Noah hardened his heart against the Lord. Two years passed and Abinadi came among the people again. This time he distinguished himself. They did not recognize him. Again he warned them of their wicked ways. This time he was caught and brought before the king. He was put in prison and later burned. He was bound and his skin scourged with faggots. As the flames scorched him, he prophesied that they would be smitten on every hand, taken by their enemies and then suffer death by fire as they had done to him. Brave Abinadi suffered death by fire rather than deny the commandments of God.

Abinadi's prophecy soon came true. One day Noah's enemies came upon him. He commanded his people to flee but the Lamanites overtook them and began to slay them. Noah and others forsook their families and fled. He really was not concerned about his people. Those who went with him soon rebelled and put him to death by fire. The prophecy had been fulfilled. Just as Noah and his priests had treated God's prophet, now they, were ending their life the same, by fire.

I hope you are enjoying these stories about great rulers. Next month I will tell you about a beautiful queen.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

A DREAM

The following account describes a dream I had February 1, 1974.

I dreamed I was walking through my grandfather's field in Aliquippa. In this field there were several thousand sheep fervently eating from corn stalks. Although I walked among the sheep they feared me not.

My interpretation is that the sheep were God's children and the food they were eating was His word.

Upon waking, I was inspired to write the following poem.

A DREAM I HAD

I question not why,
But rejoice in knowing,
The Lord blessed my eye,
In this lovely showing.

I strode among,
A flock of sheep,
Who ate along,
God's blessings keep.

The number there,
I could not count,
But know for sure,
A vast amount.

Now I know these beasts,
To be the lambs of God,
On the food each feasts,
Are the fruits of His sod.

But for the Grace of God, this I could not write.

Darrell Rossi

M. B. A. Highlights

by James D. Gibson
G.M.B.A. Editor

GMBA ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

The GMBA Activities Committee met at Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan on Saturday, January 19, 1974 at 6:00 P.M.

The following items were discussed:

1. Paperback Book of Mormon Project:

A report was read from Brother Donald Ross. A motion was made and seconded to accept the bid of .80c/book from Harper & Row (f.o.b. Scranton, Pa.) for an initial printing of 5000 copies. Pick-up from Scranton will be arranged. A letter requesting permission to print the books will be sent to the General Church by the GMBA Secretary. Sister Lydia Link was appointed to design the cover and decide on the color of it. The GMBA librarian will be in charge of distribution of the books. He will work with the Mission Board in determining who needs the books. The individual locals will be charged \$1.00/book for those taken. The books will be free for use in the mission fields.

2. Campout - 1974

A motion was made and seconded to shorten the camp due to the energy crisis. Camp will break after chapel on Friday, August 30, 1974. Brother Joseph Carlini was elected to act as Camp Director. He will select committee chairmen subject to approval by the Activities Committee.

3. Report from the Copyright Committee:

Brother Frank Morle reported that no progress to date has been made. He is waiting for information from Sister Betty D'Orazio regarding the book printed by the Atlantic Coast Area. When the information is received, it will be submitted to the Activities Committee for approval. A report should be given at the next meeting.

4. Dissolving of Vero Beach Local:

Brother Paul Palmieri reported letters have been sent to Brothers James Sheffler, Joseph Perry and John D'Orazio but to date no answer has been received.

5. Spiritual Gathering:

The gathering will be postponed until the next meeting.

6. Expediting GMBA Business more Efficiently:

This report was given by Brother Charles Jumper. A motion was made and seconded to have the Activities Committee members review this report for discussion at the next meeting.

A reminder was given to all of the Area Presidents:

A. To send the locals' historian's name and address to Mark Landrey as soon as possible.

B. To remind all locals that the goal was not dropped but merely diverted to raising money for the printing of paperback Book of Mormon for missionary work. A letter will be sent to the locals asking them to strive to raise money for this project.

G.M.B.A. In Action

Once again the M.B.A. affords a "helping hand" to the General Church. Recently the Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. took up a project to finance Brother Gorie Ciarravino's trip to Nigeria. He wanted to join Brothers John Ross and Joseph Bittinger in attending the formal opening of The Secondary Technical School on March 30, 1974. It was considered that it would be an additional boost to our people there to have Brother Gorie in their midst. As this goes to press, all three Brothers have returned home safely.

The M.B.A. in various areas will hold their annual campouts this summer. Pennsylvania and New Jersey will hold theirs in June, California in August and the G.M.B.A. campout in the latter part of August.

All are encouraged to attend the campouts in their respective areas and the G.M.B.A. campout in northern Michigan. More information on the campouts will be printed in the M.B.A. Bulletin.

The G.M.B.A. Conference that will be held in the Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, May 18, 1974 will convene with a new Presidency, Brother Paul Palmieri is President and Brother Don Ross is Vice-President.

We solicit your support to them and the G.M.B.A. as a whole.

Announcement

The Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. is holding their annual Campout from Saturday, June 15, 1974 at 12:00 Noon to Wednesday, June 19, 1974 at 2:30 P.M. It will be held at Camp Lutherlyn in Prospect, Pennsylvania. Related information as follows:

PRICE SCHEDULE

	Adults: age 7 to ?	Children: age 1 to 6
Breakfast	\$1.25	\$.65
Lunch	\$1.50	\$.75
Dinner	\$2.50	\$1.25
Lodging	\$2.25	\$1.15
Registration fee	\$.25	\$.25
	Total \$7.75	Total \$4.05

Children under 1 year of age - FREE

There are 21 spaces available for tents, campers and trailers in the Family Camp Area. Water and electricity at each space. A new building containing toilet and shower facilities for the Camp Area is located adjacent to that area. Cost in the Family Camp Area is \$3.00 per day per unit (tent, camper, trailer) plus \$.50 per day per person in each unit.

Motels are located a few miles from Camp Lutherlyn.

Additional detailed information is available on the Registration Forms obtained by contacting:

Joseph Ross
No. 2 Ross Drive
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

Everybody is welcome to attend our Campout as in the past, we welcome the opportunity to worship and fellowship with you.

James D. Gibson
Camp Director

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—**Warren, Ohio News**

On January 20, 1974, the Saints of Warren, Ohio branch experienced a wonderful outpouring of the Spirit of God. Brothers and Sisters from the West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania Branch and Brother Frank and Sister Romy Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio along with Brother Mario Santilli from Youngstown, Ohio visited the branch.

Brother Calabrese spoke from *Chapter 6 verse 16 of Jeremiah*. He exhorted the Saints to walk in the old ways, in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and we shall see the glory of God. Brother Frank said "The day is fast approaching when the Lord is going to extend His hands and allow the priesthood of this church to compel men and women to come to The Church of Jesus Christ." As Brother Frank was speaking concerning the priesthood, three visions were had at approximately the same time. Brother Frank Giovannone saw a narrow way that led to a gate and on this narrow way a long loaf of sliced bread. He could not see the end of this loaf. On the wrapper of the loaf of bread was the words 'The Lord Jesus Christ.' Brother Brown Sr. saw a long white table in the front of The Church. We say as the poet wrote "Come and Dine, the Master calleth, Come and Dine, you may feast at Jesus' table all the time." We surely feasted from this bread that Brother Frank saw. Sister Ida Verducci, 84 years old, saw a personage facing the elders. She said the personage waved his arms over each elder sitting there. This was done back and forth several times.

Brother English Webb elaborated on the same subject Brother Calabrese brought forth. He said "We should all be determined to enter into that straight and narrow gate."

Brother Jerry Giovannone, also directed by the Spirit of God, exhorted the Saints to give up the things of the world that are hindering us from having a closer walk with the Lord.

We also enjoyed the wonderful testimonies of each one. They were truly inspired by the Spirit of God. We thank God for all He has done for each one.

Sister Vera Edwards

Youngstown, Ohio

The Saints of Youngstown have enjoyed many blessings during the month of March. On Sunday, March 10, many brothers and sisters gathered here for the District Conference, bringing us much joy in the Lord's Service and in the fellowship of the Saints. A spirit of singing prevailed in closing the meeting.

The following Sunday, March 17, many of the Detroit sisters remained for the service following the Ladies Circle Conference. Brother John Romano opened the service, relating his experiences through the years in promoting the gospel. Brother A. A. Corrado and his daughter Sister Amy Cook sang a beautiful song, "The Garden of Prayer". A baby was blessed, the son of Brother and Sister Henry Cardillo.

On March 24, our newly-elected Presiding Elder, Brother Donald Pandone began his office. We, the Saints of Youngstown pray that he will be blessed in the leadership of our branch.

We had an ordination on Sunday, March 31. Brother Henry Cardillo was ordained a teacher. May he be blessed in this new office in serving God, and the brothers and sisters of the Youngstown Branch. He was ordained by Brother Travis Perry and his feet were washed by Brother Timothy D. Bucci.

Monongahela Branch News

On Sunday, March 17, Sister Dorothy Gandlely was ordained to the office of Deaconess. Sister Dorothy's feet were washed by Sister Diane Seighman and she was ordained by Brother Samuel Kirschner. Our prayer is that Sister Dorothy would be guided by God's Holy Spirit as she fulfills this office. May she maintain the humility and enthusiasm she has shown and may she continue to be a blessing to The Church and to all those with whom she comes in contact.

A new soul was added to the Lamb's Book of Life on Sunday, March 23 when Brother Ernest Geracitano asked for his baptism. He was taken into the waters of the Monongahela River by Brother John Griffith and immersed for the remission of sins. He was later confirmed as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother Meredith Griffith. We pray that God would bless Brother Geracitano and keep him faithful to his covenant.

(Note: Brother Geracitano's son, Chris, has been afflicted and is in need of prayers. May we encourage all of our Brothers and Sisters throughout The Church to remember him in your prayers, that God would move His hand of mercy in Chris's behalf).

Blessings Had At Mich.-Ontario Fasting and Prayer Service

On Saturday, February 23, 1974 the Mich.-Ontario District held a fasting and prayer service that the spirit of God and the spirit of repentance might be more manifested in our meetings. Brother Reno Bologna introduced the meeting by saying that we are just going to plant a seed and that in the weeks and months ahead we must cultivate it and make it grow. Many beautiful, pleading, and touching prayers were offered. A few brothers and sisters had dreams the night before to the effect that we must not just wait to be served with blessings but we must have a surplus so that we can serve others. At the end of the meeting Brother Reno Bologna shed tears of joy and said, "Let's share this surplus of the spirit of God with those who need our help." He mentioned three afflicted brethren: Brothers Paul Francione, Matthew Cotellesse, and David Capone who need our prayers. A special blessing was felt after Brother Francione was anointed. Brother Domenic Thomas and Brother Paul embraced and they wept under the spirit of God while Brother Thomas spoke words of encouragement to him. An abundance of the spirit of God was felt while the other anointing prayers were offered. During these three prayers a sister saw a light over the heads of the elders who had formed a ring while anointing the three brothers. At the end of the service we all formed a ring and Brother Tony Lovalvo offered an inspired closing prayer. We hope and pray that we will cultivate the seed planted at that meeting into many wonderful blessings and manifestations of the spirit of God in our church meetings ahead.

Brother Matthew Cotellesse

OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

General Circle Conference Meets In Youngstown, Ohio

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Youngstown, Ohio, on March 16, 1974. Sisters were in attendance from Canada, Florida, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The devotional time of the conference was conducted by the Youngstown Circle. The Scripture was read from *The Book of Psalm 118, vs. 23 & 24*. They sang the hymn "WORK FOR THE NIGHT IS COMING", which was the theme of the program. Sister Mabel Bickerton remarked that we must work in unity in order to accomplish our aim in being a help to The Church especially in the missionary area.

The conference business was started by the roll call of officers. Two of the officers were absent. The minutes of the last conference held in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania; the reports from the Circles; and the officers' reports were read and accepted. The answer to the questions, "What signs shall follow them that believe in my name?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Moroni 9:24* and "Who were the men of a sound understanding and had searched the scriptures diligently that they might know the work of God?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Alma 17:2*. Communications were read. Brother Ike Smith of Pine Top, Arizona, requested clothes for the people on the reservation. Contributions to the Memorial Fund was in memory of: Mrs. Mary George, Deborah D'Antonio, Brother Philip Dreer, Sister Clara Tucker, Brother Sal Tiana and David Campetalli. Monies were donated to the Auditorium, African Relief, *Gospel News*, and to the General Church for Indian Missionary work. The history for 1973 was read and accepted. A vote of thanks was given to Sister Joan Gibson of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, for printing 1000 report sheets at no cost to the General Circle.

Sister Bettyann Maines of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania was appointed to print and distribute the new by-laws. Three new questions were assigned to the General Circle: "What also has the Lord said to the righteous?" "Who were the three men that should deliver their own souls by their righteousness?" and "What two things are we quick to do and slow to do?"

The next General Circle meeting will be held in Glassport, Pennsylvania, on July 6, at 9:30 A.M. The election of officers; the meetings for the coming year will be assigned; and the committee for the 55th anniversary will be elected in this meeting.

A vote of thanks was given to Youngstown Circle for their hospitality. The Brothers that were in the meeting honored us by singing the hymn "THE PEARLY WHITE CITY". Apostles Brother Russell Cadman and Brother Anthony Corrado along with Brother Dan Casasanta spoke to the Sisters—all urging the sisters to continue in helping The Church, and the Lord will surely bless us.

Mary Tamburrino
Ladies Circle Editor

Monongahela and West Elizabeth Circles Meet

The Monongahela and West Elizabeth Circles met for the last time in the Jefferson Church Building before it was demolished.

The meeting was spent in reviewing the history and blessings of the West Elizabeth Circle.

The Circle met for 41 years in the building. During the past years, the *Bible*, *Book of Mormon*, and church literature were read for the lessons. At one time there were as many as nineteen members.

Sister Jane Lewis had an experience in the year of 1935 while in a Circle meeting. Being engaged in prayer, Brother Alexander Cherry appeared with outstretched arms over her. Brother Cherry as president of The Church in his time sanctioned the organization of the Circle.

One of the first projects the Circle undertook was to finance the wiring for electricity, paint, and wallpaper the building. This was done by selling household articles.

The Sisters rejoiced in remembering the past experiences. Their desire is that they may continue in harmony and do the will of God wherever they meet.

Mary Tamburrino
Ladies Circle Editor

New Location

Brother Turner is being transferred to Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. Brother and Sister Turner and family will be greatly missed in Tampa, Florida. They were presented a *Book of Mormon* as a farewell gift. May God be with them.

New Member Expected

It was reported that a newly-married young lady would be ready for baptism at the next semi-monthly meeting in Tampa. This is more good news and encouragement for the Tampa Mission.

Reinstatement Requested

Sister Millie Cristello, formerly of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch has expressed her wish to be renewed into The Church. This comes after her absence of eight or nine years. This is more encouragement for the continuing progress of the work in Tampa.

Change of Address

The following is the new address of Brother Ike Smith and family:

P. O. Box 759
Pine Top, Arizona 85935

The chill of spiritual eclipse results from the world coming between you and the Sun of Righteousness!

ALL THINGS NEW

There's been a change,
A big change. In me.
The way I talk,
the things I do,
the way I am
are all changed.
Jesus changed them.
My attitudes, my habits,
my thoughts, my plans and ideas
all have been changed—
rearranged.

Some changes were sudden;
some very, very gradual.
I love the things I used to hate
and I hate the things I used to love.
My feelings have changed.
Right now,
even with all the fears and hates,
wars and troubles,
hunger and ugliness—
I feel beautiful!

—Janet Woodford

A New Sister At Windsor

Our newly baptized Sister Marie Curtis was brought to The Church directly by God. Sister Curtis was in search of a place of worship and after much praying she was shown to write to our church. She had been attending only about three months.

On the day of her baptism, visiting evangelist, Brother Tony Lovalvo spoke on *John Chapter 21, verses 6 to 9*. He also sang a solo, "Lovest Thou Me More Than These". The calling spirit was present.

Brother Ken Wright, an elder of Windsor was awakened on the morning of February 3rd, by the sound of a woman calling his name. He wondered all morning what this meant. While he was breaking bread for communion, his heart started to pound and he was prompted to ask the brothers and sisters to search their hearts because he felt the Lord had something he wanted us to do. When he said these words, Sister Curtis jumped to her feet and told of the experience she had received.

She had been praying since early morning, and she was given the following experience. A white garment came over me and the Lord said, "Clean your house and I will come into your heart".

Brother Sam Cuomo Sr., also an elder of Windsor had a dream the night of February 3rd, that he and his wife Mary were on the seashore. He had fishing lines and he threw them in the water and caught a fish. Brother Charles Matthew of Windsor branch also received a dream of a child being saved. These dreams were related as a confirmation to our new sister's baptism.

Our sister was taken into the waters by Brother Ken Wright and had the laying on of hands for the reception

of the Holy Ghost by presiding elder, Brother Donald Collison.

Sister Curtis is very elated and anxious to work for God and being a new convert she will need all of our prayers that the Lord could continue to lead and teach her of His ways.

Sister Ruth Stanek
Windsor Branch Editor

Lake Worth Branch Ordains Deaconess

At the Florida District Conference held March 10, 1974, Sister Florence Perri was ordained a deaconess into The Lake Worth Branch, Jupiter-Tequesta Mission. Her feet were washed by Sister Ileen Smith. Prior to her confirmation the elders joined hands with prayer offered by our visiting Brother Donald Ross of Edison, New Jersey. Tongues were spoken and the interpretation given as "If you show kindness toward my people I will bless you always". Brother V. J. Lovalvo proceeded to confirm Sister Florence. We are thankful to God the day was well spent.

News From Miami, Florida

On March 17, 1974 the Miami, Florida Mission had two ordinations. The meeting was opened by Brother James Sheffler. He read from *I Thessalonians 5:14-28*. Brother Alvin Swanson followed on the same subject. Communion was passed, followed by our feet washing service.

Sister Leda Sheffler was ordained a Deaconess. Her feet were washed by her mother, Sister Viola Swanson, and she was confirmed by her husband, Brother James Sheffler.

Brother Nicholas Ritz was ordained a Deacon. His feet were washed by Brother Alvin Swanson and he also was confirmed by Brother Swanson.

There was a good spirit in our testimony meeting and throughout the day. Please remember our Mission in prayer that we might continue to serve the Lord.

Maryanne Ensana

Ordination At McKees Rocks, Pa. Branch

The McKees Rocks Saints experienced an extra blessing on Sunday, March 17 in the ordination of Brother Frank D'Antonio as a Deacon.

Brother Frank's feet were washed by Brother Dan Casasanta after which Brother John Manes ordained Brother D'Antonio to the office of Deacon.

May God's blessings and favor be upon our Brother according to his need in his endeavors to serve The Church.

Baptism At Perry, Ohio Branch

The Perry Branch enjoyed a wonderful day in the Lord's service on Sunday, March 3.

A special blessing was experienced in the baptism of Sandra Kay Stalling. Brother Gene Kline baptized Sister Stalling and she was confirmed by Brother Frank Giovannone, who was visiting from Warren, Ohio Branch. The receiving of new members into The Church always brings joy. May the Lord harvest in many more souls everywhere.

Tampa, Florida News

Our semi-monthly trip to Tampa was made on March 3. In the group of visitors were Brother and Sister Loyalvo, Brother and Sister Smith, Sister Carmella Mazzeo and others.

We found Ruth Tucker not well and in need of prayer. We were 23 in attendance and we thank God for His wonderful blessings.

Brother Charles Smith offered the opening prayer. Renee Turner reported briefly on the progress of the children's Sunday School class. She is doing a marvelous job and we pray that God will bless her efforts. These children sang, "Jesus Loves Me."

The speaker of the day was Brother James Loyalvo, taking for his text *II Kings, Chapter 4*. In enlarging on this Scripture, he remarked on the outstanding values of the Prophet Elisha - Righteousness, Love, Humility and Compassion all of which lead to the Paradise of God. The true love of God is manifested when we do something for God.

Brother Loyalvo also referred to the Lord's visit with the woman at the well during which she was forgiven of her sins and she recognized Jesus as her Saviour who had LIVING WATERS. He urged us to display LOVE, KINDNESS AND COMPASSION.

Brother Murray had a wonderful vision in which he saw clouds gather and form the word LOVE. Some fifteen minutes later these same clouds reappeared and formed the words, HAVE FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. This was attested to by Sister Murray and Ruth Tucker.

After the service, we visited Billy Tucker's mother-in-law who was sick in bed and the Elders anointed her and prayed for her.

After a brief visit here, we dismissed with prayer and departed for our homes arriving safely. We thank God for His wonderful blessings.

Brother Lou Pandone

Ordinations

Sunday, March 31, 1974, will remain a pleasant memory for years to come. The New Brunswick Branch experienced a wonderful day.

The morning sermon was delivered by Brother Sam Sgro. He spoke on the parable of the ten virgins; how five were wise and five were not. He related the parable to ourselves—how we "must" be wise in the ways of God. To do this we should adhere to the example of Jesus Christ.

During the afternoon service, two Sisters were ordained into the office of a Deaconess. They are Sisters, Mamie Naterelli and Annette Pagnozzi. Sister Naterelli's feet were washed by her "sister", Mary Pastore, and she was ordained by Brother Carmen Sgro. Sister Pagnozzi's feet were washed by Sister Geneva Renda and she was ordained by Brother Frank Mazzeo.

It was a remarkable day. The congregation received a blessing, witnessing these ordinations. Our prayers are that God will richly bless our Sisters. May their legacy parallel and/or surpass Sisters such as Priscilla and Phebe.

Notes of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We would like to take this opportunity through the Gospel News to thank all the Saints and friends for the many prayers offered, the telephone calls and numerous cards received during Brother Tony's recent illness. It was wonderful to know that all of you were so concerned and that God was so merciful. We can never thank you enough and praise God sufficiently.

Brother Tony is coming along fine and we are now in Florida where he is improving every day. May God Bless you all.

Your Brother and Sister in Christ,
Tony and Elsie Ensana

To all my Brothers and Sisters:

I want to thank all of you for the kindness and love shown to me during my recent illness. For the many flowers, gifts and cards I thank you from the depth of my heart, but mostly I thank you for the many prayers offered in my behalf. May God bless and keep all of you.

Sister Juanita Rogolino

Sister LaCommare Convalescing

Sister Grace LaCommare is in the hospital in San Francisco recovering from a hip replacement. She had the other hip replaced two years ago. We pray that God will relieve her of all pain. The doctor is amazed that she has been able to stand the pain this long. We hope she will be able to walk again and do some traveling now that Brother Bill is retired. They desire to visit other Branches. God be with them.

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Ralph Travis to Henry and Sandra Cardillo of Youngstown, Ohio;

Michelle Lee to Ernest F. and Debra King of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania;

John Michael to John Winfield and Shirley Ann Lowthe of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania;

Amy Roseann to Art and Carol Biogi of New Brunswick, New Jersey.

— WEDDINGS —

HUTCHINSON - MAURO

Mr. Robert Hutchinson and Miss Joan Mauro were joined in holy matrimony in February, 1974 in The Church of Jesus Christ in Modesto, California.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo was assisted by his son, Brother Leonard Lovalvo in officiating at the wedding ceremony. Sister Rose Lovalvo was the vocal soloist accompanied by Brother Joseph Parravano.

May God Bless these two fine young people.

● OBITUARIES ●

ANGELA PILATO CONTI

Sister Angela Pilato Conti, a long-time faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ and a member of the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch passed on to her eternal reward on March 5, 1974. Born on April 25, 1889, she was baptized into The Church on June 10, 1928.

Left to mourn her passing are her husband, Brother Frank; twelve children, forty grandchildren, and twenty great-grandchildren.

Funeral services which were held at Detroit Branch No. 1 were conducted by Brother Carl Frammolin. Sister Arlene Whitton was the organist.

Sister Conti will be greatly missed by everyone because of her concern for all people. She loved everyone and considered everyone her friend.

DOMENICK PAGNOZZI

Brother Domenick Pagnozzi, a member of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his eternal reward on February 8, 1974. He was born on February 12, 1883 and was baptized into The Church on June 19, 1932.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, Sister Concetta; three sons, four daughters, ten grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, one brother and one sister.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Carmen and Sam Sgro.

Brother Domenick was a faithful brother whose testimony was a joy to all. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

THERESA MUSOLINO

Sister Theresa Musolino, a member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed into eternity on March 29, 1974 at the age of 75. She was born on October 11, 1899 and was baptized on May 11, 1921.

Left to mourn her loss are three sons, two daughters, one sister, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Timothy D. Bucci and A. A. Corrado.

Sister Theresa was a deaconess and served the Lord faithfully until the end. Her testimony will live on forever. She will be greatly missed by her loved ones, and the Saints of Youngstown, Ohio.

JACK BLAKELY

Brother Jack Blakely of Henretta, Oklahoma, passed away from this life on October 10, 1973. He was born on February 10, 1920 and was baptized on February 27, 1966.

Brother Mike Radd of West Palm Beach, Florida conducted the funeral services in Hennretta, Oklahoma.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Sister Margaret, four children and one grandchild.

TAMMY LEE MILLS

Tammy Lee Mills passed away at birth on March 11. Graveside services were conducted by Brother Gene Kline.

She is survived by her parents, maternal grandparents and paternal grandparents, Brother and Sister (Leonard) Mills of the Perry, Ohio Branch.

May God comfort and sustain all the loved ones.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

MAY

18*—G. M. B. A.

JUNE

14, 15, 16—Atlantic Coast Area M.B.A. Campout in New Hope, Pennsylvania.

15, 16, 17, 18 & 19—Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. Campout in Camp Lutherlyn, Prospect, Pennsylvania.

AUGUST

10 to 17—California Area M.B.A. Campout, Pinetop, Arizona.

24 to 30—G.M.B.A. Campout at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan.

SEPTEMBER

14 & 15—Atlantic Coast District Conference, Bronx, N.Y.

7 & 8—California District Conference, San Fernando Valley.

7 & 8—Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce.

18, 19, 20 & 22—Michigan-Ontario District Conference, Branch No. 2.

14—Ohio District Conference, Perry.

14 & 15*—Pennsylvania District Conference, McKees Rocks.

All Church organizations (General, District, G. M. B. A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in the dates of their coming events for publication in the *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar. Send information to: Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

June, 1974

Vol. 30, No. 6

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

The Formal Opening of the Secondary School in Nigeria

By Bro. Gorie Ciaravino

It gives me great pleasure and satisfaction to commend The Church of Jesus Christ for their generous gift to the Church in Nigeria—The Secondary Technical School. Through the grace of God and your untiring efforts the Saints in America and Canada have stretched forth their hands across the ocean to "lift up" and enlighten their Brothers and Sisters in Nigeria.

Thanks, In Word And Song

The Church in Nigeria overwhelmingly expressed their thanks at every occasion and every opportunity in word and song. Not only to us personally but in every public gathering. In the Welcome Address given at the Atai Otoro Centre, these words were used, "On behalf of the entire Church we return back to our Brothers of the United States and say to you that we have no Silver and Gold to reward you for all your kindness but the most we can offer is MAY YOU LIVE IN THE MERCY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST—AMEN." As your representatives, Brothers Joseph Bittinger, John Ross and myself were given the utmost love, care and courtesy. We wish to thank them for their warmth and hospitality. Along with Brother E. U. A. Arthur, President of the Church in Nigeria and the Saints there, we wish to acknowledge Principal of the School, Mr. Peter Iniodu and his talented staff, Board of Governors, Works Committee and all the students enrolled in our school. We would also like to thank Commissioner of Education Chief E. A. Essien for his interest in our school and for his presence at the formal opening.

The following is an outline of events as they occurred, so we can share them with you.

March 12. We were met at the Kennedy Airport by many Brothers and Sisters from Brooklyn, Bronx and New Jersey and some of my relatives. We visited until boarding time, and before parting Brother August D'Orazio led us in prayer asking God to be with us for the entire trip. Our departure time was 7:25 p.m. Had a good flight with stopovers in Dakar, Senegal; Monrovia, Liberia; Accra, Ghana and Lagos, Nigeria.

March 13. In Lagos we were met by a large group of Saints from the Mushin Mission along with their Elder Item. They arrived in four taxicabs and escorted us to the Airport Hotel for the night.



A Touching Moment

March 14. In the morning we returned to the airport to board a flight for Port Harcourt on Nigerian Airways. It was a short 44 minute flight but on our previous trip it had taken us two days by car. We were surprised upon our arrival to see so many there to greet us, President Arthur with an entourage of twenty or more. Among them were his wife, Principal Peter U. Iniodu, and our accomplished interpreter Brother E. A. Ebong. Also along were some of the school staff, Works committee and Board of Governors. They came in six cars. We were greeted and embraced very warmly. It was a touching moment. We left with our entourage for our Headquarters in Atai Otoro. We made a stop at the presidential Palace Hotel in Port Harcourt. A meeting had been arranged with a representative of Nigerian Radio Corp. for an interview concerning the school dedication. Passing Aba into Abak Junction Road at entrance of school we were greeted by students dressed in their school uniforms. We continued on and were paraded through the village of Abak and then returned to the school. We were greeted by students on both sides of the road each holding a palm branch. We drove up to the Pavilion that had been erected by the

students early in the morning. We were escorted to our seats and a program was given to receive us as Representatives of the Parent Church.

A Beautiful Program

It was a beautiful program with prayer by Elder E. A. Ebong and singing by the school choir. Brief introductions were given by Principal Iniodu of all those comprising the entourage who met us at the airport. Welcome address presented by the staff and students and read by Mr. P. Etokakpan. I was asked to convey our greetings from the Parent Church and offered a closing benediction. Words fail us to describe how we were received. In his comments during the program, Principal Iniodu expressed great appreciation and admiration that the Parent Church would build a school in Nigeria which our own children would not see or attend. He also expressed how he was touched, and said, "Gone are the days of preaching precepts and forget about the practical aspects of Christianity. Here in front of us today are people who preach and do what they preach".

After the reception we visited all the buildings on the grounds which include dormitories, incomplete dining hall and kitchen, Science building, donated by the Nigerian Government, and the Technical Secondary School.

The Moment of Truth

We made our home during our stay in the nearly complete Staff House being built by the Nigerians, which is also on the school grounds. Then came "the moment of truth". How soft our lives are in America! We had no electricity, running water or screen doors. For light we had two kerosene lamps. Water was being boiled constantly on a kerosene stove and filtered. We were fortunate to have the loan of a kerosene refrigerator. Screen doors were made and installed some days later. Brother John did all the cooking and kept us well fed, in spite of all the handicaps. He also kept us supplied with boiled water, and he practiced a little first aid on me on the side.

March 16. We met with Board of Governors and Works Committee to discuss details for school opening.

March 17. We had our Sunday meeting at Atai Otoro with Brother Joseph Bittinger as our speaker. He used *John 4, v. 31-38*, speaking of the disciples bidding Jesus to eat, and He replied, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of. My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish His work.—behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest".

We also visited Ukana Mission, and Brother J. U. Akpan's home. Back to our "home" in the afternoon and had our first spaghetti dinner! Thanks to Brother John. We had to make sure everything was done while the sun was out every day. When the sun went down, there was no twilight, just sudden darkness. Kerosene lamps do not give much light, and besides, the light brings bugs.

Some Highlights

March 18—28. It was difficult or impossible to keep a daily diary so I will just touch on some highlights of this period of time. These excerpts are from my tapes and the few letters I managed to write home. We had a constant stream of visitors when we were at home. Anyone passing by stopped in to chat and welcome us. It was like Grand Central Station. Brother John and Brother

Joe went to Calabar to talk with the Minister of Education and to apply for an extension on John's visa. The extension was granted but we decided the money saved by returning home at the end of the month, could be used by other Brothers going to Nigeria on future trips.

The Ladies' Circle of the Abak Division held an area meeting to which we were invited. It was held in the Atai Otoro building. We enjoyed their singing and welcome speeches which were interpreted to us by Brother Ebong. Sister Arthur sent a message to the Ladies' Circle in America which I have on tape. They interrupted their service as they had a photographer waiting outside to take pictures of us with the entire group. We left and they continued on with their meeting.

We managed to visit the missions we missed on our last visit to Nigeria plus many others, although the roads and bridges were still in as poor condition as they were in 1971.

The screen doors were finally constructed and installed with Brother Joe's help by March 21, which cut down the insects about 50%. The heat and humidity were severe. We were unable to get sufficient sleep because of the climate and our roosters crowing at 4:30 a.m. The poultry were gifts presented to us at the missions we visited, and John used them to make spaghetti sauce, soup and fried chicken. You can be sure the roosters went first! The louder they crowed the faster they went!

We were invited to the Abak Division Elders' meeting at Atai Otoro Centre. Brother Ross spoke to them on The Church of Jesus Christ and the Restoration. An invitation was given to Brother Joe and myself to become honorary members of the Abak Division, which we accepted. Brother John Ross has already been an honorary member for a number of years. School was dismissed for three days. Rehearsal for the formal opening was held and a large pavilion was built.

March 29. A Welcome Reception in Otoro Centre was held in our honor.

A Day of Anticipation and Excitement

March 30. Day of Formal Opening of the School. A day of great excitement and anticipation. Parades began at 6:30 A.M. All schools in the area were represented. Festivities lasted until dark. All dignitaries, both governmental and tribal from many miles around attended. Most of them as they entered the school grounds would pass by our home and would stop in to greet us. We made our way over to the Pavilion for the dedication services between 10:00 and 10:30 A.M. We were seated with President Arthur along with some of the Elders, Principal Iniodu and the School Staff and some principals from nearby schools. Parades and singing by our students and church groups continued until time for the opening of the worship service. Unfortunately, we did not have a movie-sound camera to capture the entire scene. We are very proud of our Staff and our students. Many of Our Church choirs sang plus the school choir. An inspired prayer was offered by Brother John Ross who asked God's blessings upon the school and all those assembled. I gave the opening address to the largest crowd I ever had the privilege to speak to, over 2,000 people. I read *Proverbs 1, v. 2-8, Proverbs 3, v. 13-20* for the benefit of the students. Solomon whose wisdom is legendary, gives instruction on how to acquire understanding, knowledge and discretion. I read another portion of scripture *I Peter*,

2 ch., v. 1-9 for the benefit of those assembled and our Church members, speaking concerning our Lord being the Chief cornerstone and we the lively stones that build a spiritual house. I concluded with the closing benediction.

The Ribbon Cutting

The afternoon was spent in a program of singing and the introduction of guests and officers with their wives. They were presented to those assembled and escorted by two students to their seats. Many were dressed in their tribal robes. We were introduced again, and Brother John Ross was introduced as a Nigerian native and drew the most applause of all those introduced. Minister of Education E. A. Essien was guest speaker and Chairman. He expressed himself at some length, feeling honored to be selected. He felt proud of the school and he complimented the Parent Church on their endeavor. When he concluded his talk he took up the "scissors" and we all proceeded to the compound of the school for the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The first ribbon represented the entire school compound and was ceremoniously cut by Mr. Essien who pronounced the school officially open. President Arthur then took the scissors and he cut the ribbon to the school building itself. We all walked back to our seats and Mr. Essien concluded his talk. He stated the school was accredited by the Government and also added instead of our school being just a Technical Secondary school it was to be recognized as a COMPREHENSIVE Technical Secondary School of The Church of Jesus Christ. President Arthur followed, along with Brothers Joseph Bittinger and John Ross, giving responses to Mr. Essien's speech and some of their own thoughts. We enjoyed much beautiful singing by the several church choirs and the Ladies' Circle.

March 31. Open air meeting held on the school compound, in charge of Brother Arthur. Many visitors in attendance. Most missions from the Abak Division were represented. (There are 18 missions in the Abak Division). President E. U. A. Arthur gave a beautiful address in the Efik language, on the 60th ch. of Isaiah, with interpretation given by his nephew Elder George Arthur, the Executive Secretary of the Church in Nigeria. Again we enjoyed the beautiful singing. I spoke briefly bidding them all a reluctant farewell, and thanking them for their love and hospitality.

April 1. I left for Italy and will relate my stay there at another time.

(Other Photo on Page Nine)

Thank You

We wish to take this opportunity to thank our Brothers and Sisters, friends and neighbors and relatives who were so gracious to help us celebrate our fiftieth wedding anniversary.

When the day was over and our guests were on their way, we reflected on the joyous time we had and wished they could have stayed.

God bless you for your goodness to us.

Brother Dominic and
Sister Minnie DePiero

A WELCOME ADDRESS

PRESENTED BY THE STAFF AND STUDENTS OF
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST TECHNICAL
SECONDARY SCHOOL, ATAÍ OTORO TO PRESIDENT
GORIE CIARAVINO, ELDERS JOHN ROSS AND
JOSEPH BITTINGER ON THEIR MAIDEN VISIT
TO THE SCHOOL

Dear Sirs,

We the Staff and students of the Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School, Atai Otoro, Abak are happy to receive and welcome you to our midst today. For most of us, this is the first time of our seeing your faces although your names are very familiar to us, especially that of Elder John Ross, "Our Nigerian brother". We are particularly happy that the General President of the Parent Church and the Second Counsellor are here with our Nigerian brother. With bliss, delight and rapture, we all say to you "WELCOME".

We cease this chance to express our gratitude through you to the Parent Church — The Church of Jesus Christ in the United States — for establishing this institution for our benefit and for the benefit of the Nigerian posterity.

It will be recalled that our pioneer students started classes in the Church of Jesus Christ at Atai Otoro in January 1972. At that time, the site for this school, was not yet cleared. But one thing was sure. We had confidence in the Parent Church since her representatives who came in October 1971 had assured the Nigerian Church authorities that the Parent Church was ready to provide funds for the establishment of this school. It was this confidence that we had in the Parent Church that dispelled all fears and we decided to forge ahead, any risk notwithstanding. And sure enough, the Parent Church, through Elder John Ross, provided the funds with which the first main block was completed within three months. Thanks to our dynamic contractor, Mr. Jackson Udo Akpan, who worked day and night to make sure that the building was completed on schedule. It was the speed with which this work was tackled that convinced the public, the Ministry of Education our friends, and even our foes, that we were out on business.

No sooner had the first main block been completed than the Parent Church released more funds for the construction of the two dormitories now in use. We cannot here mention every item for which funds were given by the Parent Church but suffice it to say that her patronage has raised and sustained the status, image and prestige of this school. Our gratitude will be incomplete without special compliments to the leadership of Pastor E. U. A. Arthur whose age does not prevent him from moving up and down and making reasonable contacts to make sure that the job is done and done well.

Sirs, we are happy that you are here in Nigeria to see things for yourselves. We have written many letters and told you many things about the school. But since "seeing is believing" we are sure that you will be convinced that everybody connected in one way or the other has been working hard since the inception of this institution. We have done our best but a lot still remains to be done.

As a technical institution we deserve adequate facilities if we are to benefit from the funds spent on building this institution. So far, those of us in Form Three have

not been adequately provided for. At this stage, we should be able to go far in the practical aspects of our own courses. But very unfortunately, we have not the facilities and we are therefore left behind by our counterparts in other institutions. We do hope, however, that with the physical presence of representatives of our Parent Church, there will soon be some improvement. Your presence here will acquaint you with some of our problems and you will help suggest how best to solve them.

As for the question of "Government Take Over" of schools, we are sure that during your stay here, you will come in contact with some of the government functionaries who will be able to explain to you government policy on education. But we might add that government policy on education does not change the status of any school. The schools that have been taken over still retain their names and their religious affiliations. Government policy is aimed at maintaining high standards in all the schools. This is why government has taken over management and staffing of schools.

Our school has not yet reached the stage where it could be brought under government control. We must continue to build, equip and maintain it until the school is approved for School Certificate and/or City and Guild examinations. After all facilities are provided and a team of inspectors for approval inspection is satisfied, then are the final year students allowed to take the School Certificate examination. It is only after this that government steps in. We hope you will hear more about this during your stay here.

It is not our intention to over-burden you here with words as we know that you have been tired during your long journey. We are sorry that we have not had adequate facilities here for your comfort. However we feel you will bear all our shortcomings with us and will cope up with whatever we are able to provide.

We wish you a happy and successful stay with us here during the next three months. Once again we say "WELCOME" to you.

We remain yours faithfully,

P. U. Iniodu, Principal

Vincent James Uquak (Senior Prefect)
for and on behalf of the staff and students

BIG BLESSINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES

One night as my little one and I were lying down watching T.V. he looked up at me and said, "Daddy, tell me a secret." I whispered in his ear, "Jesus loves you." He then turned my head and whispered to me, "Jesus loves you too daddy," then he said, "let's pray." So we turned off the T.V. and rolled over on our stomachs and we prayed. Pete whispered and told Jesus that we love Him. After we were through praying Pete turned to me and said "Daddy, that was a good prayer, huh."

Jesus blesses us with many things. One of our

greatest blessings are our small little gifts that are wrapped up in the shape of our children. They are "something special,, they're the only one of their kind." God gave them to us with a body and a bright healthy mind.

The Gaither Trio sings "This Little Light of Mine", and Pete loves it. He sings it with all the gusto he can. Sometimes our lights may dim as parents, but as long as our little ones have their lights shining they refuel us.

Christ said to us that all children are alive in Him. Sometimes we feel that our little ones are just about perfect. Perhaps it seems that way because when we read in *Moroni*, it says that Jesus loves little children with a perfect love.

As parents we look to our little ones as future leaders in His church. We see the outside world and wonder sometimes how they can make it over all of the hurdles before them. But we have Jesus, and "because He lives we can face tomorrow" and so can our little ones.

Sometimes I wonder if a parent were to write a letter to Jesus about their little one, perhaps it might sound like this:

Dear Jesus up in Heaven,
Please hear this humble plea
I'm just a man that serves you
I have no greater need.

I've loved you and I've served you,
Now as my years go on
I have one more request my Lord
Before I pass along.

I have a little boy, dear Lord,
He's just so very small.
I tell him of your love dear Lord,
How you protect us, one and all.

He loves you very much, I know
I can see it as he grows,
He's just so very special Lord,
That's why we love him so.

Someday he'll have to make a choice
He'll take your path that day
He'll pick to go the heavenly road
And shun those worldly ways.

To see him go with you, dear Lord,
Will fill my heart divine.
I'll know the love he has inside
It's the same love that's in mine.

I know that years will come and go
We all must age and die.
But I have chosen Jesus' way
Eternity is nigh.

So, dear Jesus up in heaven,
Please hear your servant say,
I would like to be there, Lord
When he takes your path that day.

It is part of our job in serving the Lord to tell other parents about the joy we have in Jesus.

Tell someone about Jesus today and let them get 'life assurance' for themselves and their little ones' tomorrows.

We sing Jesus loves the little children, but after all, aren't we all children in His eyes.

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

A TRIBUTE TO FATHERS

"HONOR THY FATHER . . ."

Exodus 20:12

Last month was a time to honor mothers and this month is the time to honor fathers.

We are indebted to our heavenly Father for wisely and properly including this obligation and privilege as one of the great Ten Commandments.

We are awed by the importance that God placed upon our duty to honor our parents. We note that it ranks as the Fifth Commandment, following the First, Second, Third and Fourth Commandments . . . all of which stress our obligation and duty to God, our Creator. The remaining five Commandments stress our obligation and behavior toward others.

Thus, in honoring our fathers this month, as we honored our mothers last month, we also honor our God.

FATHER'S TEMPORAL ROLE

Fathers are often taken for granted by their children. Their chief role in the household seems to be the breadwinner, the provider. Many fathers work hard and many hours to support their families. Too, it should be noted that the occupations of other fathers involve physical risk and daily hazard. In spite of this, good fathers still pursue their daily routine in order to provide a steady income to supply the everyday needs of their loved ones.

FATHER'S SPIRITUAL ROLE

Another important role of a good father is to set a good example for his children. His responsibility and task are no less important than that of his wife as she endeavors to do likewise. He is a wise and good father, who displays his fatherly love not only in word but by example, by good deeds and actions, by everyday right-living.

Also, a goodly father will not neglect to "train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (*Proverbs 22:6*)

Neither will he forget the admonition of the great Apostle Paul, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (*Ephesians 6:4*)

He will also teach his children to pray and to read the word of God. The Apostle Paul highly commended this in writing to Timothy, "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (*II Timothy 3:14, 15*)

FATHER'S AWESOME TASK

The annual observance of Father's Day serves as an appropriate reminder of the love, devotion, and appreciation that we owe our fathers who are living. It is also a time to hold in reverent memory those fathers who have gone to their rewards.

We can never fully repay or sufficiently honor fathers. The time, labor, love and devotion that they have expended in their awesome task of rearing their children are immeasurably beyond our capacity to properly value.

It remains for us to endeavor to show our love and appreciation, of which they are so worthy and deserving. May we also strive to follow their good examples.

Let us ask God to sustain us in our efforts to fulfill the Fifth Commandment.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

Queen Esther

Dear Girls and Boys,

We have been having stories about kings so now I want to tell you one about a lovely Queen. . . This story took place in the land of Persia which was the home of many Jews. The king was Ahasuerus. His queen was Vashti, but he became displeased with her and decided to choose a new queen. All the beautiful maidens in the kingdom were very excited when they heard this.

There was an orphan girl named Esther who lived with her cousin Mordecai. He was very good to her and cared for her as his own daughter. He was an officer in the king's palace. Once he saved the king's life and it was recorded in the book of Chronicles. Mordecai wanted Esther to go before the king along with the other ladies. He told her to not tell she was a Jewess.

The time came for all to appear before the king. Esther was beautiful as she walked before Ahasuerus. He chose her to be queen and set a gold crown on her head. He loved Esther and she loved him. He made a great feast to honor her. All the princes were invited.

In the kingdom there was another man who worked for the king. His name was Haman. He did not like the Jews and was jealous of Mordecai. Haman felt he was a very important man and wanted all the people to bow down to him. He deceived the king and persuaded him to destroy all who would not obey. Mordecai would not bow to Haman and this made him very angry. Mordecai told Queen Esther their people would be destroyed and asked her help. Esther loved her people but to go before the king uninvited was to risk her life! She realized the danger they were in. She must do something. She sent this message to Mordecai, "Gather all the Jews together and fast and pray for me for three days and nights. I and my maidens will fast also. Then I will go before the king, which is not according to the law. If I perish, I perish." Mordecai gathered the Jews together and they did as Esther requested.

The third day Esther put on her royal robes and went to the inner court of the king's house. The king saw her standing there and held out the golden sceptre to her. She touched the tip of it and drew near to the king, this was a good sign. He asked, "What is your request Queen Esther? It shall be given thee, even to half of the kingdom." Esther answered, "If it seems good to the king, let the king and Haman come to a banquet I have prepared for him." The king was pleased and accepted. Haman too, was pleased and felt honored to be invited to eat with the queen. When he told his wife about the honor and also the refusal of Mordecai to bow to him he said he was anxious to tell the king about it and maybe this would be

his chance. She merrily suggested he should make a high gallows and hang Mordecai on it.

The time for the banquet arrived. The king was very happy and asked the queen what she desired. Esther answered, "If I have found favor in your sight, Oh King, and if it please the king, spare my life and that of my people." The king said, "Where is he and who is he that would presume in his heart to do such a thing?" The whole plot Haman had planned was uncovered. The king was angry and Haman was afraid. Haman was ordered to hang on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai.

The king called for Mordecai. He took off his ring which he had given to Haman, and put it on Mordecai. He dressed him in royal robes of blue and white and placed a gold crown on his head. He was advanced to a high position. The whole city of Shushan rejoiced. The Jews had light, gladness, joy and honor. Mordecai sent letters to all the provinces for the people to celebrate this day with feasting. They sent gifts to the poor and to each other. This time was called Purim and is still celebrated today.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

● FLASHBACKS ●

JUNE 1949—25 YEARS AGO

General Ladies Uplift Circle met in the West Aliquippa, Pa. church building. Sister Elizabeth Davidson presided over the business session, in the absence of Circle President Sister Sadie Cadman who is visiting in Florida.

JUNE 1954—20 YEARS AGO

Brother Alex Robinson of Learner, Kansas met with the Brothers and Sisters from the East at Wakpala, S. D. Brother Shazer reports five baptisms among the Seed of Joseph there.

JUNE 1959—15 YEARS AGO

Brothers Alma Cadman and Thurman Furnier held a week of meetings in the Youngstown, Ohio Branch. Their subject was "The Seventh Day of Rest".

Brother and Sister Gabriel Mazzeo from Florida visited in the Monongahela Area. Brother Gabriel occupied the pulpits of several branches in this Area during this visit.

JUNE 1964—10 YEARS AGO

A bus load of Sisters from the Pennsylvania Area attended General Ladies Uplift Circle in New Brunswick, N. J. This is the first general meeting to be held in New Brunswick. The secretary reported the organization of a local circle in Imperial, Pa.

JUNE 1969—5 YEARS AGO

Brother Gorie Ciaravino and Joseph Milantoni visited the two Tijuana, Mexico Indians Missions. Besides being at both mission church buildings the Brothers visited many of the homes of the Brothers and Sisters.

Brother V. James Lovalvo of Modesto, California toured the East Coast visiting the Branches and Missions in the District.

M. B. A. Highlights

by James D. Gibson
G.M.B.A. Editor

GMBA CAMPOUT COMMITTEE VISITS CAMP WALDED

The GMBA Campout Committee met at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan on April 27, 1974. The purpose for the trip was to investigate the site of the forthcoming GMBA Campout.

Those who made the trip are as follows: Joe Carlini (Camp Director), Aaron Dix, Nick Francione, Jim Gibson, Bill Hufnagel, Jimmy Hufnagel, Frank Morle, Bob Nicklow, Bobby Nicklow, Paul Palmieri and Donald Ross.

The group left Detroit at approximately 6:05 A.M. after having been almost forcibly removed from our beds of rest by the "OWLS" (Nick Francione and Aaron Dix). Sister Virginia Carlini had coffee and breakfast for those who felt to indulge.

We then piled into Joe Carlini's station wagon and Bill Hufnagel's van. The trip to the camp has some interesting scenery. For some of us, if not most, it was our first venture into the northern reaches of Michigan. We found that the cost of gasoline was no cheaper and certainly no more than anywhere else.

After traveling for some 5½ hours we finally arrived at the camp. Let me say right here that I have never seen a more impressive camp to date. The cabins, cafeteria, auditorium and all other structures are well made and very clean. Almost all of the buildings are constructed of knotty pine.

There is also ample recreation facilities. Full size tennis courts, large ball fields and provision for basketball exist. It is also permissible to have horseback riding, archery and fishing. However, no boating or swimming will be permitted.

There is a beautiful lake at the camp with many fish. Also many trees are located throughout the camp and afford shade and beauty.

With all the cabins and other sleeping facilities we will be able to sleep well over 400 people. There is also a designated area for campers with electricity available.

Meals at the dining hall will be family style and 200 people can be fed at one time. Songbooks (Country and Western type) will be sold at camp and it is hoped a hayride will be had for the children. The campfire area is in a "sunken" section of camp. It seems it was made especially for the camp.

There are 4 to 5 buses owned by the camp and it is possible they will be available for our use. Of course there will be no smoking on the camp grounds at any time. Also there is an Arts and Craft center that we can use.

I hope this report will bring you somewhat up to date on the camp and its facilities. The camp is very nice and only lacks one thing, YOU. So we ask that if at all possible, try to attend. The campout can only be successful if YOU are there to fellowship with us.

When you arrive at camp, you will be met and shown your accommodations. Registration forms will soon be on their way to your branch of The Church.

Following is a list of committees and their members:

Camp Director: Joe Carlini

Registration: Joe Ross, Jim Cotellesse and Harold Batalucco

Rules: Charles Jumper and Bob Nicklow

Camp Fire: Kerry Carlini and John Straccia

Accommodation and Reception: Jim Gibson and Bill Hufnagel

Recreation: Nick Francione, Aaron Dix and Gary Carlini

Seminars: Frank Morle, Nephi DeMurrrio and Vince Gibson

Arts and Crafts: Sue Coppa

Piano and Song Leader: Lou Vitto

Publicity: Ken Lombardo and Lydia Link

See you all at camp, OKAY?

Another Trip To Tampa

On Sunday, February 3, 1974, we went to Tampa, Florida with Brother and Sister Loyalvo for another Sunday service. Needless to say, another soul surrendered herself unto the Lord. Our new member was Sister Catherine Martin and we had a wonderful time. That evening upon retiring I prayed that God would bless the work in Tampa and that the mission would prosper in LOVE. During the night I had a wonderful dream.

I dreamed that my neighbor gave me two pea pods; and, when I shelled them, I had more peas than I could hold in my hands. I dropped a few and thinking that before I lost anymore that I would take them into the house. When I got into the house, I found my son, Don, and his wife, Teresa. They had just arrived by plane and were talking about how wonderful it was to be here. My son, Don, said, "I was given a bonus and couldn't think of a better way to spend it than coming to Florida for the weekend and to be with you." I was very happy and I said, "Look, Teresa, my neighbor gave me just two pea pods and look at all the peas I have. You take these while I go out and get the ones I dropped." Then I awoke and not realizing the meaning at the time. During the Wednesday evening service while Brother James Loyalvo was speaking of the work in Tampa I received the interpretation.

Brothers Billy and Jose Tucker who are doing a marvelous work there in spreading the GOSPEL and from these two brothers there have been five baptisms and a few renewals that have been away for sometime. There are still a few that are away from The Church and the peas that I dropped are those few and I was going after them. Now, as the woman represents The Church, those few will some day return back unto the fold. I thank God for this wonderful experience and we pray that the work there will flourish.

Sister Libby Pandone

AN ANSWERED PRAYER

By Theresa-Ann Bravo

I was at home one afternoon in late January when the phone rang. It was a call from my neighbor, Mrs. Wait. She asked me to sit with her four year old son, Bobby, while she made a necessary trip to the bank. Usually she would take Bobby with her but today he was sick. It was 2:30 P.M. when I went to her home. Bobby was lying on the couch, covered with a blanket and was watching television. He had a temperature and was unlike himself, active and boisterous.

Mrs. Wait left for the bank. I felt sad and immediately sought God's aid. I went into the kitchen and knelt in prayer. A few minutes after my prayer Bobby asked if I would play a game with him. We went upstairs to get the game and continued playing until Mrs. Wait returned home at 3 P.M. When she saw Bobby up and smiling she was very surprised.

"He wouldn't move for me!," she exclaimed.

Unfortunately I had forgotten my prayer. The next day when I came home from school I was shocked to find Bobby playing outside with a friend. I had even bought him a get well card.

Mrs. Wait was visiting my mother at the time asked me, "What kind of magic spell did you cast on my son?"

"What do you mean, Mrs. Wait?", I asked.

"Well," she replied, "when I left the house Bobby was sick, but when I returned he was fine."

"I don't know," I answered.

A couple of days later I realized God had answered my prayers concerning Bobby's illness. He had been healed instantly. Also I had an opportunity to testify of the goodness of God. Mrs. Wait was impressed and did not deny the power of God to heal her son. I also learned a valuable lesson. The lesson is that when we pray, we should anticipate and wait for an answer. When doing this, we will see God's power manifested in our lives, which will increase and strengthen our faith. I thank God for answering my prayers and also for guiding my spiritual life.

By Sister Theresa-Ann Bravo

60th Anniversary

Brother Antonio and Sister Rose Pietrangelo observed their 60th Wedding Anniversary, on the evening of March 8, 1974, with their family at the American Legion Beaudry Post in Detroit, Michigan.

They have six children, 14 grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren.

Brother Antonio and Sister Rose have been in the Gospel since July 26, 1923. In the 50 years Brother Antonio has been a deacon, teacher, presiding elder, and has been in the ministry for 38 years. He has served his responsibilities well. Sister Rose has been a deaconess for 26 years. God has blessed them with many wonderful gifts and blessings and a great desire, zeal and love for the Restored Gospel.

Sister Rose has been ill for the past two years and we ask for your prayers on her behalf.

Evangelistic Meetings

The Cleveland Branch, will conduct a series of evangelistic meetings June 5 thru 8.

Tentatively scheduled as guest speakers are, Brother Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio for June 5 and 6, and Brother Dominic Thomas of Detroit, Michigan on the 7 and 8. The meetings will be concluded on Sunday, June 9, when we will have a special 25th anniversary service. We hope to have present all those who helped in the construction of the building, as well as the children of our older brothers and sisters. There is of course a standing invitation to all who wish to be with us.

The time of services will be 7 p.m. each evening, Sunday morning worship 10 a.m. till 12 noon, lunch will be served, fellowship service 1 to 3 p.m.

We trust that the Lord will bless our branch in this undertaking.

Sincerely,

Your Brother in Christ,

Brother Vince Gibson

Dear Readers of the GOSPEL NEWS:

I would like to inform you that I am staying with my sister, Sister Gladys Hillen. You can contact me at the following address:

Mrs. Birdie M. Furnier
3 S. Mt. Vernon Ave., Apt. 1
Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401
412-438-8994

GOD'S GREAT PLAN

Some say the search for happiness
will always be in vain,
and for each drop of sunshine
there's a bucket full of rain.

This fact is proven many times
in so many ways,
yes, it's so, we know so few
truly carefree days.

What is the reason for it all?
What is it all about?
but if we think awhile, it isn't
hard to figure out.

God gives us life to test our faith,
this life is borrowed time
the prelude to paradise
eternally sublime.

Yes, it's a part of God's great plan
while we are here on earth
if we were truly happy here
what would heaven be worth?

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—**Modesto, California Branch News**

We cannot put into words the blessings that we felt on November 18, 1973 when Brother Joseph Ciarolla was ordained a minister, Brother Tom Reed was baptized into The Church, and Brother Sam Randy was reinstated.

We had many visitors from the San Fernando Valley Branch, and Lindsay. Ordination of Minister: Brother Alex Cavallaro washed Brother Joseph Ciarolla's feet, after which Brother Dwayne Jordan ordained Brother Joseph Ciarolla an Elder.

God was surely in our midst. After Brother Joseph was ordained many asked the ministry to pray for them. The ministry formed a circle in the front of the pulpit as they were still praying for many who were sick and for strength. The power of God was among them and everyone felt it, even the little children had tears in their eyes.

Brother Sam Randy stood up and asked to be reinstated in The Church.

At the end of the meeting Brother Tom Reed broke down and asked for his baptism. Brother Louis Parravano baptized him.

We had one continuous meeting until 6:00 P.M. and we didn't want to go home even then.

A Sunday in February was a Sunday we shall remember for a long time. The blessings of God were so great. Our morning service speaker was Brother Ron Nichols from San Jose. Brother Joe Ciarolla was anointed for the healing of a cough he has had for some months. In the afternoon his cough was gone! Praise God for His goodness! Many testimonies were given and several Brothers and Sisters were prayed for.

The Elders at one point gathered in a circle while Brother Joseph Lovalvo prayed for some of the young people who are being drawn away from God. Brother Lovalvo saw a personage in the circle touching Brothers Joe Ciarolla and Ron Nichols. Later, a man who attends church verified he saw the same personage. Sister Frances Randazzo said she saw the personage with arms outstretched blessing the people. Sister Anne Mauro said she had a vision of a blue sky and white clouds on the back wall of the pulpit. She said it was so beautiful. There was such a blessing felt by all in the meeting that a little pre-school age child asked a Sister if she could stand up and thank God too.

Recently Brother Ron Trotter repented of his sins in the evening meeting and asked for his baptism. We all went to the Tuolumne River at Legion Park. The car lights and flash lights carried by some gave light to all as Bro. Ron Trotter made his covenant with God. Brother Leonard Lovalvo baptized him. What a beautiful sight and experience. Afterward we went to church and Brother Joseph Lovalvo confirmed Brother Ron. A good spirit was felt by all. We pray that in the future, his wife and family may serve God in spirit and truth too. He testified later that when he went to work the day following his baptism, his co-workers said, "What happened to you? You look so different." He gave them his testimony of being baptized and that he was serving God now. Isn't it wonderful that the light of God truly shines in the faces of the Saints?

We had a week-end of evangelistic services by Bro-

thers Tom Liberto and Joe Dulisse of San Diego. We enjoyed them very much and hope they will come back soon. Brother Mark Randy is back after a month of visiting many Saints in scattered states, including Indian Missions and groups. He also held evangelistic meetings in Arizona.

We at Modesto Branch joyfully welcome visitors. God Bless you all.



Left to right—Brothers John Ross, E. U. A. Arthur, President of The Church in Nigeria, Joseph Bittering and Gorie Ciaravino.

Detroit Branch No. 2 Dedicates Their New Addition

On Saturday, March 30, 1974, a year after groundbreaking, Detroit Branch No. 2 dedicated their new addition. Approximately 130 Brothers, Sisters, friends and relatives were present. The addition of 1,500 square feet will be used for classrooms, socials, kitchen and store room. Our former kitchen was made into a cry room.

The branch choral group sang "Ivory Palaces" a favorite hymn that was sung at the dedication of Branch No. 2's former church building on South Electric St. in 1940. Brother Frank Morle spoke of the amount of hours of work put in the building. He said the bricks and lumber don't make up The Church; but The Church is in our hearts.

Refreshments were served at the end and we had a wonderful time socializing and acquainting ourselves with the visitors. The next morning at our Sunday morning service some of these visitors returned and we had a full house. Brother Frank Vitto, a visiting Elder, spoke with power and inspiration during which Brother Fred Straccia spoke with the gift of tongues. The interpretation was to listen to the word of God. We ask an interest in your prayers that God may bless us with more of his spirit so we can do our part in spreading His Gospel.

Brother Joseph Cotellesse
Branch Editor

Revival Meetings Held At San Fernando Valley Branch

California Evangelists Leonard Lovalvo and Anthony Piccuito conducted a weekend of seminars in the San Fernando Valley Branch on March 29 through March 31.

The topic discussed on Friday and Saturday evenings was marriage and the importance of a strong family unit. During Friday's meeting, various age groups held brief seminars and discussed situations and problems that confront us—dating, adjusting to married life, rearing children, keeping unity in the home, etc. Brother Leonard and Brother Tony spoke to us on Saturday evening, using passages of Scripture from *The Bible* and *The Book of Mormon*. They stressed that strength in the family unit was of utmost importance and that if God is kept first in our hearts and homes, we can then experience love and peace with our spouses and children. We were urged to always remain faithful to The Lord's teachings on marriage that our homes might be continually blessed.

A truly wonderful spirit prevailed during the Sunday service. Visiting Brothers and Sisters were present from San Diego, Bell, Anaheim, Modesto and Lindsay.

Brother Lovalvo opened the meeting, using as his theme the love and forgiveness in the heart of the father when his Prodigal Son returned home. He reminded us of The Lord's mercies toward men, and urged everyone to seek the Kingdom of God and its righteousness with all our might, and God will be gracious to us. Before the close of the meeting, three candidates asked for baptism.

MINNIE MCDONNEL of the Bell Branch—She was baptized by Brother Leonard Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Otto Henderson.

CHERYL ANN LAVELLA of the Bell Branch—She was baptized by Brother Leonard Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Jim Scalise.

JOHN DEAN VERARDO of the San Fernando Valley Branch—He was baptized by Brother Anthony Piccuito and confirmed by Brother Dwayne Jordan.

We thank God for granting us a portion of His Spirit throughout the entire weekend of meetings and for allowing us to witness three more souls become a part of His fold. May we serve Him and do His will all the days of our lives, that The Spirit of God might be with us continually.

New Elder Ordained At Niles, Ohio

Brother Ronald Joseph Genaro was ordained in the Priesthood of The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, April 28, 1974 at Niles, Ohio.

Brother Sam Costaralla attended to the ordinance of washing Brother Ron's feet and Brother Joseph Genaro ordained his son into the holy office of Elder in The Church.

It was a beautiful day as the Saints from different branches came and witnessed the ordination. Brother Ronald was quickly put to work as he had the privilege of anointing one of the Sisters. He then passed Communion with his father.

Brother Ronald was baptized on September 6, 1970 and was ordained a teacher on October 8, 1971. We pray that God will use our Brother to win many souls for Christ.

Ordination At Whiteriver, Ariz. Mission

On Sunday, April 7, the Whiteriver Mission was blessed with three ordinations.

Brother Harry (Skip) Smith was ordained a Teacher.

Sister Josephine Ethelbaugh was ordained a Deaconess.

Sister Lucille Williams was ordained a Deaconess.

Brother Harry is originally from Monongahela, Pennsylvania. He moved to Pinetop, Arizona in May of 1971 and was baptized in May of 1972.

Sister Josephine is from Whiteriver and has been a faithful member since her baptism in September of 1971.

Sister Lucille, also from Whiteriver was baptized in July of 1970. She was one of the first converts at the Mission.

We rejoice with Brother Smith and our Apache Sisters in their holy callings. We pray that God will bless them abundantly in their service to Him.

Blessings At Vanderbilt

We at the Vanderbilt Branch have been enjoying the blessings of God.

Lately we have had many children blessed in our branch.

Penny Lou Timms was blessed on April 7, 1974.

Jenny Rae Dennis, Terry Lee Dennis and William Leasure, Jr. were blessed on April 14, 1974.

Our prayer is that God will keep them as they reach the age of accountability so they can serve Him.

Lorain, Ohio Branch Welcomes New Member

Sunday, April 28 was a day of rejoicing for the Lorain Saints as Marzietta Aquilino was received into The Church of Jesus Christ.

Sister Aquilino was baptized by Brother Alfred Dominico and confirmed by Brother Frank Calabrese.

She met the Gospel through her late husband's brother, Jim Aquilino, Sister Antoinette Ciaravino's father.

Sister Marzietta had been anxiously waiting for this day. It was a beautiful sunny day and also a spiritually sunny day.

New Convert At Vanderbilt, Pa. Branch

The Vanderbilt Saints enjoyed an additional blessing on Sunday, April 28. The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Bertha May Young.

Brother Harry Marshall immersed Sister Young in the waters of baptism and Brother Joseph Shazer confirmed her in the afternoon fellowship meeting. May God bless our new Sister in Christ.

Brother Marshall was visiting from the Bell, California Branch. He is originally from the Vanderbilt area and this was a happy occasion for him as well as many of the local Saints.

Hopelawn News

Sunday, March 24, we observed the ordinance of feet washing. This was the third time that I have been privileged to take part since I'm a very young member of The Church of Jesus Christ, (but not that young in years), having been baptized into this wonderful Gospel for less than a year.

Today, we have much illness among the members and several that were present, were anointed. We pray God's healing hand on each one of them, for the Lord is good and kind and full of mercy for all who ask for His help.

The testimonies were uplifting. They can be food to a hungry soul. Testimonies are given for the glory of God and they are an encouragement to all others. Blessings are received from each one of them. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Brother Jim Benyola talked about Joseph of Egypt being hastily brought out of the dungeon, when Pharaoh wanted him to interpret his dream, which interpreted meant that Egypt would have seven years of prosperity and seven years of famine, and how Jacob and his sons, were led by God to go down to Egypt to become a great nation there, and from there, how the seed of Joseph came to this land of promise, where another Joseph, the choice seer, will appear.

A humble spirit prevailed during our feet washing, and truly, it can be said, it was good to be gathered in the house of the Lord.

"He gives power to the tired and worn out, and strength to the weak. Even youths shall faint, and the young men be weary, but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

I thank my Lord that He has chosen me to be called into this Gospel and for having been able to enjoy the blessings of so many Sundays in the worship of Him, honouring Him and keeping the Sabbath holy.

Sister Helen Kovacs
Hopelawn Branch Editor

Warren, Ohio News

On February 17, the Saints of the Warren branch said farewell to Sister Crall, who is moving to the state of Oklahoma. The family will move immediately but Brother Bill will stay behind a short while to finish out his work before retiring.

Our meeting was opened with hymn 435, "Follow, I Will Follow Thee" which was the theme of the day. Brother Jerry Giovannone was the first speaker. He said, "The way of the Lord is not easy but we must not look back in our journey. We must seek God's guidance and find our place in the Gospel, allowing God to be foremost in our mind."

Brother Frank Giovannone continued on the same thought and reminded us the Devil will try to entice us

to do evil. Satan will help no one to do right. He quoted a saying, "There are forty million reasons to do something but there is no excuse." No one but ourselves can work our own salvation.

On March 31st, we bid farewell to Brother and Sister Ciarolla who are leaving us to live in California. Brother Rocco Biscotti introduced the service with the hymn "Precious Memories" and Brother A. A. Corrado offered the opening prayer. Brother Biscotti urged Brother Victor and Sister Annie to take the Lord of the land with them. Sister Betty Alessio sang, "I Will Serve Thee."

Brothers A. A. Corrado, Robert Ciarochi, and Jerry Giovannone gave us many words of wisdom and encouragement.

There were many testimonies praising the Lord and expressing how much we will miss our Brothers and Sisters who are leaving us. We pray God's blessings go with them.

Sister Carol McCracken
Editors, Sister Mary Margaret Cain

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Rachel Lynn to Jerry and Beverly Rae of Roscoe, Pennsylvania,

Joshua Scott to Harry and Cheryl Smith of Pinetop, Arizona,

Joanne Danielle to Daniel and Joyce Azzinaro of San Fernando Valley, California,

John Neil to John Neil and Therese Jo Chester of Sterling Heights, Michigan.

— WEDDINGS —

TENIJIETH - JONES

Mr. Scott Tenijieth and Sister June Jones were united in holy matrimony on February 26, 1974. The couple were married at Pinetop, Arizona.

Brother Isaac Smith officiated at the ceremony. The couple is residing in Whiteriver, Arizona.

We extend our very best wishes to the newlyweds.

GRAFF - GEHL

Mr. Dale Owen Graff and Miss Kathryn Louise Gehly were united in holy wedlock on April 13, 1974 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

The couple were united in marriage by Brother Oscar Hager of Greensburg. Musical selections were presented by Sister Erma Draskovich, and vocal selections by Brother Joseph Saeli.

The newlyweds will reside in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

● OBITUARIES ●

CASAMINA DiDONATO

Sister Casamina DiDonato passed on to her heavenly reward on March 6, 1974. She was a member of Branch No. 1 Detroit, Michigan of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on December 17, 1899 and was baptized on August 20, 1933.

Left to mourn her loss are four children, seventeen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. Brother Nich Pietrangelo officiated at the services.

Sister Casamina spent most of her life visiting the sick, giving words of encouragement, and spreading the love of God wherever she went. We will all deeply miss her.

THERESA LONZA

Mrs. Theresa Lonza, daughter of Sister Rose Randazzo passed from this life at the age of fifty-three. She passed from this life on March 3, 1974 and was born in Glassport, Pennsylvania on December 18, 1921.

Funeral services were held at The Church of Jesus Christ in Detroit, Michigan. Brother Louis Vitto officiated at the services.

May the Lord send comfort and strength to all of her loved ones.

PASQUALINA TATTI

Sister Pasqualina Tatti, a faithful member of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on April 1, 1974. She was born on January 6, 1889 and baptized on April 11, 1923.

She is survived by five children, nine grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Paul Vitto.

Although our Sister Tatti had been ill for a very long time, she remained faithful and dedicated to the Gospel.

ELDER PETER RANIERI

Brother Peter Ranieri, a member of the Cleveland, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his eternal reward on April 17, 1974. He was born on March 25, 1897 and was baptized in 1930.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter, two grandsons and two brothers.

Brothers Vince Gibson and Mario Milano conducted the funeral services. He was laid to rest in the Knollwood Cemetery.

Brother Pete was ordained an Elder in 1946. He was a faithful pillar of The Church and will be missed by all those who knew him.

WILLIAM BARR KENNEDY

Mr. William Barr Kennedy, husband of Sister Harriett Kennedy, passed on to his eternal reward on April 6, 1974. Mr. Kennedy attended The Church of Jesus Christ at Roscoe, Pennsylvania.

Surviving are his widow, Sister Kennedy, two sons, one daughter, nine grandchildren and two sisters.

Services were held at Eckert Funeral Home by Brothers Fred O'Lexa and Gasper Karelli. Musical selections were presented by Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky.

Mr. Kennedy showed much love toward the Saints and he will always be remembered for his kindness he showed. May God bless those who mourn his loss.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

JUNE

14, 15, 16—Atlantic Coast Area M.B.A. Campout in New Hope, Pennsylvania.

15, 16, 17, 18 & 19—Pennsylvania Area M.B.A. Campout in Camp Lutherlyn, Prospect, Pennsylvania.

AUGUST

10 to 17—California Area M.B.A. Campout, Pinetop, Arizona.

24 to 30—G.M.B.A. Campout at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan.

SEPTEMBER

14 & 15—Atlantic Coast District Conference, Bronx, N.Y.

7 & 8—California District Conference, San Fernando Valley.

7 & 8—Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce.

18, 19, 20 & 22—Michigan-Ontario District Conference, Branch No. 2.

14—Ohio District Conference, Perry.

14 & 15*—Pennsylvania District Conference, McKees Rocks.

All Church organizations (General, District, G. M. B. A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in the dates of their coming events for publication in the *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar. Send information to: Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

July, 1974

Volume 30, No. 7

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

A NEW APOSTLE

On May 5, 1974 I had the privilege to witness an ordination, which I will never forget. Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo was ordained into the office of Apostle in The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Nick is a member of our Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan.

On the day of the ordination our meeting was not just blessed, but touched by the Hand of God. The loveliness of the day first began at the sight of all our visiting Brothers, Sisters, and friends from Ohio, Canada, and various Branches in Michigan. Four Apostles: Brothers Dominic Thomas (who is also our Church President), Gorie Ciaravino, Rocco Biscotti, and Frank Calabrese were present to share our joy.

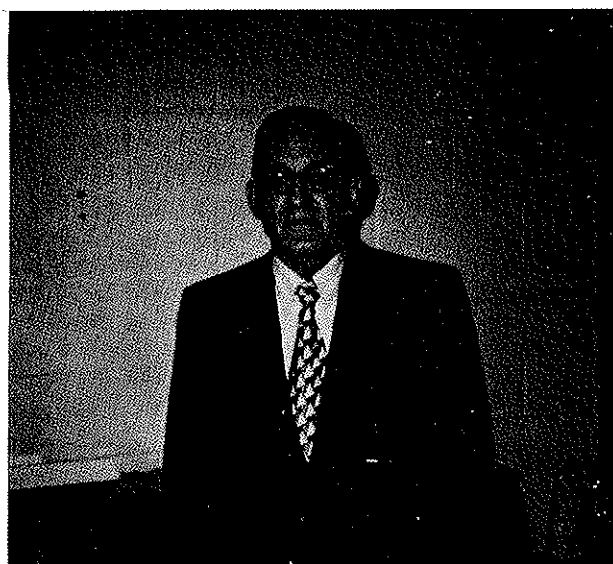
At the start of the afternoon meeting Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Rocco Biscotti both spoke to us. Their subject was the hard work and responsibility, that is involved with holding an office in The Church, especially that of an Apostle.

Brother Rocco also read to us some of the offices that Brother Nick Pietrangelo has held, since being baptized into The Church. In July, 1944 he was made Assistant Secretary to Brother Furnier. In July, 1946 he was Assistant Secretary to Brother Gorie Ciaravino. In July, 1948 he became an Evangelist. In April, 1960 he was appointed Executive Secretary. In addition to all his other duties, Brother Nick has served approximately 15 of nearly 20 years as Presiding Elder of Branch No. 1.

The ordination began with Brother Dominic Thomas washing Brother Nick Pietrangelo's feet. The prayer was said by Brother Gorie Ciaravino.

During the ordination many beautiful experiences were sent to us from on high. There were experiences to verify that Brother Nick was chosen by God. There were experiences to show the authority given to The Church, as well as the personal authority given to Brother Nick. Some felt and others saw the presence of the Lord. I could never possibly cover the many different experiences that were had that day.

There are two, however, I would like to mention. During the ordination Sister Raffaella DiFalco, saw a Sister standing within our midst. This Sister was Marrietta Ruzzi. She had gone on to her reward about 20 years ago. Sister DiFalco did not understand the full meaning of the vision until Brother Nick spoke to the congregation.



First he expressed gratitude for our prayers in his behalf. Then he thanked his family for their support through the years and made special mention of his good wife who had helped him in his work for the Lord.

Finally, Brother Nick revealed a very lovely experience, which took place some 20 years ago.

"Sister Marrietta Ruzzi called me to her home. While there she told me the day would come when I would be called and ordained as an Apostle of The Church. I contended with her a little, and stated I was not worthy of the office."

She replied, "I will not be here to see it. I'm about to leave this life. But when that day comes you will know."

Our God works His wonders among mankind that we might know He is a living God. Brother Nick Pietrangelo had never in 20 years, repeated what Sister Ruzzi had told him. Yet on the day of his ordination, Sister Marrietta Ruzzi was seen by a Sister who had no idea that what she saw was a revelation, which after 20 years was being fulfilled.

Brother Dominic Thomas' closing remarks agreed with Brother Nick that a good companion working side by side with you, is a great help in your service to the Lord.

(Continued on page 3)

FAREWELL TO BROTHER JOSEPH AND SISTER ROSE MILANTONI

On Sunday May 26, 1974 many Brothers and Sisters from various parts of the country and Canada met at Branch No. 2 in Detroit, Michigan to bid farewell to Brother Joseph and Sister Rose Milantoni. They were to begin their journey the next day to their new home on the San Carlos Indian Mission in Arizona. Brother Joe was selected by the General Church Mission Board to labor with the Lamanites in that part of the vineyard.

Brother Joe Milantoni addressed the congregation. He thanked God for his new work. He does not wish to look negatively at the difficulties that seem to appear in it; but he wishes through the power of God to look at the positive side of it, because of God's promises and the great need for Christ in the world.

Brother Domenic Thomas spoke next and stated that The Church has a need for Brother Joe's talents. He represents our youth, the Joshuas of the new era, who will take The Church farther than we have and help satisfy the overwhelming need for Christ in the world.

In the afternoon meeting Brother Paul Palmieri spoke and related how Brother Joe was an influence in his conversion to The Church. He spoke on Brother Joe's willingness to accept Alma's challenge that he presented to the people at the waters of Mormon to "bear his brothers' burdens." He concluded in remarking how beautiful are the feet (Brother Joe) of him that publishes peace as Isaiah exclaims!

Brother Gorie Ciarayino spoke next and talked about the indispensable role that Sister Rose Milantoni will have in Brother Joe's mission. He wished her Godspeed.

Sister Clara Gentile related an experience she had many years ago in which God revealed to her that Brother Joe would be a great worker for The Church. Such a good spirit prevailed in the meeting that a Brother asked to be made dutiful in The Church again while sacrament was being passed.

Brother Domenic Moraco spoke and stated that Brother Joe's greatness lies in the fact that he always has time to help someone in The Church. During the meeting Brother Domenic Moraco had a feeling to wash Brother Joe's feet. This feetwashing scene was a very spirit-filled and touching sight. Then all the Elders present formed a circle around Brother Milantoni and Brother Domenic Thomas prayed before they anointed him. Brother Reno Bologna, under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, spoke to Brother Joe. As he poured the oil on his head and prepared to pray, Brother Fred Straccia sang in the tongues. Sister Katherine Gammichia interpreted the "tongues" to say to the effect that "something will flourish".

Sister Rose Milantoni expressed her thanks to God for His mercy, love and kindness. She also thanked us for our kindness and the love of God she has felt throughout the years among us. She loves us and treasures the many memories she has shared with us.

Brother Matthew Cotellesse
Branch Editor

OUR NEW ORLEANS VISIT

I am writing this article about a recent visit my wife and I made to New Orleans with George Kovacic, his wife Sister Phyllis (Bucci) Kovacic and their daughter Sharon. Sister Esther and I went there on an invitation from George and Sister Phyllis to visit with Sister Marlea (Bucci) Frentzos and family.

We enjoyed a very beautiful and safe journey southward thru this blessed land of America. I must say that God did watch over us and did guide us safely to our destination. We arrived at Sister Marlea's home on Saturday evening, April 6, and we were warmly received. It was a typical Latter Day Saint greeting. I met Sister Marlea's husband George and found him to be a very fine and wonderful person.

While at Sister Marlea's home we had a chance to get acquainted with the three newly baptized Sisters from the New Orleans area. On Saturday evening we met Sister Kathy McGarland who was baptized by Brother James Lovalvo. On the following day Sunday as we gathered together we met Sister Vicki Johnson who was also baptized by Brother James Lovalvo. We also met Sister Gail Wortman who was baptized by Brother Dom Bucci.

There is no Branch or Mission established in the New Orleans area, neither is there an ordained Elder or Teacher there, and it did amaze all of us to see the enthusiasm and love in the Gospel that these four Sisters did exhibit. It would be very difficult for me to put into words what we all saw and experienced there.

We were in New Orleans for two Sundays and did gather together on both occasions with the Sisters and a few friends. Before going to New Orleans we had asked many to remember us in prayer and we had also petitioned the Lord that He might pour out His blessings upon all of us there. I can surely say at this time that the Lord did not leave us alone. For myself I enjoyed some of God's richest blessings there since I have been in The Church, and I know the others felt the same way. The spirit of testimony was just wonderful with all taking part. We also had the opportunity to meet for a Wednesday evening prayer meeting, and again the Lord did pour out his fullest blessing upon us.

I had gone to New Orleans hoping that I might say something or bear my testimony and that it might be of some benefit to these Sisters but I can say that the experiences, testimonies, and all the things that these Sisters spoke of concerning the Gospel was very gratifying and uplifting to me.

We felt a wonderful spirit of fellowship there and the hospitality of Sister Marlea and her husband George will be remembered for many years to come. By now everyone must know and feel that we did enjoy very much being with the Sisters and their friends in New Orleans.

We departed New Orleans Monday, April 13 and arrived safely back in Erie, Pennsylvania Tuesday, April 14. Truly, it was a trip and visit much blessed of the Lord.

Being young in the Gospel I feel I learned a lesson from this trip. When we are sincere and go to the Lord and ask Him to bless our endeavors in the Gospel, He will

(Continued on page 3)

PEOPLE ARE INQUIRING

Letters of inquiry continue to come to The Church from far and near. Some people want to know about our Faith and Doctrines. Others request literature in order to become better informed about The Church of Jesus Christ.

Mr. A. Jack Knapp
RR 2 Box 281
Blue Springs, Missouri 64015
Dear Mr. Knapp:

Your letter to our headquarters recently has been forwarded to me for answering. Your concern for the "Seed of Joseph" or as we also call them, "Lamanites", is indeed a valid concern, and a real challenge. As you mention, it was among the first experiences Joseph Smith received that we should go to the borders of the Lamanites. The *Book of Mormon* is very clear that we would, and should, be nursing fathers and mothers to them.

Under the "Bickertonite" organization, it has been to this day our prime objective to bring the Gospel to them. We have had a moderate success and God has blessed us in every endeavor to help them. We seek primarily to acquaint them (the Lamanites) with the record their forefathers left to them (*The Book of Mormon*). Many of our Missionaries and their families seek and find work near, or on, the reservation in order to be close to them. As the Lord inspires them, they go among them inviting them to hear the promises of God. We feel quite strongly that soon a deliverer will come from *among their own seed* to help them more. He will be the Choice Seer spoken of in the *Book of Mormon* (*Second Chapter* in your *Book of Mormon*, *Third Chapter* in ours). While we believe that Joseph Smith was used as a seer to translate the *Book of Mormon*, we do not believe he is the Choice Seer that is spoken of in the above chapter. There is much more we can say about all this, however, I believe that you might have some questions that would be better answered in the literature we have sent to you. If you have any further questions, please feel free to write to me personally. Any literature you desire should be ordered from our headquarters.

Incidentally, we *do not* print the *Book of Mormon* in Navajo. Your friend no doubt misunderstood. We do work among them and I would wish we did have one printed in their native tongue. Personally, I have three daughters, two sons-in-law, one son and eight grandchildren that live and work among the Apaches and Navajos. So you see, it is a serious and deep concern with love that we have for the ultimate gathering in of the Seed of Joseph, whom God will eventually use to bring about Zion. *The Book of Mormon* tells us that we will *assist them* in building the City of New Jerusalem (*III Nephi, Chapter 10, Verses 2 & 3* your book), (*Chapter 21, Verses 23-24* in our book). What a glorious promise. I would say that God would grant all the honest in heart throughout the world and especially those of the Restoration to see this. I personally believe he will. *The Book of Mormon* to us is a treasure. W. W. Phelps says, it is a heavenly treasure, a book full of merit, it speaks from the dust by the *power of the Spirit*. A voice from the Saviour that *Saints can rely on*, to *watch* for the day when *He* brings again Zion.

Thank you for writing to us. We would be happy to hear from you any time. Likewise looking for the wonderful unity Zion will have.

Sincerely yours,
Joseph Calabrese

LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO BRANCH NO. 3 DETROIT

The Church of Jesus Christ
13420 E. Seven Mile Road
Detroit, Michigan 48205
U.S.A.

Dear Brethren,

I wish to express on behalf of the Staff and students of The Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School, Atai Otoro, Abak and on behalf of the entire Church in Nigeria, my gratitude to you for the humanitarian gesture which you have shown to our school.

You have donated what I might call "a whole library" to the school. I have so far received 368 volumes and as all the parcels have not come at the same time, I am still expecting to collect more.

This gesture of practical Christianity has been unsurpassed in the history of the South-Eastern State and it is my belief that only the good Lord will reward you. By this gesture you have shown that you "do good unto all men" (Galatians 6:10) and I do trust that the good Lord "will never leave thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

Once again, I thank you for your humanitarian gesture and urge you to continue the good work you are doing and He will reward you.

Sincerely yours,

P. U. Iniodu
Principal - Technical Secondary School

A NEW APOSTLE

(Continued from page 1)

Then he directed his counsel to those who are members of Branch No. 1. He said we as members should try and set a good example for others to see. He reminded us that as Brother Nick is used in various Branches of The Church, our good example will help him in his work.

As we work hard to become better Saints, I know that Brother Nick will be along side of us, working even harder to fulfill all of his duties. There is no doubt in my mind, that God will be with him and bless him in his new office of Apostle.

Sister Diana Thompson

OUR NEW ORLEANS VISIT

(Continued from page 2)

not forsake us or leave us alone and that He will pour out his richest and fullest blessings upon us.

I would like to ask each one of you that when you pray, remember the Sisters and their friends in New Orleans.

Brother Bob Dyer
Erie Mission

It is good that men should think; but it is indispensable that men should love.

G.M.B.A. 1974 Campout, Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan - August 24-30

The G.M.B.A. Campout will start on August 24, 1974 at 3:00 p.m.

Meals and cabin cost: \$7.25 per day (8 years and older), \$3.75 per day (4 years to 7 years), NO COST (3 years and under). Come prepared to enjoy a week of fellowship with Saints and loved ones. Your presence and participation will make the campout a complete success.

Camp Director: Joe Carlini, 8805 Mortenvue Drive, Taylor, Michigan 48180.

Cabins: Families with children will be given first

grouping consideration. Most cabins are in a congenial dormitory style with lavatory facilities. (Girls with showers, Boys with adjacent shower room). Cabins house 14 to 18 people. You must supply sheets, blankets, mattress covers, and pillows. We suggest sleeping bags.

Moteler's and Campers: Those using Mess Hall will pay \$7.25 per day for meals.

Send applications to: Joseph Ross, 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001. Registration forms must be returned with camp fee by August 4, 1974.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP WALDEN

FROM DETROIT AREA

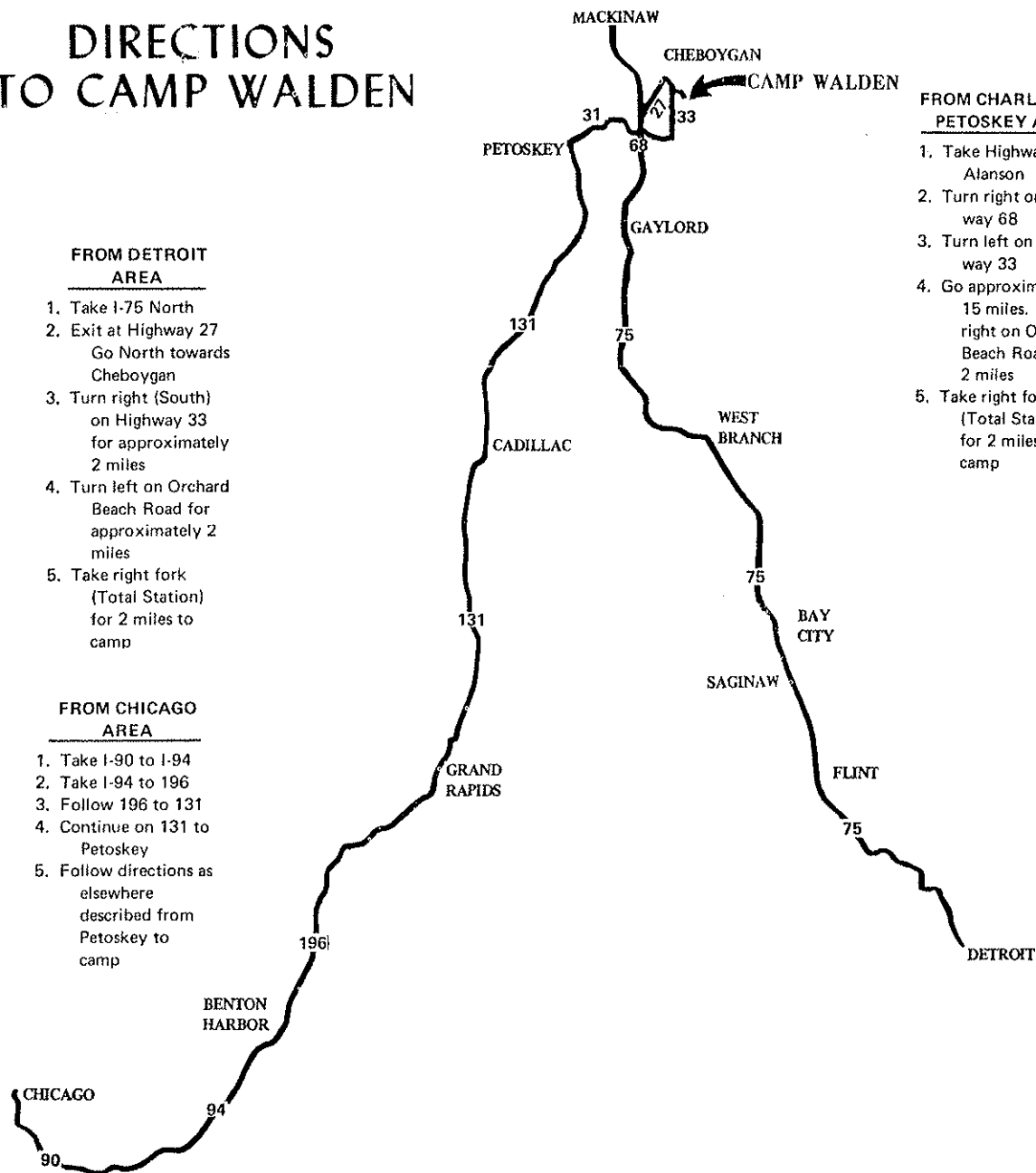
1. Take I-75 North
2. Exit at Highway 27
Go North towards Cheboygan
3. Turn right (South) on Highway 33 for approximately 2 miles
4. Turn left on Orchard Beach Road for approximately 2 miles
5. Take right fork (Total Station) for 2 miles to camp

FROM CHICAGO AREA

1. Take I-90 to I-94
2. Take I-94 to 196
3. Follow 196 to 131
4. Continue on 131 to Petoskey
5. Follow directions as elsewhere described from Petoskey to camp

FROM CHARLEVOIX, PETOSKEY AREA

1. Take Highway 31 to Alanson
2. Turn right on Highway 68
3. Turn left on Highway 33
4. Go approximately 15 miles. Turn right on Orchard Beach Road for 2 miles
5. Take right fork (Total Station) for 2 miles to camp



Camp Walden

Route 2

Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Phone 616-627-9861

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

LIBERTY

(Reprinted 1958)

by Donald J. Curry

Ideals of Liberty: freedom from tyranny, fear, persecution; preserved in America by The Church.

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift up my lamp beside the golden door!"*

This is the inscription, written by a Jewess poetess, Emma Lazarus, upon the Statue of Liberty which stands in New York harbor. The name of the statue and the inscription both tell what the statue symbolizes—America, the land of liberty. Liberty is America's cherished ideal, and since the founding of this nation, millions of the world's "tired," "poor," "huddled masses," "homeless," and "tempest-tossed" have entered in through the "shining door" to find refuge against the evils of tyranny and oppression.

Yet is our liberty threatened not only from outside forces, but from many within who work under the very protection of that which they seek to destroy.

Where do we of the Church of Jesus Christ stand on the question of American liberty? As part of the American people we wish, of course, to preserve anything that guarantees our rights as individuals and a minority group. We see liberty, however, not as something that helps only us or as something only American, but as a God-given standard that will free all men.

We all know the story of the Reformation and of the evolution of American democracy. These were instruments through which God re-instilled within the hearts and minds of men the ideals and principles which He laid down in the Moral Law and the teachings of Christ. The Reformation was a quest for the liberation of men—which included such uplifting ideals as equality, justice, freedom from want, fear, and oppression, and a regard for human dignity and decency.

It is now up to us, The Church of Jesus Christ, to carry these ideals to fulfillment. This is our quest—to carry freedom to all men—the liberty of Jesus Christ.

Jesus taught that He was the light, the way, and the life. He also taught His followers that they were the light of the world. He came that He might free the world of men from its awful state of sin and degradation. We in Christ are the light of the world. When all human decency and good has been trodden under foot and evil men deprive all peoples of their liberties as they are striving to do today, it will fall upon us to be the sole defenders of truth and freedom.

It may be that we shall become the last outpost of liberty. Are we able and willing to meet this responsibility? Yea, through the life and spirit of Jesus Christ are we able to hold high before the world the light that He lit? We will carry the ideals and principles of Christ into Zion to create a condition under which all men will live according to these ideals and principles.

The weight of this is upon us. We are the hope and light of freedom through Christ. We must not, we cannot, fail. Let us, therefore, serve God to this end with every ounce of conviction and determination that is within us, that we may carry the torch of the liberty of Jesus Christ ever forward and reaffirm in Zion that glorious invitation:

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift up my lamp beside the golden door!"*



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

SAUL, THE FIRST KING

Dear Girls and Boys,

The last of the judges in Israel was Samuel the Prophet. When he became old he made his two sons judges. They did not walk in the ways of their father. They took bribes from the people and did not rule justly. The people went to Samuel and told him what his sons were doing. They asked him to choose a king for them. They wanted to be like their neighbors instead of being the way God wanted them to be. They said to Samuel, "You are getting old. Make us a king to judge us like the other nations." Samuel felt they had rejected him but the Lord said they had rejected the Lord instead. The Lord was not pleased about this.

The Lord told Samuel to explain to the people what it would be like to have a king. He said a king would make their sons drivers of chariots, work in the fields and be his servants. Their women would be cooks and bakers. The king would take their best lands and vineyards; also the best cattle and sheep. Samuel said they would cry out against the king but the Lord would not hear them. But the people would not listen and finally the Lord said, "Make them a king."

There was a man in Israel named Kish, who had a son named Saul. One day Kish's flocks strayed away and he told Saul to take a servant and find them. They went a long way but could not find them. They came to a city and Saul was told a prophet lived here who could tell him where to find the animals. As they went up a hill to the city they met young maidens going to draw water. Saul asked them if the prophet were in the city. The maidens said, "Yes," and they would find him at a feast there. As Saul walked on he met Samuel the Prophet. Now the Lord had revealed to Samuel that day, that he would know the man whom the Lord had chosen to be Israel's king. When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said, "This is the man."

Saul did not know Samuel. He went up to him and asked where to find the prophet's house. Samuel answered, "I am he." He invited Saul and the servant to the feast. Samuel said Saul's father had found the flocks and he was to think no more about them. Samuel took Saul and the servant into his parlor and gave them the best place to sit at the feast.

Very early the next morning Samuel took Saul to the top of the house where they could be alone. Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on Saul's head and kissed him. Thus Saul was anointed to be the king of Israel. The Lord had commanded it but the people were not to know of it yet.

Later Samuel told the people to come to Mizpeh. Again he told them they were making a mistake in desiring

a king and in doing so they were rejecting God who had brought them out of Egypt. But they still were determined to have a king. Samuel called Saul and placed him before the people saying, "Saul is the Lord's choice." Saul was thirty years of age. There was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he. He was a big man, from his shoulders and upwards he was taller than any of them. Now the people were happy. They shouted for joy, "God save the King."

Saul did not always serve the Lord. He offered excuses to Samuel for not obeying God. How foolish Saul was! His sons and grandsons could have followed him as in other kingdoms. Samuel told Saul, "Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected thee from being king." The time would soon come that the Lord would remove Saul from the throne and another would be chosen in his place.

Not long after this, the Philistines were at war with the Israelites on Mount Gilboa. The enemy closed in on Saul and killed his three sons. The archers overtook Saul and wounded him. He called to his armor bearer, "Kill me with your sword." Saul didn't want the Philistines to capture and kill him. But his armor bearer was afraid, so Saul took his own sword and fell upon it. When the armor bearer saw Saul was dead, he also fell upon his own sword and died. What a sad end to the king's life but it was just as the prophet had foretold.

Next month I will tell you about the king who followed Saul.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

Two More Baptisms In Maine

DARRYL ONORATO — Baptized and Confirmed April 28, 1974 by Brother Richard Onorato.

DONALD PERRELLO — Baptized and Confirmed April 28, 1974 by Brother Richard Onorato.

Brother Richard Onorato performed his first two baptisms since being ordained an Elder in North Edgecomb, Maine. A wonderful spirit prevailed when these Brothers asked for their baptism.

These two baptisms became a great blessing of God to the parents at this particular time; since the day before they had much trouble at business and in the neighborhood. That night Brother Richard Onorato dreamed that someone asked to be anointed, but refused to be anointed by him. Our Brother was very troubled by this when he awoke and decided to go into fasting and prayer to rebuke the Evil One. The Lord rewarded his faith by touching the soul of his son Darryl when he asked to be baptized.

Sister Marie Perrello was also very troubled and depressed on Saturday and a thought came to her to read in *The Book of Alma* when Alma and Amulek were bound with cords and imprisoned and God freed their bonds by their great faith. This encouraged our Sister that she felt she was going to receive a special blessing. She did when her son Donald asked for his baptism.

Sister Amelia Saccardi
Branch Editor

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Brothers and Sisters and Friends,

We wish to thank each one of you for all of your prayers and support in our behalf while working out in the mission field. We spent one and a half years in Wakpala, South Dakota and two and a half years in San Carlos, Arizona Apache Mission.

It has been a great experience for us and we shall have many cherished memories to keep in our hearts.

It indeed has been a great honor and privilege to be able to work with the Seed of Joseph (Indians) whom we have a great and deep love for.

As we leave the mission field at this time, and re-establish our lives, we ask for all of your prayers. Our desire is to continue on in God's service and be a help to others always. Especially to those who labor in the mission field.

Sincerely,

Brother Anthony, Sister Grace Brutz
and son Jim



This is a snap shot of our newly baptized sister. Navajo: Nellie (Begay) Hopkins, daughter-in-law of our Apache Sister Anita.

Our new address is:

Anthony D. Brutz
640 2 S. Hildreth
Tucson, Ariz. 85706

AN EXPERIENCE

I have just passed through a trial, the outcome of which, I would like to share with all my Brothers and Sisters. Some time ago, I developed a skin tumor on the back of my neck. I was reminded from time to time, by my family and friends, of its ugliness. Due to some experiences that the Lord had given me, I felt I could exercise faith and the Lord would take care of it. In one experience, I dreamed that, with a long stick, I was holding off, with much force, a very large and ugly caterpillar. After much struggle, it finally bit me, leaving a noticeable red scar. At another time, as I awoke one morning, I was repeating with much authority, "In the name of Jesus Christ, be thou removed." Much concern

and prayer was offered as to what I should do about this. After being anointed by the Elders, I just felt my faith could be sufficient for the Lord to move in my behalf. Shortly after this, I broke the tumor with my comb. At this time I felt I should act by making an appointment with a skin specialist. On my first visit to him, he removed it. As he cut into it, he paused and wondered at finding scar tissue, asking me if I had had a scar there. I assured him that I had not. Three weeks later I visited him and the cut had not healed and he assured me that it never would and referred me to a plastic surgeon for further operation and skin grafting. When the surgeon examined me he told me the tests were cancerous and made arrangements for me to be admitted to the hospital, two weeks later. By the time of my admittance, the wound had completely healed, leaving the "red scar" I had seen in my dream. The Doctor assured me there were roots that should be removed, which was done, only requiring minor surgery—no skin graft necessary. During my three day stay at the hospital, the Dermatologist, who had first operated on me, visited me before the surgeon had removed the roots and told me that if he hadn't seen the healed wound, he would have never believed it. He came into my room three days later, the day I was discharged, and still marveled at the healing, assuring me he could never believe it, had he not seen it for himself. I visited the surgeon a week after his operation on me, he removed some of the stitches and told me the tests of the roots were all clear. I suppose I could have had this taken care of some time back, but, even having to go through all this anxiety and suffering, we would not have seen the hand of God favor us with this wonderful Blessing. Our faith is stronger than ever before. I wish to thank all my Brothers and Sisters and my family for their prayers and concern in my behalf.

Sister Margaret Johnson

Brother Mark Randy Reports:

The Modesto, California Branch of The Church is happy to welcome Brother and Sister Victor Ciarolla into our midst.

They were formerly of Warren, Ohio. They have come to live near their son, Joseph, who lives at Oakdale, fifteen miles from Modesto.

Brother Ciarolla is an ordained Teacher.

Recent Blessing of Children

Many times we receive items where people have been blessed into The Church, and not necessarily a child. To adjust for this we will enter names of children blessed into The Church under Brief News. The only exception will be "New Arrivals" which will continue to be carried in the same location in the paper.

CHILDREN BLESSED

Donna Jean of Thomas and Vona Coffman Moore from Fort Pierce, Florida.

Dawn Rennee and James Ray of Ray and Alice Metheny from Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

Rebecca Ann of Clinton and Joyce Littlejohn from Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

New Convert In Tampa, Florida

On Sunday, February 3, 1974, the following Saints journeyed to Tampa, Florida: Brother Lou and Sister Libby Pandone, Brother V. James and Mary Lovalvo and Brother Anthony and Sister Elsie Ensana. We had previously been informed that a baptism was to take place that day giving us cause to rejoice all the way. In addition, this was Brother Ensana's first trip since his illness and he took the trip quite well, thank God.

Brother Anthony Ensana was the principal speaker, relating some of his experiences as he verified that which was told him by his mother from her sick bed. In her last hours, she told her son, "This is the true Church—The Church of Jesus Christ." He further spoke on "Faith and Love" and the fulfilling of prophecies in our day.

Brother V. James Lovalvo followed by encouraging the young people to be faithful, finding more reward and satisfaction in serving the Lord whereby the world will know they are above reproach.

At the close of the meeting, we gathered at Davis Island to witness the baptism of Sister Catherine Martin by Brother Lovalvo.

We met again for the confirming of our Sister by Brother Joseph Tucker. Brother Lovalvo read scriptural passages regarding the reception of the Holy Ghost by the ordinance of the laying on of hands found in *Acts* 8:15-17 and *II Nephi* 31:12. He stated we receive of God just what we put in service to Him by loving and having compassion for one another. Stressing our discovery of the pearl of great price, Brother Lovalvo urged us to build a foundation on the rock, Jesus, not on sand. Thus ended a wonderful day.

On our return trip home, we stopped at the hospital to visit Sister Rose Shoemaker who is very ill. (She is Billy Tucker's mother-in-law.) She requested to be anointed and to be renewed in The Church. As of this writing, our Sister has returned home and is recovering, but still requires our prayers.

We returned home safe and sound, thank God. In conclusion, we request the prayers of all that the work in Tampa may flourish as well as other places where the True Gospel is preached.

Brother Louis Pandone

Note: For the benefit of those that may be traveling through Tampa, the meeting place is in the Tampa Federal Savings Bank, South Cale Mabry at West Vista. The building is across the street from the Belk Lindsey Dept. Store.

BAPTISM IN NEW ORLEANS

The Gospel is spreading in the deep south. My younger daughter, Marlea, after her marriage in 1966 moved to Gretna, La., just outside of New Orleans. While there she made some acquaintances. Several years ago one of her friends asked her about her church affiliation. This gave her an opportunity to speak of the Restoration and The Church.

A young lady became very interested and began to read literature and the *Book of Mormon*. While reading

the *Book of Mormon* one day she spoke out in the gift of tongues. This young lady Gail Wortman is about 34 years of age and has received the Gospel by the gift of the Holy Ghost. She has received many wonderful experiences. In my visits we had sessions concerning the Restoration and The Church. What wonderful spirit and blessings we received.

Last July she requested baptism and I baptized her in the muddy Mississippi river at 8:45 P.M., just getting dark. Only five of us were there, my wife, daughter and another young lady about 20 years of age, Cathy McGartlin who also became interested in The Church and later baptized. Sister Gail told me that as I immersed her she felt a great darkness and coming up out of the water and walking towards the shore a great brightness. What a blessing.

I corresponded with Brother V. James Lovalvo of Florida concerning New Orleans. In November he visited there and held several meetings and informed me he baptized the young lady Cathy. This young lady had many wonderful experiences also. I have made frequent visits there and Brother Jim returned there in March this year and baptized another young lady, Vicky.

I must declare that I have been a member of The Church for over 35 years and in the ministry for about 31 years I have never witnessed the wonderful spirit these young sisters possess concerning the Restoration and Christ Jesus. The beautiful prayers they utter cannot be put into words.

Brother Jim will return there soon and I will go there in September, if the Lord wills. We now have four young sisters in New Orleans area and will be members of Florida District.

We hope and pray that a mission or branch may someday be established in that area. My grandson George Kovacic of Erie, Pa. is going down there in the latter part of May.

We request the prayers of all the Saints throughout The Church for the New Orleans work. The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus be with all of you is my prayer. Amen.

Evangelist T. D. Bucci

Blessings, Visitors, Baptism At Roscoe Branch

The Brothers and Sisters of Roscoe Branch have been greatly blessed and I know I will never be able to express in words the joy we have experienced these past few weeks among us.

On April 4, 1974 we were happy to have Brother and Sister Charles Smith from Ft. Pierce, Florida with us, who also witnessed along with us the blessing of nine little children in our morning service. How beautiful these children looked in our midst as we saw them being presented to the Lord and we thought of the words of Jesus as he called a little child to him and set him in the midst of them and said "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Brother Fred O'Lexa read from *St. Luke* how Simeon blessed Jesus as a baby, also he read scripture from

St. Matthew when the children were brought by their mothers to Jesus to be blessed. We also enjoyed the beautiful words given by Brother Charles Smith expressing himself among us. Brother Gasper Karelli blessed Jeffrey Michael, Mary and Amy Bialon. Brother Charles Smith blessed Alan Jerry Clark. Brother John Kendall blessed Joseph Leo Clark and Charlotte Ann Clark. Brother Fred O'Lexa blessed Jerry Lee Clark and Larry Todd Conrad and Brother Gasper Karelli blessed Aaron Keith Conrad.

On April 14, 1974, we were happy to have Brother and Sister Frank Rogolino and Brother and Sister George Abramson with us from Ft. Pierce, Fla., and enjoyed their words and testimonies in fellowship this day and throughout that week. We had several meetings in the homes of the Brothers and Sisters with them and many times it was hard to close these meetings, the Spirit of God was so great among us. During the week Sister Anna Mae Bialon asked for her baptism and was baptized April 21, 1974, in the Monongahela River at Roscoe, Penna., by Brother Fred O'Lexa and was confirmed by Brother Gasper Karelli. Sister Anna Mae had several experiences calling her into the gospel and as hands were laid upon her confirming her as a child of God, a Sister saw a very large cloud which seemed to be floating until it came over Sister Anna Mae's head. Tiny little drops were floating downward until it reached Sister Anna Mae, then it seemed to just shower as a downpour upon her. A special fellowship meeting was held at the Roscoe Branch on Monday evening, April 22, as our Brothers and Sisters from Florida were leaving the following morning. There were many blessings among us these past few weeks that will always remain in our hearts. There are several among us unbaptized who expressed their desire to become one with us and asked for the prayers of the Saints that they might be soon called into God's service. God's Spirit was truly felt among us and signs and wonders given will remain with us always. As our Brothers and Sisters from Ft. Pierce left us to go back to their homes it was truly hard to part, yet we know the Brothers and Sisters there in Florida anxiously awaited their return. We think of the Blest Tie that Binds the Saints of God together and of the day we will all meet to part no more. It is something worth striving for. We can only bow down before God and thank Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us and cry out *O God How Great Thou Art!*

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky,

Showers Of Blessings

By Cindy Christman

This is truly what we received when the Brothers and Sisters from the Phoenix area chartered a bus to the District Conference in Bell, California. We left Friday evening and although it was a long trip we enjoyed singing and the fellowship among ourselves.

Our meetings were very blessed both on Saturday and Sunday. The program Saturday evening was presented by the Phoenix area which was a slide presentation of the Papago Indians of Arizona. We also had a few songs by the Pinetop and San Carlos missions, the young Brothers and Sisters of Fort Defiance, Arizona and the Phoenix Branch.

Our Sunday service began with some beautiful song selections. Brother George Heaps opened the service and

spoke on how the old Brothers and Sisters of The Church have prepared a way for us. He told about how his father built bridges for him to cross, just as the Brothers and Sisters of The Church before us have done. He also spoke on preparing ourselves using the 12th chapter of *St. Luke*, 22nd verse as his text. Brother Dick Christman followed with the 16th Chapter of *Proverbs*, verses 1-3, "The preparations of the heart in man and the answer of the tongue is from the Lord." His thought was that we should prepare our mind and attitude to accept heartaches, trials and disappointments when doing the will of the Lord and preaching the gospel. We should be prepared to accept difficulties in the times ahead as we have a great task to perform.

We had several anointings and then Brother George Heaps stood up and asked for a show of hands for those who needed prayer both for physical and spiritual needs. Brother George then led us in a special prayer for all those who had raised their hands. Brother Frank Genaro expressed his desire for prayer as he had decided to pastor the Yucaipa mission. During the prayer Brother Chris Phillips spoke in tongues and two Sisters later gave the interpretation "It is God's will, go and I will be with you." We felt the presence of God and were truly blessed.

Although we didn't want to leave because of the wonderful spirit, it was getting late and we had to close the meeting. After the meeting the young people went to the front and sang hymns and were still singing through lunch.

Brother Mark Randy offered a prayer on the bus for those of us returning home. The Brothers and Sisters stood in front of The Church and bid us goodbye. We left still singing and praising God.

The Brothers and Sisters on the bus expressed that it was a wonderful blessing and that we would do it again. We thank God for this "Shower of Blessings."

Monongahela Branch News

The blessings of God have been very evident recently in our midst. When children are blessed according to the teachings of Jesus Christ, the spirit of humility always accompanies this ordinance.

On Sunday, May 5, Brother Meredith Griffith blessed Dawn Anana Boden. She is the daughter of Don and Lois Boden and the granddaughter of Sister Harriet and Albert Neidermeyer.

It was quite a contrast later in the day when Sister Ella Palmerson was baptized in the Monongahela River. This Sister is in her seventies and didn't mind the cold water one bit. She was immersed by Brother John Griffith and later was confirmed by Brother Idris Martin. Our new Sister testified that she wasn't aware of the cold water at all. Sister Ella is the daughter of the late Brother and Sister Gallick, a well-known name in the early days of our Branch.

Our blessings on this day were not quite finished; In our M.B.A., a question-and-answer session proved to be most interesting. The meeting began with an anointing of a small child who had a lump on her side. After Brothers Idris Martin and George Johnson finished their prayer, the bottle of oil was set on the pulpit. During the discussion of the meaning of Christ's words, "I am the resurrection and the life," Brother Johnson was empha-

sizing the fact that there is power in the resurrection. At that moment, the top of the oil bottle literally blew off. The neck of the bottle with the cap still in place landed on the floor. Brother Johnson immediately exclaimed, "I didn't even touch it!" The power in the ordinance of anointing was verified when the lump on the child's side disappeared the next day. Praise God for the power we see in His Church! We can certainly shout, "What a day, what a glorious day!"

The following Sunday, May 12, saw four children blessed. They were Tammy Louise, Sharron Lee and Amanda Sue, children of Sharron and Donald Lenart, and Debra Sue, daughter of Darlene and William Pitschman. All are grandchildren of Sister Irene Zukow.

Ordination In Kinsman, Ohio

On April 28, 1974, the Kinsman, Ohio Mission received a great blessing as Brother Howard Jackson was ordained an Elder of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Evangelist Daniel Corrado washed Brother Howard's feet and Apostle Anthony Corrado ordained him. Everyone felt the Spirit of God in our midst.

Sickness and the death of our late Brother Philip Dreer left our mission in need and we are very thankful that God saw fit to strengthen us with this calling of Brother Howard. May the Lord Bless and guide him in all things.

McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branch Enjoys Visitors

Sunday, June 2, was a very enjoyable day for those at the McKees Rocks, Pa. Branch. We were privileged to have Brothers Joe Genaro and Joe Manes and their families from Ohio visiting us. Also visiting was Brother Jack Rosemeier and his family from Imperial, Pa.

Brother Ron Genaro opened the meeting, preaching on the subject of "faith". He expounded on many passages of scripture portraying this subject to its fullest. Brother Joe Genaro followed, continuing with the same subject. Brother Buzzi DeMasso spoke in the gift of tongues. Also, the daughter of Charles and Sister Theodora Seeley was blessed by Brother John Manes. We know these blessings on our children are very important to them, as has been proven by the results of the blessings bestowed on us as children. God's Spirit was felt during the entire meeting.

During the afternoon service we had feet washing. Many wonderful testimonies were also given. We can all say that we enjoyed the fellowship with our visitors and welcome them at any time. We were certainly uplifted in being reminded of the importance of "faith" in our daily lives.

Sister Ruth Rogalla
Branch Editor

Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch Blessed With Two Ordinations

Sunday, March 31, was a wonderful and spiritual meeting for the Brothers and Sisters of the Sterling

Heights Branch. We were happy to have Brothers Dominic Thomas and Dominic Moraco visit us, as well as friends and families of the ordained.

Brother Dominic Thomas opened our meeting by explaining the duties of both a Teacher and a Deacon. He told us, too, of the members' obligations to help them by working together.

Brother Dominic Moraco told us of his early friendship with Brother Frank DiDonato (to be ordained a Deacon) and how happy he was to see the Lord using Frank now.

The ordinations followed the administering of sacrament. Brother Louis Visconti washed Brother Frank DiDonato's feet, and Brother John Buffa washed Brother Salvatore (Sam) DiFalco's feet. Brother Dominic Moraco then ordained Brother Frank into the office of Deacon. Brother Sam was then ordained a Teacher by Brother Paul Whitton.

This is the second ordination for Brother Sam DiFalco. He was ordained a Deacon on March 27, 1966.

We truly felt the Spirit of God. May the Lord sustain our Brothers in the performances of the duties of their holy offices.

Brother Jerry Chambers
Sister Hazel Zoltek
Branch Editors

News From Lorain

The spring time of the year brings a fresh revival of green trees, green grass and beautiful flowers; the lilac, the pansy, the daffadils and the tulip. After a long cold winter, how refreshing to behold mother nature with all her God given gifts of beauty that surround the earth.

I enjoyed reading the May issue of the Gospel News. Reading it brought to my mind the beautiful testimony of Sister Birdie Fournier during her recent visit to Lorain along with her sister.

Brother Joseph Calabrese opened that Sabbath's service with the 23rd Psalm, "The Lord is my Shepherd." In these days, we indeed look up to Him as our shepherd and our leader, as did all the Saints of old and He shall lead us beside the still waters and He shall restore our souls.

We were glad to see Brother Christman, from Arizona, in our midst in March. It's been a long time since he has been in Lorain. We enjoyed his thought that throughout his visits from the west to the east, he felt that The Church of Jesus Christ was very much alive and well and also that we have a seed here for the kingdom of God to grow. In this age of despair there are many opportunities for the gospel of Jesus Christ, he concluded.

Brother Dominic Thomas told of his early experiences in The Church and how he was baptized in the Detroit River, February 28, 1943. The mission board meeting was held on March 2, so Brother Dominic had his 31st spiritual birthday that week. He mentioned that he felt that The Church is holy ground. It was good to hear our Brothers and to be together in the "House of God."

On April 28, we were glad to have Brother Gorie Ciaravino visit Lorain after a safe return from his trip

to Nigeria and also his wife Antoinette. We were glad also to see Brother Vincent Aquilino and Sister Catherine, his wife, who have just returned from spending the winter in San Diego, California. We praise God for being with them all and making their journey home safe.

Brother Gorie spoke on the *Fifth chapter of Second Kings*, which tells about the healing of Naaman's leprosy.

On this day Sister Marzietta Aquilino was baptized. She is Brother Vincent Aquilino's sister-in-law. She had attended church for many months and had heard much about The Church from Brother Aquilino. It was a joy for all our family and all the Brothers and Sisters in our branch to witness her beautiful baptism on the shore of Lake Erie. She was baptized by her nephew, Brother Alfred Dominico. She was confirmed by Brother Frank Calabrese in the evening service.

On Mother's Day, May 12, the Ohio District met for a spiritual service in Lorain. All the words that were spoken and testimonies given bore witness of a fervent zeal and desire of the young people to want to do God's will and to bear witness to the goodness of God in their lives. The music presented by various ones was beautiful. The Youngstown quartet was thoroughly enjoyed. It was good to be together in the spirit of the Lord.

Among all the good news there is also some sad news, Brother John Allen Caldwell is very ill. We request prayers for him and his wife, Sister Marie.

I would like to conclude this article with mention of our service on Sunday, May 19th. My class in Sabbath School recited the words of Isaiah. "The grass withereth, the flowers fadeth, but the word of our God stand forever." Brother Frank Calabrese opened that morning service and read from the *7th chapter of Alma in The Book of Mormon*. The words of Alma reached our hearts today as they must have touched the hearts of the people in Gideon in that day. It was a beautiful feeling that refreshed the soul and was like the breath of spring, full of promise and fulfillment of God's ways.

Our service continued with many prayers for those who were in need of our Lord's help, as many came forth to be anointed. I know that our Lord will come to their aid as their needs are presented to Him. The Lord's presence was felt as each prayer was offered and as each testimony was given. There truly was a beautiful spirit in our midst. One of our Sisters saw a small girl knocking on a rock. The harder she knocked the bigger the rock became until it loomed very large before our sister's eyes. Interpretation as given by two of our Elders that the rock was Christ and the more we knock or call upon him, the greater are the blessings.

Sister Josephine Dominico
Branch Editor

Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 4 Welcomes New Member

The Brothers and Sisters of Detroit Branch No. 4 rejoiced in the baptism of Betty V. Denton on Sunday, May 5, 1974.

The theme of our Sunday morning service was "The Light of the Restored Gospel". Brothers Dominic Moraco and Anthony Lovalvo spoke on the subject and encour-

aged us, as members of The Church of Jesus Christ, to continue to show the "Light of the Restored Gospel" to the world.

After the meeting was dismissed, Betty asked for her baptism. She was baptized by Brother Leonard Lovalvo and confirmed by Brother Dominic Moraco.

Sister Betty came to Branch No. 4 for the first time several months ago with Brother and Sister Merle Swanger. Since then she has attended our meetings regularly and was blessed with a healing. May the Lord continue to bless Sister Betty and our Branch.

Loretta Lovalvo
Branch Editor

New Member Baptized At Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1

The Detroit Saints are happy to welcome Brother David McCloud to their fold.

He was baptized on Sunday, February 24, 1974. Brother Jerry Benyola immersed Brother McCloud in the waters of baptism. Brother Concetto Alessandro confirmed him a member of The Church.

The Saints joyfully received him into the family of Christ and their prayers are that God will bless Brother McCloud that he may continue to enjoy the truth of the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Youngstown, Ohio Branch Enrolls New Member Baptized At New Orleans, La.

Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana was the site of the baptism of Victoria Lynn Johnson on Sunday, March 24.

Brother V. James Lovalvo baptized her and Brother Anthony Ensana confirmed her a member of The Church.

Brother Lovalvo comments on the baptism:

"I have never baptized anyone in such stormy and turbulent waters as on the above date in Lake Pontchartrain. The waves buffeted me so powerfully that my back was sore for a whole week. But, I was overjoyed at baptizing such a wonderful girl as Vicky."

May God bless and sustain Sister Vicky as she begins her journey on the path that leads to eternal life.

Another Convert Added To Perry, Ohio Branch

Sunday, May 5 brought joy and blessing to the Perry Saints as another soul entered the flock.

Brenda Kay Elliott was baptized by Brother Eugene Kline and confirmed by Brother Elmer Santilli.

Sister Brenda had two separate experiences telling her that now is the time to make herself right with God.

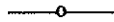
"It was a wonderful meeting. Even nature smiled — making a beautiful day". May the Lord bless our new Sister and make her a blessing to her Branch and others.

Brother Bob Quinn
Branch Editor

Aged Sister Honored

A special feature added to the edification experienced during the Sunday District Meeting of the Michigan-Ontario District, March 16, 1974.

A corsage was presented to Sister Jenny Tesi of Detroit Branch No. 2, honoring her fifty years of service to Christ. Sister Tesi is ninety-one years of age.



— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Kimberly Sue to Charles and Theodora Seely of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.

Catherine Elizabeth to James and Ellen Staley of Valparaiso, Indiana.

Lisa Marie Chambers to Steven and Loretta Chambers of Branch No. 1 Detroit, Michigan.

● OBITUARIES ●

JESSIE PARROT

Sister Jessie Parrot passed on to her heavenly reward on April 22, 1974. She was baptized on May 2, 1948 by Brother W. H. Cadman.

Sister Jessie lived in Kentucky most of her seventy-two years. She was faithful to her conversion in The Church of Jesus Christ. She often gave her testimony to friends and neighbors.

She was buried at the New Salem Cemetery, Nortonville, Kentucky.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, one daughter and three grandchildren.

May God bless her family at this time.

NUNZIO GIORDANO

Brother Nunzio Giordano, a member of the San Jose, California Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed to his reward on December 24, 1973. He was born at Villa Pioppo in Sicily on February 26, 1891. Brother Giordano was baptized into The Church on February 24, 1957. He was ordained a Deacon in August of 1957 and a Teacher in May of 1960.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife Mamie Giordano, eleven children, twenty-seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Brother Giordano was a faithful Brother whose testimony was a joy to all. He will be missed by those who knew him.

Funeral services were conducted in San Jose by Brother Joseph Lovalvo.

ANGELINA COSTARELLA

Sister Angelina Costarella, a faithful member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her heavenly reward on May 18, 1974. She was born on February 15, 1891 and baptized August 24, 1924.

Left to mourn her loss are three sons, five daughters, twenty grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother A. A. Corrado.

Our Sister was a very faithful member in the Youngstown Branch.



— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

AUGUST

10 to 17—California Area M.B.A. Campout, Pinetop, Arizona.

24 to 30—G.M.B.A. Campout at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan.

SEPTEMBER

14 & 15—Atlantic Coast District Conference, Bronx, N.Y.

7 & 8—California District Conference, San Fernando Valley.

7 & 8—Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce.

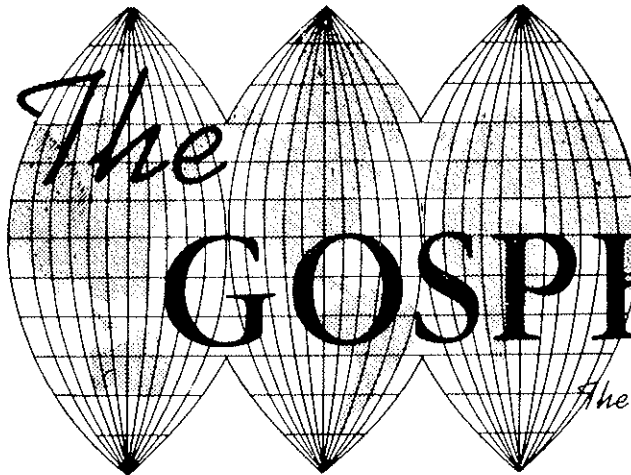
18, 19, 20 & 22—Michigan-Ontario District Conference, Branch No. 2.

14—Ohio District Conference, Perry.

14 & 15*—Pennsylvania District Conference, McKees Rocks.



All Church organizations (General, District, G. M. B. A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in the dates of their coming events for publication in the *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar. Send information to: Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

Isaiah 11:6

Every nation has produced children with a touch of the divine hand of God. Some have attained great feats of leadership at an early age. If such historical facts could be gathered in one volume, it would form a surprisingly large one. Sometime such greatness of children is to the shame of their unbelieving elders.

There is a written example of Jeremiah. "I knew thee and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, oh, Lord God behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the Lord said unto me, say not I am a child, for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. Then the Lord put forth his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said unto, behold I have put words into thy mouth."

Samuel grew under the love and devotion of a great mother. He was very young when God first visited him. The very high priest was found wanting, and there was no vision in Israel at this time. David the shepherd boy reached his God with dramatic faith, great trust and the assurance within his heart that God would deliver him from all evil. His Praises and Psalms to his God are yet the foremost widely used to this day.

Daniel manifested leadership in judgment at a very early age, in setting Susanna free from the evil priests of his day. Such children generally grow in homes where parents take an interest in their children. In most cases a wise and good mother is responsible for such strong and early display of character, and trust in God and themselves. We have such good and responsible parents today; often they are the unsung heroes. It is realistic to think of them as the guardians of our children.

The burden of caring for our children is on us, as they are the nations, the church, the ministers and leaders of tomorrow. Our is the responsibility of training, teaching and leading them. We cannot take them for granted, neither can we hope that the schools or churches do for them what we ought to do.

God saw that His Son was born of a woman whose very principle of life was obedience, integrity and devotion. In this was her greatness and her beauty. When children prove great, the parents are honored.

My brother Michael is a doctor practicing in Sacramento, California. When he was nine years old he loved to go to Sunday School, but I who was nineteen did not want to go, being compelled to go since I was the only driver of the family car. One day I lost the key to the ignition. I was very happy about it because it was Friday night and a good reason not to go to church. But Michael was very sad since it would mean missing his class at church. A Brother who was visiting, when he heard my gladness and my brother's dismay, said, "If you would have the number of the key, you could very easily have it duplicated." I did not know the number. Upon hearing this, Michael went into his bedroom and prayed for the number of the key. A short time later he appeared and said, "I know the number of the key." I shook him in disbelief. "You made it up," I said. My father said, "leave the boy alone and go to the dealer and give the number which Michael said he saw in a round light as he prayed. If there is such a key and the key fits the ignition, then he did not make it up, but if there is no such number, the boy made a mistake."

The following morning we went to Johns Brothers Ford Dealer in Detroit, and I asked if they had a key by the number 977, which my brother said was what he saw. There was such a number, and a key was made. Upon inserting the key into the ignition, I became very nervous; my thoughts troubled me. If this key really works, then I am an unbeliever. "Turn, turn the key," he kept saying. I finally turned the key and the ignition unlocked; something else also unlocked—my heart. I perspired cold sweat.

Do not send your children to the Sunday School—you TAKE them. Your example is greater than your words. Take time to pray with them and play with them. They are our greatest riches, and if they should become prodigals, when in trouble they will remember home and the love they knew therein.

May God bless us to be the fathers and mothers of Godly children, playing our rightful part in their lives. May the Lord be glorified in the lives of our children and that they may live in a reign of peace.

Brother Mark Randy

G. M. B. A. CAMPOUT AUGUST 24-30, 1974

Registrations are beginning to come in fast as the date for the G.M.B.A. Campout rapidly approaches. If you have not sent in your registration, do so "quickly!"

We are expecting a large turnout and a wonderful time together.

"The camp is beautiful".

"BIKE—A—THON" FOR THE NIGERIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

The Michigan -Ontario Area M.B.A. is sponsoring a Bike-a-Thon on Saturday, September 7, 1974 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Belle Isle on the Detroit River.

The benefit is to raise funds for the Nigerian Secondary School of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. The event will cover approximately a ten (10) mile course. Plans are as follows:

1. Approximately 100 riders will be riding their bikes on the course.
2. Each rider will be assigned a number to credit his list of pledge cards. (Provisions are being worked out if anyone cares to respond by proxy.)
3. All riders will be allowed to travel the 10 mile course as often as they can.
4. In addition a picnic will be held during the day.

Anyone wishing to donate or pledge money to the event may write to:

Brother John Straccia
5299 Hartwell
Dearborn, Michigan 48126 or call at
Area Code 313-582-7876

RE-PRINT OF MY TESTIMONY

On July 1, 1974, a re-print of 5000 copies of the pamphlet "My Testimony" by the late Brother Ishmael D'Amico will be made available for distribution. These pamphlets are in the English language with no changes from the original print.

All persons desiring copies of this pamphlet may obtain them by writing to:

Paul D'Amico
6413 O'Connor Drive
Lockport, New York 14094
Phone 716-433-9502

At this time, through the medium of *The Gospel News*, I would like to thank those who helped toward making this project possible. May God bless you is my prayer.

Your Brother-in-Christ
Paul D'Amico

STRIVE TO ENTER IN AT THE STRAIGHT GATE

By Apostle James Nichols

Reprinted from The Church History

"Strive to enter in at the straight gate, for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter and shall not be able." — (Jesus Christ.)

The above passage of scripture is one that every seeker after salvation ought to examine carefully, as our future happiness or misery depends upon the choice we make in this life. Therefore it behooves every one to examine himself to see whether he is traveling by knowledge or only by chance; for the Saviour says many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able. Now there must be some cause or reason that many shall seek to enter and not be able. It certainly must be because they do not seek to enter lawfully in the way that the Saviour has laid down, because, He says, "Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."

Now, in order to become a citizen of any earthly kingdom, we must first comply with the laws of that kingdom, so in like manner with the kingdom of God. If we want to become citizens of that kingdom, we must seek to enter in the way that Jesus and His disciples has laid down; not our own way but the Lord's way, remembering always that he that climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber, or as the Apostle Paul says, "And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully." (*II Timothy 2:5*)

Now, any reasonable minded person will admit that the way that Jesus laid down, and which was carried out by the Apostles, was the lawful way to enter the kingdom of God, and as Jesus was the great lawgiver, and the Apostles the officers to administer that law, it certainly must follow that all persons wishing to become citizens of the kingdom of God, in that age of the world, had to comply with the laws of that kingdom, in order to make their citizenship legal, and be adopted in by those having authority, otherwise their citizenship would be illegal. And we can only find one method of adopting men and women into that kingdom, found in the *New Testament* scriptures, and there is nothing on record to show that method has ever been changed by the Almighty. It certainly must be admitted that the method laid down by the Saviour stands as firm today as when it fell from His gracious lips; for has He not declared that heaven and earth shall pass away but not one tittle of the word of God shall fail.

It will now be for us to see what that method was for. We find that when Jesus was about to be taken from His disciples He gave them a commission, which is written thus: "And He said unto them go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned." (*Mark 16:15 and 16*). We therefore learn from these words of the Saviour's that they were to preach the gospel to the people first, and then he that believed was to be baptized, and the promise was that they should receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (*Acts 2:38*). But now we find the scene has been changed, for instead of baptizing them after they believe the gospel, they take and baptize unconscious babies, and then when they grow up to riper years they tell them to believe;

therefore they do just as the prophet Isaiah said they would do: "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, because they have transgressed the law, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant." (*Isaiah* 24:5): "and for this cause the inhabitants of the earth are to be burned, and few men left." This then is one reason that many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able, because they have changed the ordinance of baptism, not only in putting it before faith, but instead of a burial baptism, they have instituted a sprinkling baptism. Neither is this the only cause that many shall seek and shall not be able to enter, for we find those in our day and generation that deny the gift of the Holy Ghost, while the Apostle Paul emphatically declares that: "no man can say that Jesus is the Lord but by the Holy Ghost." (*I Cor.* 12:3).

Jesus says: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." (*John* 3:5). Now this language is so positive and so plain that we cannot see how men can fight against such plain declarations, for if any man can enter the kingdom of God without the Spirit of God, the words of the Saviour fall to the ground and would be of no more value than the words of men. But seeing that He spake as never man spake, and that He spake the words of the Father, and that the word of God endureth forever. Therefore seeing that this is the case, every reasonable minded person must admit that it takes the Spirit of God to constitute us heirs of the kingdom of God.

The Apostle Paul makes it very plain in his epistle to the *Romans* 8:9. He writes: "But ye are in the spirit; if so, be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of His." *Verse* 14 says: "for as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Judging from the above language of scripture, we must come to the reasonable conclusion that all those who seek to enter the kingdom of God without the Spirit of God will not be able, as we have to be sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance. It is a deed or a title to that inheritance which is incorruptible, undefiled and that fadeth not away.

It behooves every person that wants to enter, to see that they have the spirit and if not, how they can obtain it, so that they may become heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. It was by this that the visions of futurity were opened to their view; by it they could tell what would come to pass in the last days. And the Apostle by this same spirit could tell, that in the latter days many would depart from the truth, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, etc. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." (*II Timothy* 4:3 and 4). Now these people who are now professing Christianity will admit that the above was all true with men of other ages and yet they will try to get into the kingdom of God some other way.

O vain man to think that God has changed the plan of salvation or that it will not take the same to save a man in the nineteenth century, as it did in any other age of the world, while it is written that God is unchangeable. Oh, that the human family would be wise and would consider their latter end and obey the gospel of the Son of

God, that they might receive the spirit, so that in spirit and in truth they might worship Him, for if we have not the spirit we cannot worship Him in spirit and in truth, for it has to lead and guide us into all truth, and show us things to come. Therefore, leaving these few remarks to the readers calm consideration, and our prayer for them is that they:

May strive to enter in
The straight and narrow gate
And make your peace with God
Before it is too late;
For Jesus soon will come again,
His foes destroy, His Saints to claim.

God Gave Us A Trust

God gave us a trust to feed his sheep,
Then drive the grouches who will not keep.
We shall never let these gloomy men,
Offend and pervert God's true plan.

* * *

We must never entrust foolish talk,
The riches of God's grace and work.
Nor let men draw children away,
From God's kingdom, and others sway.

* * *

We love the men who will take the time,
Who visit the sick, pray for them.
He's courteous, kind and will make them feel,
God is love, He's kind, God is real.

* * *

Honor such men and give them their due,
They are the kingdom builders true.
The reason people pass God's door,
They know not what God has in store.

* * *

It takes great people to feed God's sheep,
Not idle hands and eyes that love to sleep.
With pleasant words and smiling eyes,
We lead people to paradise.

* * *

The only difference we believe,
Is the treatment people receive.
We have been given a trust to keep,
Feed and care for the Lord's sheep.

—:—

I was inspired to set forth
these words. May God bless,
the reader.

By Mark Randy

March 7, 1974

"Set your affections," remember, if Heaven is your home, its worth your investment.

THE MICHIGAN-ONTARIO AREA M. B. A. SAGINAW VALLEY RETREAT

On the weekend of April 27, 1974 the Michigan-Ontario Area M.B.A. sponsored a retreat for its young people at the Saginaw Valley College campus. It was a privilege to have as one of our guests an African named Emmanuel Okoye who is from Nigeria and is acquainted with our Church in that area. He is now attending our church meetings in Windsor, Canada. On Saturday morning after beginning with a session of prayer; Brother Domenic Thomas, General Church President, spoke to us. He said that the weekend will give us a mutual concern for the welfare of The Church and contribute to our spiritual growth and development. While we are young, we should decide what spiritual experiences we want in life and what we want to do for The Church. The success of The Church will be determined on how well we develop our talents and how we prepare ourselves for responsibilities in The Church.

We then departed into our seminar sessions. We had four seminars, each dealing with a different subject. The seminars dealt with family relationships; personal relationship with God; wisdom in selecting a mate; and how to obtain and define spiritual maturity. The seminar I attended was very thought provoking and illuminating.

After an enjoyable afternoon of recreation, we gathered in the evening and took up the theme, "Fishers of Men", in various skits, being performed by the various locals. Lessons we learned were that we should prepare to win souls to Christ by attending all church meetings, and by reading the *Bible*, the *Book of Mormon*, and church literature. We can also win souls by showing our light under all circumstances, adverse and otherwise. After the skits we each attended one of four seminars, each on the subject of winning souls.

On Sunday morning we assembled in the college assembly room. Brother Paul Palmieri from Aliquippa, Pennsylvania spoke to us. Brother Paul spoke of recent schools he has attended for his work. The aim of the classes are to improve the mental and moral character of the employees. Brother Paul stated what they were trying to accomplish in the classes he obtained in 1956 when he gave his heart and soul to Christ and was baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ. People in the world want to love and be loved; but they have to be taught how. This can only be done by Jesus Christ and His Church. Brother Paul went on to say to us that we don't have to talk about our righteousness to others; if we just serve God, our light will shine and they will see Christ in us.

The meeting was then left open for testimonies. Most of the testimonies consisted of what Christ has done for them, and what they want to do for Christ; especially in bringing Him to this terrible world. Brother Don Ross from the Atlantic Coast spoke and said his most fervent desire is to be used of God as a Minister of The Church. He went on to say that Jesus exhibited everything in life for which we should strive. At the end we all formed a ring and Brother Nephi DeMercurio offered a very inspired prayer. A beautiful spirit of love for another prevailed as we kissed one another farewell.

Brother Matthew Cotellesse

WHAT MARIJUANA CAN DO TO YOU

The following letter was printed in the New York Times on May 31, 1973. It is reprinted for your information.

To the Editor:

The spokesmen for Normal (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) in their efforts to obtain the commercial availability of marijuana in the United States (letter April 24) ignore the following:

1. Marijuana contains toxic substances (THC and its metabolites) which are only soluble in fat and stored in body tissues, including brain, for weeks and months, like DDT. The storage capacity of tissues for these substances is enormous—which explains their slow deleterious effects in habitual smokers. Anyone using these substances more than once a week cannot be drug free. Moderate usage is difficult to achieve because of one of the most serious hazards of cannabis usage: the development of tolerance, i.e., the necessity of increasing dosage in order to obtain the initial effect. As a result of this tolerance, a significant number of habitual users of marijuana will require increased dosages of stronger preparations (hashish) or escalate to more potent drugs. The National Commission has reported that there are already 500,000 heavy marijuana users in the U.S. How did they get there and what happens to them?

Marijuana smoke induces cancer in tissue cultures of human lung; samples of the lung removed from American soldiers in Germany who used hashish daily presented equamous metaplasia, a lesion statistically and anatomically linked with carcinoma of the lung. Marijuana usage leads to cellular damage in man: the cellular mediated immune response (white blood cells) is impaired in marijuana smokers. This impairment of lymphocyte function is associated with chromosome breakage observed in casual as well as chronic marijuana users. If such breakage occurs in the gonads (germ cells) where the by-products of marijuana accumulate electively because of their high fat content, birth defects will result. Such defects have been produced in animals treated with marijuana.

2. Since 1924 all international conventions of scientific and legal experts have recommended that cannabis derivatives as well as opium and coca leaves be classified among the "stupefying drugs" which may only be used for medical purposes and that private possession or use of any of these drugs be considered an offense. As marijuana has no therapeutic value, the Single Convention of the United Nations on Stupefying Drugs (1961), of which the U.S. is a party, recommends that cultivation of the plant (drug type) be eliminated over a 25-year period. These recommendations were taken at the initiative of the representatives from Asia and Africa who claim that the wide spread usage of marijuana is associated with physical and mental morbidity of a large section of their people and with social stagnation.

In view of the foregoing, should the United States and its President unilaterally denounce the Single Convention by removing all penalties "for use, possession, or sale of marijuana"?

ROBERT E. ESSER, HENRY CLAY FRICK 2nd
ALBERT GREENWOOD, WILLIAM M. MANGER
GABRIEL G. NAHA, PHILIP ZEIDENBERG

The signers are all medical doctors at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

ISRAEL STILL TROUBLED

As the nation of Israel enters the twenty-seventh year of its independence it is still beset with the threat of renewed armed hostilities with her Arab neighbors, particularly Egypt and Syria.

Because of this uneasy state of affairs, the recent annual observance of Israel's independence was markedly subdued in cities and villages. The usual dancing in the streets and the big military parade in Jerusalem were tactfully and properly omitted from all festivities.

The solemnity of the occasion was also an expression of national grief and humility sustained as a result of heavy Israeli losses in the sudden outbreak of all-out war in the Middle East during October of 1973.

In an independence day address, Abba Eban, Israeli Foreign Minister, voiced a warning to government and people to be alert and vigilant to outside forces seeking to incite renewed and continuing hostilities. He also appealed to the Egyptian government to renew peace negotiations with Israel.

OPTIMISTIC NOTE

Fortunately and thankfully, the cease-fire still prevails. Another optimistic note is the disengagement of armed forces along Israeli-Egyptian and Israel-Syrian battle lines. The United Nations supervised buffer zone along these lines hopefully will maintain the cease-fire and stabilize affairs until peace and security between Israel and her Arab neighbors has been achieved.

The American people can rightly be proud and happy that the United States government played an important and influential part in the negotiations that led first to a cease-fire, and then to the recently concluded agreement on disengaging the military forces on all fronts, both Arab and Israeli.

United States Secretary of State, Henry M. Kissinger, has ably and eloquently represented our government's official position and policy in the pursuit and search for a military and political settlement in the still trouble-plagued Middle East. We marvel and also rejoice in his devotion to duty, his tenacity during difficult bargaining, and his courage in the midst of many risks as he shuttled by plane back and forth between the Middle East capitals.

Peace-loving people everywhere surely look forward to the expected Geneva Peace Conference and trust that the negotiations between the Arab and Israeli governments will be successful in resolving the many issues in dispute. The problem of the displaced Palestinian people is an issue that will require patience, skill and fairness.

HOPEFULLY PEACE AND NOT WAR

Hopefully and prayerfully, we trust that peace and security, at long last will come to the Arab and Israeli governments—to the Arab and Israeli peoples. May they begin anew to expend their goods and services to promote the general welfare of their peoples, rather than sustaining war and its resulting desolation.

May the good Lord grant peace to the troubled Middle East! We are reminded here of the Apostle Paul's exhortation:

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (*1 Timothy 2:1-4*)



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

DAVID IS CHOSEN

Dear Girls and Boys,

Years before King Saul died God had chosen another to be king. He was David the Shepherd Boy. The prophet Samuel had anointed Saul to be Israel's king and when Samuel saw Saul was not serving God this made him very sad. One day God said, "Samuel do not feel sad any longer for I have rejected Saul. Take your horn of oil and go to the house of a man named Jesse in Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be the new king of Israel."

Samuel went to Bethlehem. The elders of the little town met him and asked, "Do you come peaceably?" Samuel replied, "Yes I come peaceably. I come to sacrifice to the Lord. Come and join in the sacrifice." They accepted and went with Samuel to Jesse's house. Jesse's sons came in, one by one, all handsome young men. Samuel was impressed with them as each passed before him. He thought surely this is the one, surely this one is the Lord's anointed. But not so. God said, "Do not look on his height, or the appearance, for the Lord does not look as man does. The Lord looks on the heart." One by one they came and now the old prophet was puzzled. He asked Jesse, "Are these all your children?" Jesse replied, "No there is still one. He is my youngest. His name is David. He is tending the sheep in the fields." "Go fetch him", said Samuel.

David came hurrying in to his father. His face was ruddy. He was of a beautiful countenance and goodly to look at. As he stood before Samuel, the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David in the presence of his father, brothers and all. As Samuel's hands rested on David's head, the Spirit of God came into his heart, and an evil spirit came upon King Saul. David never forgot this wonderful day. As he went about his work, the Lord prepared him for the call which was to come. David went back to his sheep knowing that the time would surely come for him to be the next King of Israel.

Next month I will tell you more about David, how he spent his time, and how the Lord prepared him for his great work.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

Elijah's short prayer of faith did more than a whole day of screaming by the priests of Baal.

OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

General Circle Conference

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Glassport, Pennsylvania, on July 6, 1974. Sisters were present from Canada, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The Sisters from the Glassport Circle sang the hymn "Then Jesus Came" and the Scripture was read from *Mark 1 and 2 and Matthew 9*. Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President, said in her opening remarks that we can get much comfort from the words of hymns as well as scripture. A good thought she had—when Jesus came he came for you and me to give us hope and life. She was thankful for the beautiful day and glad to see so many Sisters that could attend the meeting.

The conference continued with the roll call of officers. The minutes of the last conference held in Youngstown, Ohio was read and the delegates and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

The answer to the questions; "And what also has the Lord said of the righteous?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Alma 34:36*.

"Who were the three men that would deliver their own souls by their righteousness, saith The Lord?" was found in *The Bible, Ezekiel 14:14*.

"What two things are we quick to do and what two things are we slow to do?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Helaman 12:4 & 5*.

Money was donated to the General Church for Indian Missionary work, African Secondary School, Muncey Bible School and to the Auditorium for kitchen supplies.

The project for the next conference is to raise money for supplies for the Secondary School in Africa.

The meetings for the year 1975 is as follows: March 8: Florida Area, July 12: Auditorium (55th Anniversary Meeting), and October 4: Imperial, Pennsylvania.

Two new questions were assigned to the General Circle. "How will the day of The Lord come and what will happen?" "What did Jesus do to all his disciples and then what came that the multitude could not see Jesus?"

The officers elected for the coming year are:

President, Mabel Bickerton.

Vice President, Ruth Akerman.

Secretary, Lou Scaglione.

Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Ethel Crosier.

General Fund, Irene Griffith.

Memorial Fund, Mabel Bickerton.

Cook Book Fund, Elizabeth Eiler.

Historian and Card Sender, Mary Criscuolo.

Gospel News Ladies' Circle Editor, Mary Tamburrino.

Librarian, Betty Ann Manes.

A vote of thanks was given to the Glassport, Pennsylvania Circle for their hospitality.

The next Circle Conference will be held on October 5, in Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in singing and testimonies. Brother Dan Casasanta of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania commended the Sisters in disposing of the business matters in Unity.

Mary Tamburrino
General Circle Editor

San Diego Circle

This little Circle is an active one. They visit the patients who do not get visitors; they helped the aged at the hospital by feeding them ice cream on the Fourth of July; the sisters of the Circle has each adopted a widow by remembering them on Holidays, Birthday and Mothers Day; they also remember those in the Branch who have gone to the hospital by cooking dinners for the families until the patient is able. They also have rummage sales to raise money.

The Circle is such a precious organization! It teaches us to pray more, feel the burdens of others more, search the scriptures and unite us in the bond of love.

Mary Tamburrino
General Circle Editor

MY TESTIMONY

By Julius Kovacs

I was born, baptized and raised a Catholic, and had no interest for that church nor felt a kinship with God through it. When my children were born, my wife and I joined a Protestant church. After twenty-three years, I became convinced that my choice of that church was wrong. Their teachings and activities did not correspond with biblical writings. As a result I left that church also. The will of God moved me; this was not His church! This was no longer my church, so we joined another church. It, too, proved not fruitful for our family.

It was at this point I told my wife I was going to attend the funeral service of my wife's father and mother, Brother Julius and Sister Sophie Sipos, and their son, Stephen. The sincerity of the Saints for the family made me uneasy.

Years back, I had degraded my father-in-law to my wife and she had determinedly defended him. "He is uneducated. How can he be a minister? He did not attend a college or seminary. He displayed more interest in his church than in his children. How can you believe in him?", I asked. Later, he had two heart attacks, and as a result could not work. I said, "Let him live with one of his other daughters instead of us." Of course, this is painful to me now and my treatment of Brother Julius was shabby to say the least.

The background regarding Brother Julius, until after his death, preceded my decision to go to The Church of Jesus Christ. He became ill and was hospitalized in the fall of 1971. On periodic visits, our family encountered the Saints of the Church. He was visited by many Brothers and Sisters from a number of branches. He felt the happiest in seeing them and joining them in prayer, being anointed and in singing hymns. A short discharge period in the latter part of the year resulted in a worsening of his illness and he had to return to the hospital. The Good Shepherd called him home shortly after his 83rd birthday.

On the eve of his death, medication could not ease his pain. Some compulsion urged me to visit him. He had no desire to have his family see him suffer. I grasped Brother Julius' hand and it felt strong. He held fast and

dozed peacefully, but his grasp was firm. He stared at me with kindly eyes before going to sleep, but that power in his hand pervaded my whole body. After an hour had passed, I quietly removed my hand. I knew that he was near death and tears blurred my vision.

I went quietly into an adjoining room and cried from the depths of my soul. I cried for my treatment of him, and because I knew too late of his devotion to his God and Savior. I cry as I now write this. There was no excuse for the attitude that I had.

After his death, the concern of the Saints for his family never left my heart and soul. A position in Michigan, taken in November 1972, made me aware that the churches I attended there were not the true houses of God. Ultimately, the desire to return to my wife and family convinced me to take a position back in New Jersey. The Lord had answered the prayers of my family and others near and dear to me. A five-month exile brought me back to my home, as I gladly forfeited a deposit on a house because something was urging me back.

I read the Book of Mormon and researched parts of it. I found that Solomon Spaulding was claimed as the writer of the original work. I continued to attend church on Sunday, but I could not reconcile a belief in the Book of Mormon. I did believe in God, in my Savior, and in the Bible... but that obstacle remained. Something was pushing me, but I was adamant. I did not believe in that Book of Mormon.

One evening in May, Elders James Benyola and Dominick Perisco visited our home. Also present were our in-laws, Frank and Ethel Banyacsky. I challenged the Elders regarding the Book of Mormon and confronted them with the supposed authorship by Solomon Spaulding. I received a factual and analytical summation to all my questions. That night I believed in the mission of The Church of Jesus Christ and in the Book of Mormon.

For a time, I was reticent about asking for my baptism. At a conference meeting this year, I heard an exhortation by Brother Paul D'Amico. He openly declared he knew someone was in the auditorium that was undecided. He stated, "Ask for your baptism now." I knew these words were directed at me, even though I felt alone.

However strong the urgings, obstacles arose. My daughter became ill and a doctor stated that she might have to undergo surgery. A week in the hospital, three days of a fasting diet, showed that no operation was needed. The Saints of the Church in Hopelawn had prayed for her and their prayers and ours were answered. Her condition was such that it was controllable by a rigid diet.

By June 17, nothing could deter me from asking for my baptism. At the second service of that day, I testified to the mistreatment of Brother Julius, my humbleness toward my Savior and fellowman because of it, and asked to be accepted into The Church of Jesus Christ. The hand grasp of our departed Brother Julius had welded my heart and soul to him.

I was baptized on June 24, 1973. I felt the love of God and His forgiving power on me. This is the true Church of Christ and I shall follow Him to my dying days.

On July 1, my wife, Helen, and my in-laws, Ethel

and Frank Banyacsky, were baptized into the Church. I gave testimony and thanks to the Lord for His bestowal of love and grace on us.

Since my baptism, I have had three visions during my prayers as I knelt alone. Each was a vision of the Good Shepherd being crucified. I knew that Jesus had made His commitment to die for the redemption of our sins and I know that my Redeemer lives.

This is my church, my God and my Lord Jesus. I shall serve them to my fullest. I pray for you and I ask in humility for a word of prayer from you.

Brother Julius Kovacs

To The Churches at Glassport, McKees Rocks, Aliquippa and Imperial, Pennsylvania.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

All praise and honor belong to the Lord our God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your love and hospitality towards me will long be remembered. Your spirit bears witness to my spirit that we are the children of God.

Our greatness is manifested not in the big words we speak, but in our humility; not in the length of our speech, but in the length of our endurance. The greatest calling that God gave us is in calling us His children and making us worthy to enter into his rest. May we seek no greater calling than to be a child of God.

We do have different responsibilities as it pleases our heavenly Father, such as, Apostles, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Deacons and Deaconesses, these are callings to service, but to be a child of God is a gift to honor. Being earthly and imperfect, He has lifted us up to be His very own by the cleansing of our unrighteousness, through the blood of Jesus and not by any merit of our own. For this we glorify God each day and praise Him in our hearts. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on them that love Him. Let us therefore love the Lord with a pure heart, fervently.

We are born of God, as it is written, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible. The word of God lives in our hearts and His Spirit abides in us, which also leads and guides us into all truth. We are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people that we may show the praises of Him that called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

We ourselves have nothing to glory, but our glory is in the Lord, and our boasting is in His redeeming grace. Let us make each day a day of praises in some way. If we are called to labor, let us labor with patience. If we are called to suffer, let us suffer without murmuring. If to witness on behalf of the light of God, let us witness cheerfully. If unto persecutions, let us endure all things that we may gain all things with Jesus Christ the Lord. Bless and curse not, lifting holy hands in prayer each day for all men. Let praise be the fruit of our lips and the word of God our daily meditation, so that men may see our good works, and hear our praises rather than our complaints.

Respect the holy priesthood and lift the burden of the oppressed. Finally, be doers of the word of God and not hearers, for we shall be judged of the Lord not by what we hear, but by what we perform, as it is written "by our works".

Let me hear good things of you, refresh my soul by your Godliness, and goodly report toward those whom you love and serve.

Out of Pennsylvania, came holy men to Michigan bearing the glorious Everlasting Gospel. Without them, I would not be. Others like them will rise from among you. The greater sermons are yet to be preached and the greater hymns are yet to be written and your children will be those workers of righteousness. The world will hear them as the power and glory of God will be with them.

Remember me in your daily prayers, that I may be submissive unto God in all things. As I live by His mercy may I even so walk and work the work of righteousness in all humility.

The Lord, most glorious, bless you always and keep you from tossings. You that have been washed and sanctified and justified in the name of Jesus Christ and the Spirit of God.

Receive our love and care of Jesus the Lord.

Ever humbly,

Mark Randy

MY FAITH IN GOD

I, Domenico Giovannone, left Italy at the age of 17 and came to Niles, Ohio. My two brothers were already in Niles, Ohio working on the B & O Railroad. Soon after, I also went to work on the same railroad. After six months, I began to work in the steel mills and worked there for 48 years. Thank God, I have always had a good job. Later I became an assistant foreman for about a year and then I became a clerk for 11 years. I ran an overhead crane for 34 years and became a chief inspector of galvanized steel. All in all, God has blessed me with fairly good jobs.

I was always particular in searching and finding the girl I would truly love. I had read and noticed many things, especially in divorce cases which I never liked. In the month of April, 1916, my brother and I (both single) bought a lot on which to build a house. We were looking for a good carpenter and one of our neighbors said he knew a good carpenter. The carpenter happened to have a beautiful daughter, her name was Marietta. Immediately, I fell in love with her, but her mother gave me a difficult time. After knowing her one year, on May 26, 1917, finally I had the victory of marrying this girl.

We were blessed with 11 children—9 sons and 2 daughters. It pleased God to remove 3 young sons—the first, the fourth, and the seventh. Later on, He took one of our daughters at the age of 17. In August of 1966, one of our sons was robbed of his money and killed. That was one of the hardest beatings for us to endure. I felt as Job when he said, "God has given, and God has taken and Blessed be the name of God." We like others, have had many trials in our married life and have almost lost

our lives several times, but God has spared us. We feel that if people have cause to glorify God, it is us.

After we were married, the government was going to draft me to fight in the first World War. Through the mercy of God I was working where we were making government orders and it was hard to replace a man like myself on the job. So they did not take me into the service.

In the year of 1918, I came down with the flu, and in those days many people died of this sickness. Through the mercy of God again, I was spared. I was left with no appetite and no doctor could help me. This went on until November 12, 1922. My wife and myself obeyed the Gospel of Jesus Christ and then I regained my appetite. I could not smoke or drink anymore and had no desire of any earthly pleasure. The desire created in me was to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I was ordained an elder in January, 1924, and a few years later an Evangelist of The Church which office I still retain to this day.

May God bless all of those who read this.

Brother Domenico Giovannone

THE OTHER SIDE

By Brother Mark Randy

May 17, 1974

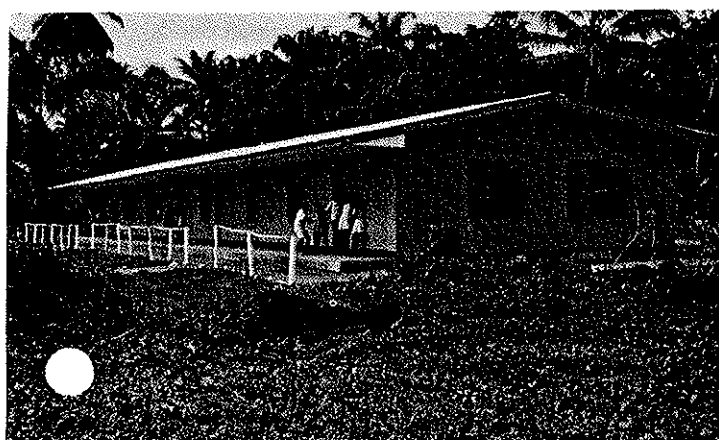
Today I visited a friend, his eyes were set,
His goal seem'd firm, and the mast lifted high
As a sailor leaving the familiar shore,
He was glad to see me, as the dawn drew nigh.

The white sails spread, and the breeze has blown today,
The Captain at the helm, his goal the other side.
His grip was firm, but his heart was fix'd to go on,
To a land fairer than day, the other side.

He seem'd to say, friend I am glad to see you,
But now I am going, drifting with the tide,
The sails are spread, and the ship is on its way
Sad good-byes here, welcome home the other side.

Dedicated to Brother Robert Watson, Sr.

Editor's Note: Brother Watson has passed on to the other side.



Girls Dormitory of our Nigerian Secondary School

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

Aliquippa News

Brother John Buffa and his wife Sister Grace from Sterling Heights Michigan visited the Aliquippa Branch during the Memorial Day Weekend. Brother John opened the Sunday service using the *third Chapter of the Acts* as his text. Brother John related how God is the same today as He was then and has continued to use his Priesthood to preform miracles in The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother John's discourse was very inspiring and enjoyable to all.

Brother Mark Randy was in the Pennsylvania Area to attend a Special Affairs Committee Meeting the weekend of June 7. On Friday evening Brother Mark addressed the Aliquippa M.B.A. encouraging the young to take active parts in the mission of The Church. He encouraged them to prepare themselves to be used by the Lord in many fields that have been opening to The Church in recent months.

Brother Mark gave a report of the week of meetings he and Brother Joseph Lovalvo held on the San Carlos Reservation. He told of the many visions and blessings that they experienced during their stay. The Mission held a farewell meeting for Brother Brutz and a welcome meeting for Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantonio who are now in charge of the Mission.

On June 21, 1974, we were especially blessed as we welcomed two members back into the fold. Brother Fred and Sister Ruby Weinheimer were reinstated by the "laying on of hands" by Brothers Anthony Ross and Paul Palmieri.

We are thankful for the beautiful spirit that our Brother and Sister have and pray that God will continue to bless them as they strive to serve Him.

Our tenth Vacation Bible School was held from June 24-28 for children ranging from 4 to 14 years old. The theme this year was "David". The committee in charge this year consisted of Brother Daniel and Sister Mary Tamburrino and Brother James and Sister Joan Gibson. The teachers of the various classes were: Sister Mary Ross and Sister Sabina D'Antonio the Nursery Class, Sister Victoria D'Antonio and Sister Janet Gibson the Primary Class, Sister Ruth Jumper and Sister Josephine Ross the Intermediate Class, and Sister Joan Gibson and Sister Philomena DeLuca the Junior Class. Sister Donna Palmieri acted as a substitute teacher. The program was presented on Friday night June 28 followed by the viewing of the crafts and refreshments.

Windsor, Canada Has Ordination

In an afternoon meeting Sunday, May 26, 1974, Brother Bob Stanek was ordained a Teacher. Sacrament was served and the text of *Moroni 2nd Chapter 4th* verse was used, the manner of ordination according to the gifts and callings of God unto men. Dreams were presented to confirm the calling.

Brother Tony Lovalvo, visiting Elder, sang a solo in honour of our Brother, who has assisted him on the mission fields. Brother Dick Lobzun, a Teacher and brother-in-law washed his feet. Prayer was offered and Brother

Ken Wright anointed and confirmed the office upon our Brother.

Brother John Veltman, father-in-law of Brother Bob, felt as a parent that day was like Heaven on earth. Brother Charles Matthew a former neighbour of the Staneks, testified how his family were in The Church today because of our Brother and his family.

Brother Frank Vitto exhorted us to spiritual education and to discipline ourselves. Brother Joe Calabrese, visiting Elder, reflected, as a parent watching children, the joy, and hope of every parent. He also spoke on how Jesus established officers for the perfecting on the Saints.

Sister Didi Collison
Assistant Branch Editor
Windsor, Ontario Canada

Two Baptisms At New Brunswick. New Jersey Branch

The New Brunswick Branch experienced a day of rejoicing on Sunday, June 23.

Two new members were added to the fold, namely: JAMES RENDA and JAMES SGRO.

Brother James Renda was baptized by Brother Salvatore Sgro and confirmed by Brother Frank Mazzeo.

Brother James Sgro was baptized by Brother Salvatore Sgro and confirmed by Brother Carmen Sgro.

An extra blessing was also shared by all in attendance in welcoming visiting Elders Cleveland Baldwin and Joseph Perri.

Detroit Branch No. 2 Adds Two New Members

Sunday, June 2 proved to be a day of joy in the service of the Lord for the Saints of Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan.

ANITA BEHR and INEZ (SONNY) SCARSELLA were received into membership.

Sister Behr was baptized by Brother Alex Gentile and confirmed by Brother John Romano.

Sister Scarsella also was baptized by Brother Gentile and then confirmed by Brother Frank Morle.

May the Lord grant these new Sisters strength and joy in the Lord's service.

Two New Converts Received into Perry, Ohio Branch

The Perry, Ohio Saints enjoyed an edifying day in God's service on Sunday, June 9.

Two converts made their covenants with the Lord, namely: DOUGLAS ALAN SECOR and KATHY SUE WILSON.

Brother Gene Kline baptized Brother Secor and he was confirmed by Brother Russ Martorano.

Brother Elmer Santilli baptized Sister Wilson and she was confirmed by Brother Gene Kline.

The Perry Branch also was happy to have Brother Russ and Sister Lena Martorano and family visiting from Niles, Ohio Branch. As the day came to an end, all felt that it was indeed a day well spent in the Spirit of the Lord.

News From Rochester, New York

On May 26, 1974 we at the Rochester, New York Branch had the joy and pleasure of having Brother Russell Martorano and family from Niles, Ohio in our Branch.

We sang hymns, "How Many Times" and "I Would Be Like Jesus". Brother Russell related how he became acquainted with The Church. He prayed to God to prove to him if this was His Church. He saw Jesus on the mountain and he was on the bottom of the mountain. A path led to the top of the mountain. He asked Jesus, "Is this Your Church?" Jesus said, "This is My Church."

His text was *Acts 10:34* where Peter says, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of person."

The hymn "God Moves In A Mysterious Way" was sung.

Brother Patsy Marinetti followed on the same subject, showing that God chose the land of America to which all the nations of the world would come to obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God is no respecter of persons. Rahab and Ruth were not of the promised seed, but were richly blessed by God.

Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke in English and Italian on the same subject. He cited the Scripture where Jesus lamented over Jerusalem, telling the people He would have gathered them as a hen gathers her chicks, but they would not.

Testimony followed the preaching and a wonderful spirit prevailed all during the meeting. Truly, God's blessings were enjoyed by all.

Sister Carmella D'Amico
Branch Editor

Three Ordinations To The Ministry In California

The San Diego Branch hosted the San Fernando Valley Branch in a joint meeting on Sunday, May 5.

The two Branches had agreed to meet jointly, especially for the occasion of the ordination to the Priesthood of three young men; namely, Brother Paul Liberto of the San Diego Branch and Brothers Edmond Buccellato and Dennis Anthony Calabrese, both of whom are members of the San Fernando Valley Branch.

Brother Paul Liberto's feet were washed by Brother Del Carneval. Brother Liberto was then ordained to the office of Elder by his brother, Brother Thomas Liberto.

Brother Edmond Buccellato's feet were washed by Brother Eddie Perdue, after which Brother Dwayne Jordan ordained Brother Buccellato to the office of Elder.

Brother Dennis Calabrese's feet were washed by Brother Richard Christman. Brother Dennis was then ordained to the office of Elder by his father, Brother

Joseph Calabrese. Brother Dennis' previous ordinations were Deacon in 1968 and Teacher in 1972.

The Spirit of God was so prevalent in the meeting that the gift of tongues were spoken along with visions of angels and Moses presenting a crown with three stars to those being ordained.

May the Lord bless and prosper these three new Elders as they take up a new service in the vineyard of the Lord.

Cleveland, Branch No. 1 Has Twentyfifth Anniversary

The Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1 observed the 25th anniversary of the dedication of their church building with a series of evangelistic meetings which was culminated with services on Sunday, June 9, 1974. The guest speakers were Brother Joseph Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio and Brother Dominic Thomas, General Church President. Their messages to us were like a refreshing dew from heaven, just as refreshing as it was when our church building was dedicated unto the Lord 25 years ago. How grateful we are for these golden years and the bond of love and service to our Lord. How good it has been to have met together in the joy of oneness with the past and the privilege of bridging it with the future. These past five days have been golden days of remembrance, rejuvenation and redeication.

Since Sunday, June 16 was Fathers Day, we would like to pay tribute to the memory of our "Fathers" with these words:

We pause for a moment on life's weary way, to discern the lesson time teaches our day. Looking back, it was easy to see what the long testing years had given us. They gave us nothing we had not sown, what faith and prayer had always known. With a day at a time the years do grow, As the seeds of action we daily sow. We say to ourselves, this we will do like our fathers, we build tomorrow on what is true.

Best regards to all of you from the Brothers and Sisters of the Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1.

Lake Worth Branch Cape Coral Mission News

Sunday, May 26, 1974 the Lake Worth Branch and Cape Coral Mission were privileged to witness the ordinations of Brother John Constantine and Sister Santina D'Orazio. Brother John was made a Deacon for the Cape Coral Mission having his feet washed by Brother Michael Radd and confirmed by Brother V. J. Lovalvo. Sister Santina, Lake Worth's new Deaconess, had her feet washed by Sister Carmella Mazzeo and was also confirmed by Brother V. J. Lovalvo.

In our service, Brother Jim Lovalvo spoke on Nahum's disobedience and obedience. And how we should trust more in God by removing all the little things that keep us from Him. Brother J. Velardi of the Cape Coral Mission followed expanding on this same subject.

Testimony began and Sister Carmella Mazzeo related a dream in which she and Sister Santina were in a large room. As the Brothers and Sisters entered they would walk them to the tables and then serve them food. She awoke and thought Sister Santina would be the next Deaconess. The day was enjoyed by all and we thank God again for His many blessings.

Lake Worth Branch News

The Lake Worth Branch was host to a Spiritual gathering held Saturday night, June 8th and Sunday, June 9th. Many visitors spoke both days including Brothers V. J. Lovalvo and Frank Rogolino on Saturday which began a nice weekend. Brother Frank Sirangelo also stated his testimony at the meetings and telling how God enabled him to attend the meeting. A good spirit was felt which continued through Sunday. Brother Billy Tucker of Tampa, Florida opened our morning service. It was the first time many Brothers and Sisters heard him speak. We can thank God our Brother's words were enjoyed by all. Following, Brother V. J. Lovalvo expounded the subject of "almost", stating that "almost" and "can't" are two words we should delete from our lives. We broke for lunch after which testimony began. Our meetings were joyful, thanks be to God.

Youngstown News

During the month of June, the Saints of Youngstown enjoyed many visitors and two renewals.

On Sunday, June 2nd Brothers Sam Dell and Rocco Biscotti visited us and spoke on the Life of David, *Psalms 100*, and Charity, reading from *1st Corinthians, Chapter 13*. Brother Raymond Cosetti visited our branch on June 9th and on June 16th Brother Vincent Gibson. Also on the day, a meeting was held in the home of Brother Paul and Sister Fern Love, at which they were both re-instated into the Gospel. We are happy and thankful for their return to the family of God. On June 23rd, Brother Ron Genaro, recently ordained into the ministry, opened our meeting reading from *1st Corinthians, Chapter 3*, directing his thoughts to the youth of The Church and expounding on the Joy in The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We, the Saints of Youngstown, are thankful for the encouraging words of our Brothers, and look forward to many more blessings, as we meet together in worship to God.

We who know the Lord must ever hold the lamp of salvation so that its beams will fall upon the shadowed hearts of others.

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Joseph Patrick to Patrick Joseph and Bernadette King of San Fernando Valley, California.

— WEDDINGS —

JACKSON — LIBERTO

Mr. Michael Kent Jackson and Miss Debra Ann Liberto were united in holy matrimony on April 6, 1974 at The East San Diego Christian Church in San Diego, California.

The couple were united in marriage by Brother Thomas Liberto with Brother Louis Ciciati assisting. Musical selections were presented by Candy Young and Sandy Patty.

The newlyweds will reside in San Diego, California.

DOTA — PEZZENTI

Mr. Dennis James Dots and Miss Janet Lee Pezzenti were united in holy wedlock on June 8, 1974 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Youngstown, Ohio.

Brother A. A. Corrado officiated at the wedding service, with musical selections presented by Sister Betty Gennaro.

The newlyweds will reside in Youngstown, Ohio.

● OBITUARIES ●

GELSOMINA ZINZI ROTELLA

Sister Gelsomina Zinzi Rotella passed on to her heavenly and eternal reward on June 16, 1974. She was a member of The Bronx Branch and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on January 23, 1938. Sister Rotella was born on March 13, 1888 in Catanzaro, Italy.

On January 11, 1948, Sister Rotella was ordained a Deaconess in The Church. Church meetings were held in her home for a gracious period of two years and she was a member for a grand total of 36 faithful years.

Left to mourn her passing, are her husband, three children, eight grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Elder James R. Link, Presiding Elder of The Bronx Branch, at Romano's Funeral Home. Sister Gelsomina was buried in Pinelawn Cemetery, Pinelawn, New York.

Those of us who knew Sister Rotella can truly say that she was a spiritual blessing to all.

DAN GALLICCHIO

Brother Dan Gallichio passed on to his heavenly reward on June 12, 1974. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He was born on February 4, 1889 and was baptized on October 11, 1925.

Left to mourn his loss are two sons, five daughters, one brother, one sister, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Frank Mazzeo, Carmen Sgro, and Sam Sgro.

Brother Dan was ordained a Deacon in 1928. He was a faithful follower of Christ and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

HARRY S. ABRAMS, JR.

Brother Harry S. Abrams, Jr. of Metuchen, New Jersey met with an unexpected accident at work that claimed his life on June 19, 1974. He was a fervent member of the Metuchen, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Harry was born on October 25, 1949. He would have been 25 years old this October. He was baptized into The Church last year on April 15, 1973.

He leaves to mourn his loss: his mother and father, his wife, one daughter and three sisters.

Brothers Joseph Perri and Richard Lawson officiated at the funeral services.

Brother Harry was a faithful member for the short time he was in The Church. We will all deeply miss him. We enjoyed hearing him relate the experiences that he had.

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

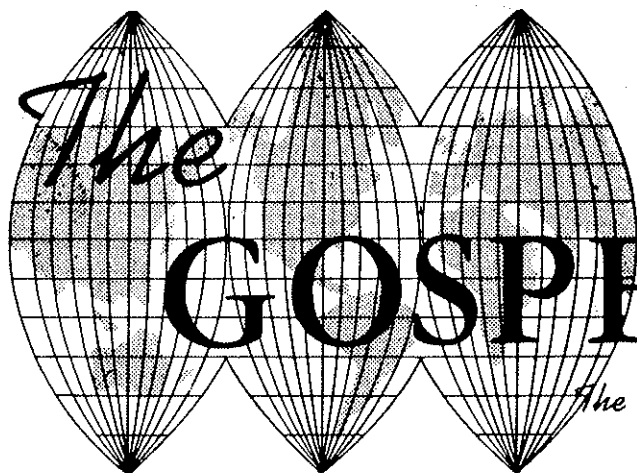
AUGUST

- 10 to 17—California Area M.B.A. Campout, Pinetop, Arizona.
- 24 to 30—G.M.B.A. Campout at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, Michigan.

SEPTEMBER

- 14 & 15—Atlantic Coast District Conference, Bronx, N.Y.
- 7 & 8—California District Conference, San Fernando Valley.
- 7 & 8—Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce.
- 18, 19, 20 & 22—Michigan-Ontario District Conference, Branch No. 2.
- 14—Ohio District Conference, Perry.
- 14 & 15*—Pennsylvania District Conference, McKees Rocks.

All Church organizations (General, District, G. M. B. A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in the dates of their coming events for publication in the *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar. Send information to: Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

September, 1974

Volume 30, No. 9

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

IS BAPTISM ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION?

by Robert A. Watson

I shall treat this subject under seven headings, namely:

1. Essentiality of baptism
 2. Reasons why some feel water baptism is set aside as non-essential
 3. Purpose of baptism
 4. What is the sign that one is ready for baptism?
 5. Mode of baptism
 6. Authority to baptize
 7. Perpetuality of baptism
- I. *Essentiality of baptism.*

There are three steps required for salvation, namely, faith, repentance and baptism. It is virtually impossible to obey and fulfill one to the exclusion of the other two, and since the kingdom of God represents the most exclusive and selective kingdom ever formed and salvation represents that one has successfully completed and fulfilled his or her commitment made in the flesh, that is, to obey all the laws and commandments prescribed by God through His word. It is then of the utmost importance that we place our obedient service to God as the most important thing in our life.

It is not unreasonable to believe that God's laws that rule the spiritual and mental world are any less rigid and binding than the laws which rule matter and space. The ignorance or neglect of either the physical law or civic law does not preclude that man must suffer by whatsoever consequences he engenders by his omissive actions. We have all been marshalled by the physical laws that govern such powerful forces as electricity and gravitation and we are all well aware that nature has not made any exceptions to the strict adherence of these laws by every living creature on this earth, and that disobedience to these laws brings misery. Is it not safe then to equate that the same parallel of punishment must apply to those who omit or neglect to obey all the laws that govern the spiritual kingdom and the entrance thereof?

If, for example, a person keeps all the laws of good citizenship and the only thing he does that is wrong is to steal his neighbor's automobile, when he is apprehended

CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

We are all aware and saddened by the unfortunate events that have transpired in our Nation's Capitol this past month.

Our new President Gerald R. Ford has asked that we pray for him. It is indeed honorable to see a man in high office depend upon the Lord's guidance to lead so great a nation.

I am reminded of the words of Jacob in *II Nephi Chapter 10 verses 10 to 13*

"But behold, this land (America), said God, shall be a land of thine inheritance, and the Gentiles shall be blessed upon the Land."

And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles, and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles.

And I will fortify this land against all other nations. And he that fighteth against Zion shall perish, said God".

May God Bless our new president as he undertakes to heal the wounds of our country. We also pray that God will bless Mr. Nixon with that inner peace that can only come from the Prince of Peace.

Editor

and brought before the judge, is he not considered a law breaker even though he has kept all the laws but the one that governs honesty. So God defines that he who breaks the least of my laws is guilty of breaking them all, and the importance of making these laws an everyday part of our life is best described in *Deuteronomy 6:4-9*, "Hear O Israel the Lord our God is one God and thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and soul and might and these words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart and thou shall teach them diligently unto the children and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house and when thou walkest by thy way and when thou liest down and when thou risest up and thou shall bind them for a sign upon thine hand and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."

The Bible also states to the law and testimony meaning we must go to the books, *Bible and Book of Mormon* to examine what spiritual laws have been given

by God to legislate the actions of all mankind desiring citizenship into His kingdom.

The commandment we are specifically considering in this treatise is baptism and its essentiality to salvation. We must first consider baptism in the light of it being a law. Webster defines law as "any rule expected to be observed or a divine commandment," and he defines essential as "necessary to make a thing what it is or indispensable," and finally salvation as "the saving of the soul from sin and death." Having agreed with Webster on the fact that law is a divine commandment, we must assume that baptism is a spiritual law because it is expected to be observed unconditionally and as such becomes essential as the following verses indicate. In the *Bible* we have the following in *Matthew* 28:19-20: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. And lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world."

Mark 16:15-16, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved but he that believeth not shall be damned." *Acts* 2:38, Peter said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for remission of sins."

Acts 10:47-48, Cornelius was told by Peter, "Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized," and he commanded them to be baptized. *Acts* 16:30-33, the jailer asked Paul, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved," and he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes and was baptized.

And in *The Book of Mormon* please note the following: *II Nephi* 9:23-24, "And he commandeth all men that they must repent and be baptized in His name having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel or they cannot be saved in the Kingdom of God and if they will not they must be damned." Please read *II Nephi* 31:5-9 and *II Nephi* 31:17.

We have a great example on the compulsory nature of baptism in the example of Cornelius even though he was worthy to receive the visitation of angels prior to baptism, he was still required to be baptized.

II. Reasons why some feel water baptism is set aside as non-essential.

There are some that would justify the non-essentiality of baptism by quoting the following: *Hebrews* 9:9-10, which was figure for the time then present in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices that could not make him that did the service perfect as pertaining to the conscience which stood only in meats and drinks and divers washings and carnal ordinances imposed on them until the times of reformation.

It is perhaps their feeling that the washings and carnal ordinances refer to water baptism and that this would be set aside at a designated time, but is it not more proper to feel that this rather refers to the ceremonial washings practiced by the Israelites under the Mosaic law and receiving its fulfillment under Christ rather than the baptism of Christ as practiced by the Apostolic church.

There are others who would say that John the Baptist in saying "I indeed baptize with water unto repentance

but He that cometh after me shall baptize you with fire and the Holy Spirit," inferred that under the Christian dispensation, water baptism was supplanted by the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

There are many biblical illustrations of both water baptism and baptism of the Holy Ghost being equally required. Cornelius received baptism of the Holy Spirit and still was required to be baptized by water. *Acts* 10:44.

III. What is the purpose of baptism?

We can say as has been expressed many times, it is an outward sign of an inward emotion. It affords an opportunity for confessing to God and the whole world by performing a physical act that was preceded by repentance and complete surrender to God's will.

It has also been typified as a burial, meaning that at our baptism, we bury our old carnal nature and we come up out of the waters as a new creature in Christ, *Romans* 6:3-5. Therefore, we are buried with Him by baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection. Baptism also affords us admission into The Church and is designed to be fully integrated with repentance as is recorded in *Mark* 1:4; John did baptize in the wilderness and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, *Acts* 2:38. It is also symbolic of a cleansing and its purpose is to wash away one's sins as Paul declares of his baptism in *Acts* 22:16. And why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins calling on the name of the Lord. Baptism is also referred to as a door and as such provides an entrance into God's Kingdom on earth, *II Nephi* 31:17. "Wherefore do the things which I have told you. I have seen that your Lord and your Redeemer should do; for this cause have they been shown unto me, that ye might know the gate by which ye should enter. For the gate by which ye should enter is repentance and baptism by water; and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire and by the Holy Ghost."

IV. What is the sign that one is ready for baptism?

One is ready for baptism when they show fruits of repentance and are willing to make a complete surrender to God as recorded in *Moroni* 8:25, "And the first fruits of repentance is baptism; and baptism cometh by faith unto the fulfilling the commandments; and the fulfilling the commandments bringeth remission of sins." To be willing to share with others is also indicative of one's readiness for baptism as recorded by *Mosiah* 18:5, 18:8-11.

To be also ready to make complete restoration of any wrongdoing as Zaccheus, *Luke* 19:8. "Behold Lord the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusations, I restore him fourfold."

V. Mode of Baptism

The word baptize is from the Greek "baptizo or baptō" signifying to dip, plunge or immerse. Such classical writers as Polybius and Strabo who lived prior to or at the time of the Savior used the word in this sense from which it is fair to infer that such was the meaning intended where it is used in the New Testament.

(Continued on page 7)

REFRAIN FROM IDLENESS

by Donald Ross

Is it possible to be inactive in The Church of Jesus Christ? The pre-eminent man of his time, Alma the Younger, as a youth, persecuted The Church. After his conversion he declared: "O that I were an angel, and could have the wish of mine heart, that I might go forth and speak with the trump of God . . . and cry repentance unto every people" . . . (Alma 29:1). On another occasion he implored his son Shiblon . . . "see that ye refrain from idleness" . . . (Alma 38:12). Inactivity never characterized the people of God.

We know every soul is precious before God. As a member of The Church of Jesus Christ, it is imperative that we labor for the banner of Jesus Christ. It is our responsibility to bear our testimonies. How will The Gospel spread to the four corners of the earth? Surely not by itself.

Consider what can occur by divine direction. King Benjamin spoke to the people at the temple. His oration is the only formal speech recorded in The Book of Mormon. So forceful was his magnificent sermon that the people fell down in awe and humility and cried for the mercy of God. A roll was made of those who declared their intentions for Christ. "There was not one soul, except it were little children, but who had entered into the covenant" . . . (Mosiah 6:2). What a legacy this man left.

King Benjamin and Jacob both imply "accountability for non-labor" . . . see Jacob 1:19 and Mosiah 2:28. Scripture declares we are in the service of God when we serve mankind. We can serve by introducing others to The Church. We can serve by assisting and supporting The Church in ALL its endeavors.

From the beginning, men and women have given their all for God. For example: Naomi's life affected Ruth; Jared recognized his Brother's great faith and works; Daniel, despite the king's decree, prayed and served the God of Israel. The Old Testament contains a superb story of involvement. That story surrounds the actions of three men—Moses, Aaron and Hur. If Aaron and Hur did not support Moses, the battle would have been lost . . . (Exodus 17:8-14). Similarly, The Church needs our support. The Lord never said, "do not"; He always said, "do".

Working for The Church is not only rewarding, it is exciting. The Church of Jesus Christ WILL change world events and history. Let us "do" our part. When you have an opportunity, look at hymn No. 389 in the Saints Hymnal. Notice the subtitle. Before singing the hymn, read it and understand it. What have you done for God?

YOU SHOULD KNOW . . .

That no member of The Church of Jesus Christ shall be called into an ordained office if he belongs to any worldly society where secret oath is administered. Further, anyone holding an ordained office in The Church and belonging to an organization where a secret oath is administered, be asked to sever their membership from such societies within one year or forfeit their office. It is further suggested that we instruct our members by virtue of the Holy Spirit that God is not pleased with secret orders of any kind. Members of The Church who stand to lose insurance or other like benefits granted by these organizations will be allowed to hold inactive membership only.

GREETINGS IN CHRIST JESUS

Greetings in Christ Jesus to all the Saints abroad. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good; both among yourselves and all men.

This morning six women including Sister Virginia and Brothers Joseph, Tony and I met at Church for a fasting and prayer. As we prayed Brother Joseph saw a vision of a man walk in and sit with us, witnessing us pray. None saw him except Brother Loyalvo, but we felt the presence of an Angel of the Lord. How glorious past understanding is the love of God. We felt so humble and full of praises to God. As one of our Sisters prayed, Brother Joseph again saw another vision of the children of Israel crying to God. He heard, "The time of their liberation is at hand". May the Lord bring it to pass quickly. After the meeting, we visited several homes. We found Sister Nash sick, and anointed her, also Sister Dowdy, and her granddaughter.

At evening we held a meeting at Church with a good attendance. I read for my subject *1 Nephi, Chapter 22, Verses 24 to 26*. "The time comes speedily that the righteous must be led up as calves of the stall, and the Holy One of Israel must reign in dominion and might and power and great glory. He gathers His children from the four quarters of the earth, He numbers His sheep and they know Him, and there shall be one Fold and one Shepherd. And he shall feed his sheep, and in him they shall find pasture." This in itself is a great promise of the Lord to all just men everywhere. This will come to pass. Brother Joseph followed me, a wonderful spirit prevailed and our hope in Christ was strengthened. May 22 we held another prayer and fast meeting at Church with more present with us. It was a cry to God. The time has come for us to turn "our prayers to a cry to God".

After the meeting, we left for Pinetop, Arizona. It was a glad reunion with the Saints of White River Mission. We held a meeting that night; Brother Joseph used the *3rd Chapter of Zephania* and the *21st Chapter of 3rd Nephi* for his subject. He noted that though destruction is coming, God will spare the most righteous and give them one language to enable them to serve God in one consent. I followed him. We left the following morning for Fort Defiance. We held a fast meeting there Saturday and as we prayed, Brother Joseph Loyalvo was again blessed with a vision of the children of Israel along with our Church people going through a victory dance according to the custom of ancient Israel.

We held two evening meetings, Thursday and Friday, 23 and 24. We took with us on this trip from San Carlos a young Sister, Nellie Hopkins, and her baby boy. She is a Navajo and wanted to visit her mother who lives 64 miles from Fort Defiance.

After prayer Saturday, we went to the Red Lake project. There we helped in the construction of one building they are finishing. Some of the young Brothers worked in preparing the ground and planting seeds on 8 acres which they acquired from the Navajo Tribe. Our young Brothers have a real challenge here. The ground is virgin soil and saturated with alkali. Many of the Saints and their children have traveled great distances to help in this project which has a two-fold purpose. One is to promulgate the Restored Gospel to the Navajo Nation and another to encouraging the local people to plant and

produce their own food, something they have not tried here.

The Navajos are watching with interest and have assured our Brothers that if they succeed the tribal council will give them more land. None of these Brothers have had a previous experience of such endeavor. Sunday 25th, we held our meeting at Red Lake with the following present: Brother and Sister Dwayne Jordan, Charles Curry and Glenn McNabe of San Fernando, California. Mr. McNabe has been a great help to this project. Edmond Buccellato came out here and was interviewed for a job as a comptroller. He wants to inquire of the Lord about the matter. Edmond is a newly ordained Elder. We had only one of the children of Joseph with us, Vergil Link. He has been attending for some time and he gave his testimony. Brother Lovalvo opened the meeting after some very inspiring singing. His subject was from *Matthew, 21st Chapter, Verses 3 to 13* on the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on a colt, and the casting out of the temple of the money changers. He spoke an inspiring sermon. The rest gave testimonies to the glory and the goodness of God.

Another evening meeting was held at the apartment of Larry Watson at Fort Defiance. This time we had a bigger number. Young Sister Nellie Hopkins, the girl we brought from San Carlos, was present, her sister Margerite, and also Barbara Spencer, a young Navajo of Fort Defiance who has attended several meetings. After singing, the meeting was turned over to Brother Joseph Lovalvo. This was an unusual kind of meeting. David Jordan, a seven year old boy, related an earlier experience he had at Red Lake. His eye was accidentally scratched by a screen door spring. He was anointed and prayed for by Brother Lovalvo who was then present and there was no harm found in his eye. The testimony of this child was the greatest of the whole evening. Several experiences were related by Brother Joseph, then testimonies were given by most present including Sister Hopkins. Incidentally, she is the first Navajo baptized in our Church. A lovely evening indeed.

We left Monday morning with our Navajo Sister and baby to go back to San Carlos. This was the greatest yet, and Sister Brutz was present at this one. We felt the power and glory of God in our prayers, and several who were anointed and prayed for were healed. We joined hands in prayer and sang, "In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever; till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river." Brother Joseph saw the angel of God with a rod in his hand touch each one of us. It was a spirit of love that overwhelmed us and lingered with us after prayer.

Thursday evening, 30th of May, the Milantonis arrived. We were glad to see them. This missionary is in for keeps since he brought his grub hoe. Brother Joe Milantoni said he is going to raise a garden. A surprise party was held that night. The Apache Sisters brought plenty of food for everybody including dessert. It was a two fold party, a welcome for the Milantonis and a farewell for the Brutzes who were also presented farewell gifts. Brother and Sister Milantoni lost no time in making friends with the wonderful Apache Saints.

The Sunday service was well attended by Phoenix and Pinetop Branches. Brother Joseph Lovalvo introduced Brother Milantoni then turned the meeting over to him. Brother Mark Randy opened the meeting with prayer.

Brother Milantoni spoke of his hopes and expectations. He desired to pray for God's guidance and help in his new venture and a sweet spirit prevailed. Brother Lovalvo exhorted us unto righteousness. After lunch we were taken to Phoenix by the Furniers and Damores. We held a meeting at Church that night. Brother Joseph Lovalvo spoke of the order of The Church and the organization set up by Jesus and the Apostles. I followed him, and a good spirit was felt by all present. We bless God for the opportunity to serve Him and His Church. We feel our unworthiness when we contemplate the holiness of God, His purity, His righteousness and His redeeming love toward us. The Lord bless and keep you.

Brother Mark Randy

● FLASHBACKS ●

147 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1827

On the morning of the 22nd of September 1827 an angel of the Lord delivered the record of the Nephites to Joseph Smith.

25 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1949

Brother and Sister Fred Straccia, Brother and Sister Albert Pulgino and Sister Anne Carlini spent their vacation touring the Branches of The Church in New York and the Atlantic Coast.

20 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1954

Brother Alma Cadman spoke at the dedication of the Vanderbilt Mission.

The California District Conference met at Modesto, California.

Thirteen new converts were baptized into The Church. Brothers V. James Lovalvo and Rocco Meo performed the baptisms.

15 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1959

Brothers Mark Randy and Frank Wooley are on the missionary work in Italy. The Brothers report a great interest there for the preaching of the Gospel.

10 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1964

Sister Martha Akpan, Nigeria Africa attended the General Ladies Uplift Circle meeting at Monongahela, Pa. Brother Moses Akpan spoke to the gathering concerning their good works toward the Saints in Nigeria.

5 YEARS AGO—SEPTEMBER 1969

The Homewood Chapel Mission in Cumberland, Maryland reports two baptisms. Brother Henry Border is the Presiding Officer of the Mission. During the last two months ten converts have been baptized.

* * *

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

"GO YE THEREFORE . . ."

by W. H. Cadman

(Reprinted — March, 1958)

The words of Jesus Christ as recorded in St. Matthew 28:18-20: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

This is very plain I am sure. The Saviour is speaking to those who had already obeyed His will and who were to carry the Gospel to the whole world and teach mankind His will — to observe all things which He had taught them, and by doing so, He would be with them through all time. For men to cease, or not to do His will in all things, would void the promise He made, that, He would be with them.

DILIGENT, NOT DILATORY

I have always contended, that if the people of God would persevere in carrying out God's will as best they know, undoubtedly God will direct them in paths and ways for the salvation of man, otherwise if they are slothful, the Lord will choose others to carry on, if not, the sacrifice on Calvary's Cross would be in vain. And, even as men or women are dilatory in their professions of an earthly nature, the more diligent will be in line for promotion, and the others are left standing in the rear, and probably wonder why. I firmly believe that if a person is energetic in his or her profession—either in the material or the spiritual side of their lives, opportunities will be presented. Slothfulness will breed its kind.

Had John and Peter sat idly by somewhere, the poor man at the Beautiful Gate might never have been made whole—but it was the hour of prayer—they were energetic to be there, and on the way an opportunity presented itself—yea, one of the great things of all time happened—the lame man at the gate of the temple was made to leap with joy.

Look at another instance in the word of God. If Saul of Tarsus had not been active in his faith—even though he was dreaded by the poor Saints of that day, he was making havoc of the Church, binding the Saints and casting them into prison. He was determined at all costs that the traditions of his fathers would prevail, and not be trampled or destroyed by those whom he regarded as blasphemers. Yea, if it had not been for the man of Tarsus, it is possible that we might not have had the Apostle Paul. Reasonable minded men surely can catch the trend of my thought, the prize is not to the dilatory, but to the diligent. *The Book of Mormon* and the *Bible* abound with so much that verifies my thoughts.

GOD IS UNCHANGEABLE

Has time made a change with God? Does He not deal, or will He not deal with His servants in modern times as well as in the more ancient times? Or have we reached the day of an enlightened age—yea, a wicked age wherein God will bless drones and cast off the workers? I say God forbid. If the people of the Restored Gospel can become so dilatory and try to escape the reproach of Christ, for the sake of what we may call the more popular and social side of life, then they are far from being men as were Peter, James, and John. Let us not forget the man who once said to his Brothers and Sisters in Christ: "What mean ye to weep and to break my heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Paul in another place in referring to Christ says: "Who loved me and gave His life for me." Amen.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

David The Shepherd Boy

Dear Girls and Boys,

In our last story I told you how David was anointed to be the next king of Israel. He went back to the fields to care for his father's sheep until the time came for him to take his place as king. David was a kind shepherd. When quite young he learned to care for the sheep. He had to have courage. An Eastern shepherd's life was not easy and many times it was dangerous. He had to protect his sheep from bandits, wild beasts and large birds.

One day a lion came sneaking around trying to catch a baby lamb. The lion caught the lamb and David went after him. He knocked the lion down and freed the lamb from the lion's mouth. Then he killed the lion. Another time a bear came among the flock and David killed it too. David learned early in life that the Lord took care of him and his sheep.

David played the shepherd's harp while out in the fields. He made up little tunes and put words to them. Some of the songs he wrote are in the Bible in the *Book of Psalms*. The Twenty-third Psalm is called, "The Shepherd's Psalm". It tells about the shepherd and his sheep. David sang, "The Lord Is My Shepherd" and realized what a great shepherd He was. He knew the Lord cared for him just as he cared and loved his sheep here in the fields. There were many lovely things to sing about in God's beautiful world.

David learned how to use the shepherd's sling. By using small stones he could hit a target a long way off. David was happy to be a shepherd boy and be outdoors most of the time.

David liked to take the sheep where the grass was the greenest. He led his sheep to the brook where the water was cool and clean. If a little lamb was lost, David could not rest until he found it. If one was hurt, he carried it home on his shoulder. When they walked through the rough places, David used his shepherd's crook to keep himself and the sheep from falling. David was very kind.

When the birds sang David would listen. David played a harp. As he ran his fingers over his harp, it seemed as though his harp sang too. When the waters of the brook gurgled, it sounded to David as though it were singing. He could play his harp and make it sound like a running stream. He wrote Psalm 42 about the brooks. David listened to the wind blow and then he played like the sound of the breezes in the trees. As we read the stories about David we can see he was a boy who loved nature. In Psalm 19 he tells about the beauty in God's handiwork or God's creation.

Early in life David learned that he need not fear anything. In one of the Psalms he wrote, "O Lord my God, in thee do I put my trust". So he found the answer.

"DAVID AND THE GIANT, GOLIATH," will be our exciting story next month. Many of our boys and girls are using the stories of David as their theme for the Vacation Church School this summer. I pray you are enjoying them.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

— SPECIAL ITEM —

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter for Brother Salvatore Galante, who has asked me to correspond with you on his behalf. He would like to have the following request printed in the Gospel News.

Brother Galante is 82 years old, and lives by himself. He is very lonely and wishes for an older couple, preferably Italian, to come and live with him at his home in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Brother Galante has been a faithful member of The Church for over forty years. He was a Teacher for the Lord in Detroit, Mich. for many years. For the past 11 years he has lived in Arizona.

Our Brother has a comfortable home in Scottsdale. He does not wish to have a television in his home. He loves the Lord and The Church, and always has experiences to relate about the goodness of God.

Brother Galante also loves trees. He has over two dozen fruit trees in his yard. Anyone wishing to live in with this Brother will not have to worry about rent or house payments. Their only concern would be personal items including food.

Brother Galante has also made provision that whoever stays with him will be remembered and rewarded when this Brother is called home to be with the Lord.

Anyone wishing more information should contact brother Salvatore Galante at 8362 E. Avalon Drive, Scottsdale, Arizona 85251 (602-947-1726).

Appreciatively yours,

Stephen Saffron

Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank you all for your interest while I was in the hospital. The many cards and visits were quite uplifting and the prayers were greatly appreciated. It is times like this that make you realize what The Church and Brothers and Sisters really mean to you. Thank you again for your kindness. May God Bless you all abundantly.

Sincerely,

Sister Gloria Leftwich
Greensburg Branch

IS BAPTISM ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION?

(Continued from page 2)

Mosheim, in his ecclesiastical history Volume I, Page 129 says, the sacrament of baptism was administered in this first century without the Public Assemblies in places appointed and prepared for the purpose and was performed by immersion of the whole body. Martin Luther says the term baptism is a Greek word; it may be rendered by dipping as when we dip anything in water that it may be entirely covered with water. Calvin said the word baptize signifies to immerse and the rite of immersion was observed by the ancient church.

Schaff, an ancient Swiss Theologian, says, "As to the outward mode of administering this (baptismal) ordinance, immersion and not sprinkling was unquestionably the original normal form; not until the end of the 13th Century did sprinkling become the rule and immersion the exception.

John Wesley writes, "Buried with him—alluding to the ancient manner of baptism by immersion. Jeremy Taylor, the learned bishop, writes, "The custom of the ancient churches was not sprinkling but immersion in pursuance of the sense of the word in the commandment and the example of our blessed Savior.

Let us now go to the Scripture, both *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*, to substantiate the practice of immersion by the early church. In the *Bible* the following passages would seem to indicate such practices. *Matthew* 3:16, "And Jesus when he was baptized went up straightway out of the water." *John* 3:23, "And John was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim because there was much water there and they came and were baptized." *Acts* 8:38, "And he commanded the chariot to stand still and they went down both into the water both Philip and the Eunuch and he baptized them. *Romans* 6:3-5, "Know ye not that so many of us as was baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized unto His death. Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism unto death. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection.

The *Book of Mormon* is much plainer in its evidence of immersion as the valid mode of baptism. Please refer to *Mosiah* 18:12-15, "And now it came to pass that Alma took Helam, he being one of the first and went and stood forth in the water and cried, saying: Oh Lord, pour out thy spirit upon thy servant, that he may do this work with holiness of heart. And when he had said these words, the spirit of the Lord was upon him, and he said: Helam, I baptize thee having authority from the Almighty God, as a testimony that ye have entered into a covenant to serve Him until you are dead as to the mortal body; and may the spirit of the Lord be poured out upon you; any may He grant unto you eternal life, through the redemption of Christ whom He has prepared from the foundation of the world. And after Alma had said these words both Alma and Helam were buried in the water and they arose and came forth out of the water rejoicing, being filled with the spirit. And again Alma took another and went forth a second time into the water, and baptized him according to the first, only he did not bury himself again in the water.

III Nephi 11:22-26, "And again the Lord called others, and said unto them likewise; and He gave unto

them power to baptize. And He said unto them: On this wise shall ye baptize; and there shall be no disputations among you. Verily I say unto you, that whoso repenteth of his sins through your words and desireth to be baptized in my name, on this wise shall ye baptize them—Behold, ye shall go down and stand in the water, and in my name shall ye baptize them. And now behold, these are the words which ye shall say, calling them by name saying: Having authority given me of Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen. And then shall ye immerse them in the water, and come forth again out of the water.

The above Scriptures indicate from facts such as much water, the entering in of both the minister and the candidate into the water and there being much water that immersion was the common practice.

As we investigate history, we conclude that immersion and other aspects of baptism were changed. In the early church, baptism was administered upon admission of faith and evidence of repentance and was performed by immersion at the hands of one having priesthood authority. There were no delays, such as evidenced upon the day of Pentecost and in the case of Philip and the Eunuch.

In the second century however, priestly mandate restricted baptismal ordinances to two times, Easter and Whitsuntide. A long and tedious preparation was made by the candidate; he was known as a catechumen or novice in training according to some authorities it took them on a three year preparatory training program. Also in the second century, additions were made to the ordinance. The newly baptized were treated as infants and were fed milk and honey in token of their immaturity. It was also a practice to place salt in the mouth of the newly baptized member as a symbol of purification and the actual baptism was both preceded and followed by an anointing with oil.

Early in the third century, the form of baptism began to be changed; up to this time it was immersion—Cyprian bishop of Carthage during a controversy about respecting re-baptism of those who denied the faith during the days of persecution, decided that those in ill health who could not be immersed could be sprinkled. The first case of this kind stated by Eusebius was Novatus, a heretic who created a schism in the church.

In the year 253 A.D., a council of 60 bishops in Africa, at which Cyprian bishop of Carthage presided, discussed whether infants should be baptized within two or three days after birth, or whether it should be deferred until the eighth day as was the custom of the Jews on circumcision. The council decided they should be baptized at once within a day or two after birth. Infant baptism is not valid according to Scripture. *Moroni* 8:12-14, "But little children are alive in Christ, even from the foundations of the world; if not so God is a partial God, and also a changeable God, and a respecter to persons; for how many little children have died without baptism. Wherefore if little children could not be saved without baptism, these must have gone to an endless hell.

Behold I say unto you that he that supposeth that little children need baptism is in the gall of bitterness and in the bonds of iniquity, for he hath neither faith, hope nor charity, wherefore should he be cut off while in the thought, he must go down to hell.

(Continued on next page)

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—**Two Baptisms At
Warren, Ohio Branch**

The Warren Saints were happily blessed on separate Sundays.

Sunday, July 14 proved to be a wonderful day for all in attendance including Sister Margaret Iorio, Brother Jonathan Molinatto, his wife and son who were visiting from their home in North Carolina.

God's Spirit was felt richly during the service, including the washing of one another's feet. Then something wonderful happened. Jonathan David Molinatto asked to be baptized. He was baptized by his father, Brother Jonathan Molinatto and he was later confirmed a member by his grandfather, Brother Peter Molinatto.

Two weeks later, Sunday, July 28 another good day in God's service was experienced when the holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Wilbert Lee Martin. He was baptized by Brother Frank Giovannone and confirmed by Brother Ralph Bernardino, who was visiting from nearby Youngstown.

Brother Wilbert had come home from England to attend the funeral of his beloved father, Brother Sam Martin who passed away July 17.

In the midst of his grief at the passing of his father, God blessed Brother Wilbert with spiritual joy.

May God bless and sustain our two new members.

Lake Worth Branch News

The Area M.B.A. Conference convened the weekend of July 13-14. We are thankful to God for a lovely spiritual weekend which included the ordination of Brother Rocco Lovaro of Cape Coral Mission into the office of Teacher. His feet were washed by Brother Dominick Giovannone of Fort Pierce and ordained by visiting Evangelist, Brother Dominic Moraco. The day was well spent as many Brothers and Sisters called to be anointed. Some were healed as the Lord saw fit and others were thankful to share in these blessings.

Linda D'Orazio, Editor

**News From Branch No. 1,
Detroit, Michigan**

On Saturday, July 20, 1974 we were honored to host two General Church committees. Many of those very same visiting Elders stayed to honor us again, by attending our meeting on the Sabbath.

Brother Joseph Gennaro, our first speaker of the day, brought out the need for more workers and more missions. He made another point which really made me think. How being meek, humble, and having a fear of God is so very essential. And how our works and desires of serving Him bring about our blessings.

Brother Paul D'Amico, our next speaker, reminded us that putting God first is all important.

Brother Paul related an experience of when he was in battle during the war. While on the battlefield, he had such a great fear he began praying to God. God showed him in a vision where the enemy was and where all the allied forces were. He was told not to be afraid. Those men whom he had seen were much closer to the battlefield than he was. They were the ones who had much to fear.

Brother Joseph Calabrese had many beautiful words for us also. He cited a dream by Brother William Bickerton many years ago in which he saw a long road leading from earth to Heaven. The Saints were walking along this road. On each side of the road were beautiful flowers and some of the Saints were stopping to pick them. As they went over to pick the flowers they began to sink, because all of those flowers were planted in quicksand. This dream will help me to remember that the road to heaven is very straight and narrow. Also, all that shines, unfortunately, is not always PURE gold.

Brother Patsy Marinetti gave all those within the Branch an incentive to forge ahead. He told us that our missions would not go very far without the "push of the people". Each one of us has some job or duty to perform.

Brother Tony Corrado made a very lovely statement, "Desire that which is good and God will grant it to you". That has to bring to mind the question, "How much faith do we really have?"

Brother Rocco Biscotti in his final words mentioned how many sick Brothers and Sisters we have within our Church. He said, "Someday our people won't have to go to hospitals anymore, but will go directly to God and will be healed." That also takes great faith and believing. Again I ask, "How much faith do we really have?"

Sister Diana Thompson
Branch Editor

**Evangelistic Meeting Held At
Roscoe Branch**

On Friday evening, June 7, 1974, the Evangelists from the Pennsylvania Area held an Evangelistic meeting at the Roscoe Branch. There were many in attendance from the various branches in the area. After a half hour of singing and musical selections of duets and solos the meeting was turned over to the Evangelists.

Brother Joseph Shazer from Vanderbilt opened the meeting and was followed by Brother Dan Cassasanta from McKees Rocks and Brother Idris Martin from Monongahela.

The theme of their talk was pertaining to the Lord's words to Peter "Feed My Sheep". It was also brought out the importance of obedience to God and how God's judgment came upon those in disobedience.

Also how we as sons and daughters of God become joint heirs with Christ. Our Brothers spoke many wonderful words of life to us encouraging us to serve God with full purpose of heart.

Brother George Johnson then led the congregation in a question and answer session for the remainder of the service with many thoughts brought forth pertaining to the Spirit of God and how it works in our lives.

After the close of the meeting refreshments were served in the church basement. The Brothers and Sisters

IS BAPTISM ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION?

(Continued from page 7)

Baptism of infants or pedobaptism (Greek) paidos meaning child and Baptismos meaning baptism as it is styled in theological lore. There is no authentic record of infant baptism having been practiced during the first two centuries after Christ and the custom did not become general before the fifth century.

In the early part of the 16th century, a sect arose into prominence in Germany called Anabaptists, distinguished for their opposition to practice of infant baptism and they demanded that all its members who were baptized in infancy be baptized again.

Some pedobaptists have tried to prove analogy between circumcision and baptism without warrant; circumcision was made as a mark of a covenant between God and Abraham and was indicative of their freedom and nowhere is circumcision made a means of remission of sins. The rite was for male only, baptism is for both sexes.

VI. Authority to baptize and do the work of the Ministry

One cannot approach the Ministry as a secular profession or as an escape mechanism to escape the world of business. It is the highest calling to man for service and carries with it responsibilities that encompass the mind, body and spirit. One cannot baptize without due authority and calling. We are chosen for this work by God. *John* 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you and ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruit and that your fruit should remain.

The great commission found in *Matthew* 28:19 specifies without any doubt that the disciples were authorized to baptize. "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

In the *Book of Mormon* it explicitly states in *III Nephi* 11:19-22, "And Nephi arose and went forth, and bowed himself before the Lord and did kiss his feet and the Lord commanded him that he should arise; And he arose and stood before him. And the Lord said unto him: I give unto you power that ye shall baptize this people when I am again ascended unto heaven. And again the Lord called others and said unto them likewise; and he gave unto them power to baptize.

Jesus also gave the disciples on this land authority to convey the Holy Ghost upon those whom they prayed, *III Nephi* 18:36-37, "And it came to pass that when Jesus had made an end of these sayings, he touched with his hand the disciples whom he had chosen one by one even until he had touched them all, and spoke unto them as he touched them. And the multitude heard not the words which he spake, therefore they did not bear record; but the disciples bear record that he gave them power to give the Holy Ghost. And I will show unto you hereafter that this record is true.

VII. Perpetuality of Ordinance of Baptism

The parting command of Christ to his disciples was one that was to carry on until the end of the world. It was to include yet unborn generations. In this command to preach the Gospel with the promise of God's presence, we note the ordinance of baptism, *Matthew* 28:19-20, "Go

ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world, Amen."

In my final summation, I trust I have been able to impress upon your minds and hearts that baptism is necessary and essential as a requirement for entrance into the kingdom of God. *John* 3:5, "Jesus answered, Verily verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

It is equally important as to the way we baptize and the early church taught baptism by immersion. It is also important that baptism must be preceded by the fruits of repentance and must be done with a purpose and followed by a transition from the old man of sin into the new man of Christ.

One God

The sun shines your glory and the moon and the stars carry your name.

You breathe through the flowers and STAND through the rain

You are for you have created

You have touched me and I have grown

My life is a Miracle—Let it be Known.

The more I experience, conquer, see

The more I know that only you, God, have strengthened me

Let everyday be an experience

Let everyone know the creator gives

God, my God has not died, He calls you to live.

Sister Denise DiFalco

* * *

JESUS I KNOW

Jesus, what would we do without you today?

To keep us from sin that comes our way.

We can get down on our knees and pray.

Please don't let us go astray.

You tell us your word will never change.

I am old-fashioned, I want to stay the same.

I want to tell the good things you have done.

You saved my life more than once.

I praise your name to everyone I see.

You have been so good to me.

You have been good to our family over the years.

There was many a day, I shed many a tear.

It will soon be the day, you died on the Cross.

So all our souls wouldn't be lost.

I pray someday, I'll see your sweet face.

If I can keep the Faith.

I love you Jesus with all my heart.

I pray someday, we'll not be apart.

Sister Viola Lowery

in Roscoe are thankful for the privilege to have so many wonderful Brothers and Sisters in fellowship with us from branches in the area and for the message delivered by the Brothers in the ministry which was seasoned by God's Holy Spirit.

May God Bless them all.

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky
Roscoe Branch Editor

Homecoming

Five gifts were given to us when Brother Tom Everett returned from Arizona to his home in Detroit, Michigan. The first gift goes even without saying. Our hearts were filled with joy at seeing our Brother home again after such a long time. He came to us safe and sound by the hand and grace of God.

Our four other gifts were Brother Phil and Sister Valerie Van Allsburg and their two little ones. Brother Phil and Sister Val also were residing in Arizona, and traveled with Brother Tom Everett to Michigan. They will now be residents of Michigan, and members of Branch No. 1 in Detroit.

Our Brother and Sister have no other family here except for their two small children, but we know they will grow to think of each and everyone of us as family.

We at Branch No. 1 welcome our weary travelers.

Sister Diana Thompson

Renewal In Glassport Branch

On May 26, 1974 the Glassport Branch was once again blessed from God with the renewal of our Brother Walter Little. Brother Walter was baptized in Washington, D. C. on May 1, 1949 by Brother Alvin Swanson and confirmed into The Church by Brother Orr Thomas.

Our prayer is that God will bless Brother Walter and Sister Gertrude Little that their home may always find God's love abiding there.

Glassport Branch Editor
Robin Nicklow

Note: Brother Walter will be 80 years of age his next birthday.

News From Youngstown, Ohio

We were happy to have with us on Sunday, June 16, 1974 Evangelist V. J. Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio along with his family and two friends. He used for his text *II Nephi 4, 12*, relating how Lehi, before his passing from this life, called his sons together to give them counsel. As this was Father's Day, he spoke of the good counsel Lehi had given his sons and how "his heart truly delighteth in the things of the Lord". Nephi had a vision of the "promised land". We, too, envision the "promised land" in this era, which God has promised to those who love and serve Him and who endure to the end. We remember our Spiritual Fathers who were so dedicated to God and had a deep profound faith. A vision of righteousness is necessary—a testimony not of word—but of deed, our very lives speaking out to others. We must let nothing

obscure our vision or beset us. When the storm clouds hover above us, our faith in God shall sustain us. "He hath consumed me with his love even unto the consuming of my flesh".

Brother Travis Perry followed Brother Gibson relating how God took Moses and the Israelites out of bondage and brought them to the Promised Land. One of the instructions given them was to honor their fathers and mothers—the one commandment with a promise. This was the testimony Moses instructed them to give to their children. Today—that promise is still the same.

It was a day well spent in the service of our Lord.

Teresa Pandone
Editor Pro-tem,
Youngstown, Ohio

Ordinations In Phoenix, Arizona

The Brothers and Sisters of the Phoenix Branch extend their Christian love to all and wish to share with you a part of their blessings.

Many Brothers, Sisters and friends from Phoenix, Tucson, San Carlos, Pinetop, Seven Mile, Arizona and Monongahela, Pennsylvania gathered together as six ordinations took place at Phoenix.

Four Teachers, one Deacon and one Deaconess were set apart and ordained as follows:

April 7, 1947: Brother Tom Kocuba, Deacon
April 14, 1974: Brother John Ross, Jr., Teacher
April 14, 1974: Brother Roger Mazzeo, Teacher
April 14, 1974: Brother Art Landrey, Jr., Teacher
April 14, 1974: Brother Barry Mazzeo, Teacher
April 14, 1974: Sister Connie Ross, Deaconess

A good spirit was felt while these were ordained and our prayer is that God might bless them and that He may seal their office upon them with His Holy Spirit.

Won't you help us pray?

Barry Mazzeo,
Branch Editor

News At Whiteriver, Arizona Mission

Jesus told the people on this land to write because it would be of benefit to those who would come after. One should write as it happens because even though the blessings are great some things cannot be recalled. I have put off writing this far too long, but will remember as best I can with God's help so you can share in the blessing of the day.

We arose as usual, my husband and I, never suspecting what the Sabbath day had to offer, but what a blessing lay ahead! We had a very nice Sunday School and went into the Sunday service. There was a good spirit in singing and in the preaching. Brother Joe Calabrese spoke about the Indians and how they were placed on reservations so God could keep them together, that there is a purpose for these things even if there are hardships to bear. He spoke on many things and it filled our hearts with that special spirit of the Restoration.

We have had three young Apache men attending our services since The Church first came to Whiteriver. They must have been touched although said nothing. A hymn

was called, "Speak My Lord". As we got to the chorus, "Speak, My Lord," Brother Isaac Smith, spoke in the gift of tongues. We finished the hymn, at which time Sister Helen Smith arose to tell us she had the interpretation of the tongues, "The Lord Speaks, Hear Ye Him".

Brother Joe had read the beatitudes as he opened the meeting which I'm sure we all thought upon and we felt that our cups were filled. Brother Isaac and Brother Herb Hemmings gave exhorting words. The meeting closed and then Scott Tenijieth, asked to be baptized. Dennis Williams, and Jensen Ethelbah also asked to be baptized as we prepared to go to the river.

It was a blessed sight to see these young Apache men go into the waters. They reminded us of the sons of Alma as they went on missionary work. As the hymn says, "Speak my Lord, soon the time of reaping will be over, soon we'll gather for the harvest home, may the Lord of harvest smile upon us, may we hear his blessed child well done."

It is good to see the Apaches help Brother Isaac get The Church settled in its place. The bus is beautiful and things happen fast when the Lord speaks. We can truly say now that we are "The Whiteriver Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ".

It is good to know that it is because of those in the background who have prayed, fasted, given clothes, financial help, and visited and encouraged that those here in the front lines have had success. It takes unity to get things done. Bless you all as you read this small account of a great happening. I fear, as Moroni of old, that my words are insufficient, but if God puts His Spirit upon them, you will be blessed.

Sister June Tenijieth

THE ART OF LEADERSHIP

Simply and plainly defined, a leader is a man who has followers. The leader deserves to have followers. He has earned recognition. Authority alone is no longer enough to command respect.

The leader is a great servant. The Master of Men expressed the ideal of leadership in a democracy when he said, "And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant."

The leader sees things through the eyes of his followers. He puts himself in their shoes and helps them make their dreams come true.

The leader does not say, "Get going!" Instead he says, "Let's go!" and leads the way. He does not walk behind with a whip; he is out front with a banner.

The leader assumes that his followers are working with him, not for him.

He considers them partners in the work and sees to it that they share in the rewards. He glorifies the team spirit.

The leader duplicates himself in others. He is a man builder. He helps those under him to grow big because he realizes that the more big men an organization has the stronger it will be.

The leader does not hold people down, he lifts them

up. He reaches out his hand to help his followers scale the peaks.

The leader has faith in people. He believes in them, trusts them and, thus, draws out the best in them. He has found that they rise to his high expectations.

The leader uses his heart as well as his head. After he has looked at the facts with his head he lets his heart take a look, too. He is not only a boss—he is also a friend.

The leader is a self-starter. He creates plans and sets them in motion. He is both a man of thought and a man of action—both dreamer and doer.

The leader has a sense of humor. He is not a stuffed shirt. He can laugh at himself. He has a humble spirit.

The leader can be led. He is not interested in having his own way, but in finding the best way. He has an open mind.

The leader keeps his eyes on high goals. He strives to make the efforts of his followers and himself contribute to the enrichment of personality, the achievement of more abundant living for all and the improvement of civilization.

—Anonymous

Submitted by

Brother Joseph Manes

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new member of their family. New arrival has been as follows:

Joanna Beth to Stephen and Yvonne Saffron of Phoenix, Arizona.

— WEDDINGS —

DORE - NICKOLETTE

Mr. Philip Dore and Miss Kay Lyn Nickolette were united in holy matrimony on July 5, 1974, at the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Alfred Dominico officiated at the wedding ceremony.

Sister Betty Alessio presented the musical selections at the ceremony.

The newlyweds will reside in Lorain, Ohio.

COTE - JASMIN

Mr. John D. Cote and Sister Patricia Jasmin were joined in holy matrimony on July 6, 1974 at the Lake Worth, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother V. J. Lovalvo of the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch officiated at the wedding ceremony, assisted by Brother Frank Sirangelo, great-grandfather of the bride. Brother V. J. Lovalvo was the vocal soloist, accompanied by Sister Mary Perri who also rendered musical selections at the piano. The newlyweds will make their home in West Palm Beach, Florida.

● OBITUARIES ●

LAURA ANN THOMAS

Laura Ann Thomas, born on January 20, 1974, in Detroit, Michigan, passed away from this life on June 27, 1974. The funeral service was conducted by Brother Nick Pietrangelo at the A. H. Peters Funeral Home.

Laura Ann is survived by her parents, Brother Richard and Sister Lorraine Thomas, one sister and grandparents.

She was laid to rest at Forrest Lawn Cemetery. We pray that God will bring comfort and peace to the family.

CARMELA CARUSO RENZI

Sister Carmela Caruso Renzi, of West Side Cleveland, Ohio, passed on to her eternal reward on June 27, 1974. She was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on December 8, 1940. She was born on January 10, 1896.

She is survived by two daughters, one son, eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother August Perlioni at Cleveland, Ohio.

Sister Renzi was an ordained Deaconess and was a faithful member of The Church, setting a good example to those around her.

ROBERT WATSON, SR.

Brother Robert Watson, Sr., an Evangelist of The Church, formerly of Windsor, Ontario Branch and more recently of San Fernando Valley, California, passed on to his eternal reward on June 14, 1974. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in May, 1937 and was born on November 22, 1896.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo officiated at the funeral services assisted by Brother Otto Henderson.

He is survived by his wife, one son, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Brother Watson held the following offices in The Church: Deacon, Teacher, Elder, and Evangelist. He was a faithful worker for The Church and we are sure that he has received his reward.

May God bless and comfort the family.

SAMUEL THOMAS MARTIN

Brother Samuel Thomas Martin passed on to his heavenly reward on July 17, 1974. He was a member of the Warren, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was baptized into The Church on September 1961, and was born on September 3, 1906.

He is survived by his wife, one son, five daughters, and fifteen grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Frank Giovannone and assisted by Brothers Jerry Giovannone, Cleveland Baldwin, and Harry Robinson.

We pray that God will bless and comfort the family.

Special Note

We received word that Sister Phyllis M. Wergin's husband, of Wichita, Kansas, passed away on July 10, 1974, from a sudden heart attack.

Our prayers are that God will bless and comfort our Sister.

I Remember Brother Bob Watson

Brother Bob Watson is a very good man in the sight of our Church people and of me too. I love him very much. He forgets the world and serves God to the best of his ability. He believes everything in the Bible and Book of Mormon. He will serve God until he dies. Brother Bob does not tell lies as many people do, but when he does wrong he goes to God in prayer and he is forgiven because he prays with a humble heart and a contrite spirit. I hope God will extend his life as long as Brother Bob will serve him. I will thee dear God to please dwell with him and that he will serve thee all the days of his life. I also hope and pray that you will never leave him. Thank you dear God for sending him down to earth for he has touched my heart very much.

Gail Collison

(Note: Gail was about twelve years of age when she wrote this; the Watsons were still members of the Windsor Branch at that time. The Watson family requested that I send this little verse along with Bro. Bob's obituary, since they have kept all these years.)

— Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1974 events of General Church and regional interest.

* Denotes the meeting will be held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

SEPTEMBER

14 & 15—Atlantic Coast District Conference, Bronx, N.Y.

7 & 8—California District Conference, San Fernando Valley.

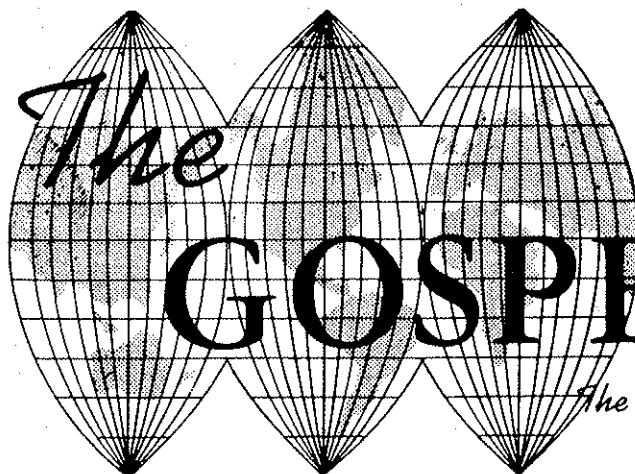
7 & 8—Florida District Conference, Fort Pierce.

18, 19, 20 & 22—Michigan-Ontario District Conference, Branch No. 2.

14—Ohio District Conference, Perry.

14 & 15*—Pennsylvania District Conference, McKees Rocks.

All Church organizations (General, District, G. M. B. A., Area M.B.A.'s, General Ladies Uplift Circle, Area Circles, etc.) are requested to send in the dates of their coming events for publication in the *Gospel News* 1974 Church Calendar. Send information to: Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.



The GOSPEL NEWS

The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

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GMBA CAMPOUT — 1974

James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

The song, "Do You Know My Jesus", became the favorite song of the 1974 GMBA Campout. The site of the Campout was Camp Walden, located in upper Michigan, near Cheboygan. The campsite was bordered by a beautiful, clear lake complemented by tall trees interspersed throughout the grounds. The location was very appealing, further testimony to the grandeur of the wonders and beauty of God's creation.

Sleeping accommodations were in neat, clean, knotty pine cabins with ample space. The registration attendance totaled 390 people. All districts of the Church were represented, as they came from California, Florida, Arizona, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan. Ages ranged from the elderly to the very young; from Sister Catherine Gammichia, 82 years old, of Branch No. 2, Detroit, to Hope Allsburg, 3 months old, of Branch No. 1, Detroit. We were also privileged to have in attendance General Church President, Dominic Thomas; First Counsellor, Gorie Ciaravino; President of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, Rocco Biscotti; General Church Executive Secretary, Nicholas Pietrangelo; President of the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, Domenic Moraco and their families. As we are all aware, to make any campout a success it requires people with a desire to associate for a week, seeking to nurture and bring about the blessings of God. As usual, whenever or wherever two, three or more people are gathered in God's name He will make His presence felt. And bless us He did, as we witnessed ten new converts go to the waters of baptism among other blessings.

This campout was held under the newly elected officers of the GMBA — President, Paul Palmieri and Vice President, Donald Ross. Both are no strangers to campouts, being previously involved in other campouts on the GMBA and Area MBA levels. We would also salute our Camp Director, Joe Carlini, who has a "stride" all his own which many were quick to observe, as well as the other committees and chairmen which assisted in the many unseen mechanics necessary to make provisions for the welfare of 390 people.

In the absence of the GMBA Chaplain, Joseph Milan-

toni, Brothers Palmieri and Ross daily appointed an elder to serve in that office, which they admirably did.

As in the past, this campout had some wonderful experiences for which we are grateful to God. On Tuesday evening following the nightly services, a huge group of both young and old were gathered at the camp pavilion. Usually we have a campfire, but due to rain earlier in the evening, we met at the pavilion for our nightly hymn singing. A young Indian girl from Muncey had a very sore foot which caused her pain and a noticeable limp. She requested to be anointed by the Priesthood. A few minutes after the anointing, the pain and limp were both gone from her foot. Once again the Lord displayed His love for us by answering our prayers. "Do You Know My Jesus?" Yes, we surely do, and graciously acknowledge His love for us.

During the week several early morning fast and prayer meetings were held; by the Elders, by the young people, and by the Elders and ordained Teachers; and on one morning, for all those that desired to meet. These fast and prayer meetings are a common occurrence at our campouts. In many instances they have been requested by the young people, having learned early the fruitfulness and rewards granted by God for their efforts.

Another beautiful experience occurred on Wednesday. During seminars, Jon Marinetti, of Detroit, heard a voice speak to him three times prompting him to serve Christ. At the evening meeting, Jon related his experience and concluded by asking for his baptism. What resulted was that a total of seven persons requested baptism. A beautiful evening to remember.

An established daily service at all campouts is the Group Seminars. They are divided according to various age groups and their subjects selected accordingly. This year, comments from many that attended were very favorable regarding the subjects and the group instructors.

While the adults, young people and teenagers were in their respective seminars, the children were busy in arts and crafts classes. Here, the children made artifacts related to Indian Lore.

During the week, we had many moments to socialize and fellowship with each other. An important factor in campout life is the opportunity to talk to another person,

(Continued on page 3)

TO THE SAINTS WHOM I LOVE IN CHRIST, GREETINGS:

The Lord our God will keep you in perfect peace because your mind is stayed on Him, and because you keep the truth. He trusts you. Trust the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

July 10th of each year Sister Randy and I renew our wedding covenant in our own simple manner, this year being our 37th. Sister Randy told me that she prayed to the Lord for guidance, and the Lord directed her to spend this 37th anniversary by visiting the Saints north of us who do not have the fellowship of the Saints. Like a little child, she said to the Lord, "Give me evidence." To her surprise the next morning the telephone rang and it was Mrs. Annie Lassen, formerly of San Jose, California. She said, "I moved to Portland, Oregon and I want to know if there is a church here." "No," said my wife, "but we do have members there and we are planning to come to visit there."

We left the 9th of July and arrived at Paradise, California that night where we have a wonderful couple living there, Sister Lavon, a school teacher, and her beloved husband, Donald Becker, a civil engineer of the county of Orville, and their two beautiful girls, LaDonna and Charlene. Incidentally, Sister Lavon received her testimony from Sisters Rose and Sharon Lovalvo while attending the Chico State College.

Our young Sisters shared their joy of the Lord with others who would hear and it resulted in three girls being baptized. Who said you can't share the Restored Gospel at a college or university? Sharon's husband did the same thing. He shared his joy of Jesus with a young man, John Eager, while at Modesto Junior College, and it resulted in his baptism and later his mother, Wilma Eager. Why don't you try it? It works and it will make you happy.

We spent a lovely evening at the Beckers' home, and the next day we visited the Grigsbys and Mrs. Becker, Don's mother.

Their home was left to us as Donald attended to his job and Lavon taught summer school. When Sister Lavon came home at noon, we had lunch together, after which we joined hands in prayer and left for the long journey to Oregon.

We spent the night at Grant's Pass, Oregon and the next day arrived at Portland, met Ann and Eugene Lassen, and joy filled our hearts. We were blessed in our little meeting and prayer that night.

We did not succeed in locating Sister Pat and Mike McLaughlin due to not having the correct phone number.

During our travel my wife heard a rumbling noise in our car, and said, "We shall go no farther unless we get this car checked." The next morning I took the car to a garage and they could not find anything wrong mechanically, but as the service man looked at the tires he saw our right front tire ready to blow apart. It was a new tire and I do not know how the tire held itself together.

On our return to Portland we made another attempt to find the McLaughlins. We did find Sister Pat, we met her in a large bank where she was working. It was quite a meeting. She is a God filled person.

Our journey was well and blessed all the way with safety and joy.

Brother Mark Randy

FASTING AND ITS NECESSITY

by Robert A. Watson

NATURAL REASONS

Fasting purifies and cleanses the body and permits a balancing of the circulation which is absolutely essential to good health. Fasting is house cleaning to the body; the Holy Spirit is then given a clean temple. There are four means of house cleaning. **THE SKIN** — the pores are one channel by which toxic wastes are eliminated. Far more wastes are eliminated during fast through the pores than at any other time. **THE KIDNEYS** — this is why drinking water is so highly beneficial. It dilutes the urine which constantly washes out the poisons that are poured into the kidneys. **THE LUNGS** — these organs play an important part in this house cleaning project. Loads of poisons are exhaled in the fast through the nostrils from oxygenation of blood. The same amount of poison is released through the nostrils and lungs as through the kidneys, bowels and skin. **THE BOWELS** — these are the fourth channel of elimination.

Fasting does not reduce, but increases energy and heat of the body. It also gives the body a much needed "holiday" or "vacation." The body seldom ever has a rest from ordinary labors. We overtax and overload all the organs with by-products of our wrong living, eating, drinking and thinking. We would do well to grant the millions of little cells in our body a rest. The Lord rested on the seventh day from His labors; yet we do not even give our body a sabbatical rest.

With the physical housecleaning goes a mental housecleaning. Many times pessimism, gloom, discouragement, anger, grudges, worry, and mental tensions disappear after bodily purification takes place. Bernard McFadden, health authority says, "The body intimately influences the higher soul powers during a fast." Fasting was a custom advocated by the school of philosophers for curative purposes over two thousand years ago. Plutarch stated, "Instead of using medicine, fast." Traces of fasting have also been found in Chinese and Hindu writings. Fasting is one of the four pillars in the Mohammedan religion. This explains why there is so much zeal and fervor in their religion, since many of them take a thirty day fast every year. Fervor and zeal are definitely a result of the fast, and are sadly lacking in the Church today. Fasting is mentioned in the Scriptures approximately one third as much as prayer, yet its practice, in comparison, is placed insignificantly in the background.

SPIRITUAL REASONS

II Corinthians 11:26-27 "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often in hunger and thirst in fastings often in cold and nakedness."

Mormon 5:5 "The church did meet together often to fast and prayer and to speak with one another concerning the welfare of their souls."

Matthew 9:15 "The days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them and then shall they fast." How many children of the bridegroom are obeying God's command?

The three men most highly developed spiritually are those who fasted forty days. One was the Son of God; the other two men were Moses and Elijah. Others who gained spiritually and rose to greatness fasted when they

were under great strain — David, Daniel, John the Baptist, and Paul.

Fasting takes one into humility. In *Psalm 35:13* David states, "I humbled my soul with fasting and my prayer returned into my bosom." Fasting also removes pride.

Fasting reaches and obtains what prayer cannot alone. *Matthew 17:17-21*, "And Jesus said unto them, because of your unbelief for verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place and it shall remove and nothing shall be impossible to you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by fasting and prayer."

Fasting removes unbelief, *Matthew 17:20-21*, and is the greatest faith producer. It is the speediest method known to spiritual success. Our natural appetites are placed in a dormant condition; thus physical pleasures are not enjoyed with pleasurable appetites. God can come near us, and we hear Him. He is contacted, and a revival begins. The flesh becomes neutralized, so that the individual is now a conductor of spiritual power. Our strongholds of the flesh are pulled down so that faith has no real barriers. *II Corinthians 10:3-5*, "For though we walk in the flesh we do not war after the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds." Fasting casts down reasonings so that we will not listen to the evidence that our senses may bring forth, but we let faith loose.

Some of the reasons why we should fast and how they related to other men in other ages of time, when they faced similar conditions that we are facing today:

- We can fast because of our concern for sin; *Ezra 10:6, Alma 10:7*;
- We fast because desperate situations require desperate measures; *Esther 4:16*;
- We fast for a portion of God's Spirit; *Alma 17:9*;
- Fasting for revelation; *Daniel 9:2,3,21,22*;
- Fasting for knowledge; *III Nephi 27:1*.

—:—

PROMISE I MADE

Jesus, I made a promise, I didn't keep.
You know sometimes things can make you weak.
If I would have listened to my Mom and Dad.
Now I wouldn't have to be sad.

I heard your sweet voice many a time.
You told me to go to Church, and make up my mind.
I would go to Church in the morning, but that wasn't enough.
You wanted me to do the Commandments, you left for us.

I hope you forgive me, Jesus, I made a big mistake.
I had to get sick, that is what it had to take.
What would I do Jesus, without you?
In this wicked world, there are so few that know what to do.

I love you Jesus with all my heart.
I pray that someday, I am not left in the dark.
In the first resurrection I pray you will say,
"Viola, the door is open, come in to stay."

Sister Viola Lowery

GMBA CAMPOUT — 1974

(Continued from page 1)

whether it be small talk, relating religious experiences, or discussing problems. It gives one time to talk at length with another person from another branch which you would ordinarily only have time to greet at GMBA, Conference, etc. Through this campout acquaintance one learns to know others a little better.

Camp Walden is jointly owned by two pleasant and accommodating gentlemen. They were often seen mingling with other people, attending the services, baptisms and confirmations. They were very interested in our ordinances and meetings and complimented us on our behavior and attitude. Those that dealt with them reported they stated our group was the best behaved group they ever had in their camp. A silent witness to others by our behavior that we represent The Church of Jesus Christ.

The Sunday morning service was very memorable and touching. It was a solemn occasion to witness six Elders administering sacrament to members in attendance, as many tears of gratefulness were shed.

The camp ran from August 24 to 30, and it proved to be a great week spent together. An additional highlight of the camp was recreation. The "All Star" softball game between the young men and those over 25 years of age took honors as the most memorable event in recreation. They were named the "Young Bucks" and "The Social Security" teams.

Space will not permit us to relate how the "Social Security" team became victorious. Granted, the rains came after five innings; and lo and behold the "aged ones" were leading 7 to 5. This was sufficient to give them the victory, and later that evening the group sang "Precious Memories". The "Young Bucks" countered with "Amazing Grace."

The Campout had many wonderful serious memories as well as moments of humor. Again we wish to thank all those who worked so hard to help make the week a success.

Following is a list of those baptized and their respective branches:

1. Brother Clayton Lunham - Muncey Reservation, Canada
2. Sister Marie Lunham - Muncey Reservation, Canada (wife of Brother Clayton)
3. Brother Jonathan Marinetti - Detroit No. 4, Michigan
4. Brother Timothy Scolero - Detroit No. 1, Michigan
5. Sister Cindy Ignagni - Detroit No. 1, Michigan
6. Brother Randy Huttenburger - Hopelawn, New Jersey
7. Brother Joseph Riopel, Jr. - Edison, New Jersey
8. Brother Joseph Catone - Miami, Florida
9. Sister Suzanne Shaffer - Miami, Florida
10. Sister Brenda Jeffs - Windsor, Canada

Change of Address

Brother Alfred and Sister Josephine Dominico
2003 Bayview Heights Drive, Space 80
San Diego, California 92115

AN EXPERIENCE

by Sister Belle Rose

On Wednesday, June 12, 1974, my husband's car was being repaired; so from work, he went directly to Church. I called Brother Edward Amatruda to ask him if he would pick us up and take us to Church with him and his wife. In the car were Brother and Sister Valenti, Brother and Sister Amatruda and myself. We started out and all was fine. After stopping for a red light, we continued to Church. The car in front of us slowed down and when Brother Ed stepped on his brakes, he found his brakes had failed. He swerved to the right to avoid hitting the car in front. (This corner of Bay Parkway in Brooklyn is very busy with people crossing and dodging the traffic and those waiting at the bus stop). Brother Ed was shouting, "the brakes, the brakes, I have no brakes." I immediately looked about and offered a prayer. I asked God to take the people off the street. Thank God no one was standing in the street. Brother Ed then swerved to the left to avoid hitting the parked cars. This went on for a few blocks; also this section is downhill and the car picked up speed. We finally reached a corner which had no parked cars and thank God there were no people standing around. Brother Ed steered the car toward the curb. He jumped the curb to slow down the car a bit and we rammed into a station wagon further down the street. Thank God we were not seriously hurt. My mother and father and myself, sitting in the back seat, received injuries on our shins when we slid forward and somewhat under the front seat at the impact of the two cars.

Sister Minnie Amatruda received the worst injury. She was sitting in the front and hit her head on the dashboard; hurt a nerve in her neck and also pinched a nerve and bruised her thigh and leg. Brother Ed injured his arm on the steering wheel. The policeman called for an ambulance, but my mother, father and myself did not go to the hospital. Sister Minnie and Brother Ed did. We went to Church and the service was a prayer meeting. We all prayed and thanked God for His wonderful grace in preserving our lives. We also prayed for Brother Ed and Sister Minnie that there would not be too many injuries. After a checkup at the hospital, they both returned home.

The car front was completely demolished and the car had to be junked. The rear of the station wagon was also very badly damaged. I thank God that He was present with us in the car, that He preserved our lives in this horrible accident. The corner where we had the accident, I found out later is also a bus stop. Thank God no one was standing there at the time.

Note of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for your prayers and cards while I was in the hospital.

When sickness befalls us we realize the importance of The Church and our Brothers and Sisters.

May God Bless you all.

*Sister Theodora Seeley
McKees Rocks Branch*

● FLASHBACKS ●

Charles Jumper

25 YEARS AGO — OCTOBER, 1949

Brother Thurman Furnier spoke on the "Gospel Hour" radio program from Sarnia, Canada. Brother Furnier's subject was "The Establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ During the Apostolic Era."

The General Church Conference was held in Hopelawn, New Jersey. The Book of Mormon Lesson Books written by Brothers John and Thomas Ross were made available to the branches of The Church for lesson studies in Sunday School and M.B.A.

20 YEARS AGO — OCTOBER 1954

The first general gathering of the California District M.B.A. Locals was held in San Diego. The host local presented a program centered on the history of the G.M.B.A.

15 YEARS AGO — OCTOBER 1959

Brother Frank Wooley returned from missionary work in Italy. Brother Frank will be 80 years old in one month. His first words greeting the Brothers and Sisters who met him at the airport were "I wish I could have stayed longer."

10 YEARS AGO — OCTOBER 1964

Brother James Heaps from Anaheim, California and Brothers Dan Cassasanta and William Colangelo of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania visited Branch No. 1 in Detroit. Brother Heaps and Sister Dolores Thomas sang a duet "I Discovered The Way Of Gladness."

5 YEARS AGO — OCTOBER 1969

Ground was broken for the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Brother Gorie Ciarravino, General Church President from Detroit, Michigan was in charge.

My Song To You, Father

If I could conduct a symphony, I would call upon the clouds to assemble together and thunder out our inward praises.

Each branch of every tree would reach toward heaven reaching out to you.

And as every creature's knee bowed to the ground praying contrite to you

I'd call upon the sun to cause a rainbow—in tribute

Each star near or far would shine its brightest

And each heart would pound

And cry "I love you"

My song would last forever

My song to you.

Sister Denise DiFalco

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

OUR PRESIDENT RESIGNS

On Thursday evening, August 8, in his final speech to the nation as President, Richard M. Nixon announced his resignation from office effective at noon the following day, Friday.

The new President, Gerald R. Ford, later said Mr. Nixon's speech was, "...one of the saddest moments that I've ever witnessed." President Ford's feelings without doubt were shared by many of his countrymen. It is indeed tragic and a sad occasion for all as Richard M. Nixon becomes the first American president to resign. In his resignation address he conceded that, "...some of my judgments were wrong." He also offered encouragement to the American people that with Gerald R. Ford as his successor, "...the leadership of America will be in good hands."

BINDING THE WOUNDS

President Ford's long leadership experience in the House of Representatives should serve him well as he faces many enormous challenges. With loyal bipartisan support, he should be able to bind the wounds and restore respect and confidence to the national government. In answer to his prayer for Divine Guidance may God direct him in his efforts to perform the awesome duties of the Presidency.

Senator Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania, in reacting to President Nixon's resignation speech, along with many other members of Congress, seems to have summed up simply, but eloquently what the attitude of the American people should be at this time of national anxiety—"Now is the time for healing—a time for us all, regardless of political convictions, to come together. We must move forward, putting behind us the paralysis that crippled our government and solving urgent problems... President Ford has my commitment of all the help I can give as he seeks to restore national unity, confidence and direction. Our great nation of laws and its constitution, and its people have proven, and will prove in the days ahead, their enduring strength once again."

VIGILANCE AND DEDICATION

Hopefully, this sad and tragic turn of events that have befallen former President Nixon may well serve to alert all who hold public office to be constantly vigilant and dedicated to the proper and discreet performance of the duties and requirements of their respective offices.

Whether on a national, state or local level, it behooves all public servants, both elected and appointed, to endeavor with all sincerity and humility to fulfill the commitment or oath of office to which they submitted and pledged themselves.

It would be well if all public servants and the citizenry also would read anew the Apostle Paul's exhortation. (*Romans 13:1-7*)

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers... the powers that be are ordained of God... For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil... do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same. For he is the minister of God to thee for good... a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil... Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

David and Goliath

Dear Girls and Boys,

I have an exciting story to tell you this month about David and a big giant. Last time I told you how brave David was when he killed a bear and a lion but this time David was bolder.

David's brothers were away at the army camp. His father, Jesse, asked David if he would like to take food to his brothers. David was happy to go. He was not afraid. His father sent corn, ten loaves of bread and cheeses to the brothers.

As David came near the camp, he could see the two armies, the army of Israel and the army of the Philistines. The enemy army had a great giant named Goliath. He was taller than any soldier. He was about nine feet tall. He wore a helmet of brass on his head, a coat of mail and a shield of brass. On his legs were coverings of brass and he carried a great spear. His large sword was buckled to his side. Goliath came out of his camp every morning and every night for forty days asking someone to come and fight. He called, "I defy the armies of Israel this day, give me a man that we may fight together." No wonder the Israelites were afraid! They didn't have any giants to send against this mighty man.

David couldn't understand why someone didn't meet the giant. Although he wasn't a warrior, he was willing to fight Goliath. Hadn't he killed a big bear and a lion? He had faith that God would help him destroy the giant.

When King Saul heard that David wanted to fight Goliath, he sent for him. He doubted his strength. But when David told the king how the Lord had been with him when he protected his father's sheep, the king consented. King Saul said, "Go and the Lord be with thee."

The king gave David his own armor, a beautiful helmet of brass and a fine sword. But when David put these things on, they were too heavy. He had never worn an armor nor carried a big sword. He took them off. He went to the brook and got five smooth stones and put them in his shepherd's bag. Off he went to meet the giant. When we toured the Holy Land we went down to this brook and got five stones. How real this story was to us as we looked up at the mountains and pictured the great Philistine army on one side and the Israelite army on the other.

When Goliath saw David coming, he laughed and cried out, "Am I a dog that you come to me with staves? I will give your flesh to the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field." David replied, "You come to me with a sword and a spear and a shield but I come in the name of the Lord, the God of the armies of Israel." David was not afraid. The angry giant came toward David. David took a stone from the bag and put it in his sling. AWAY WENT

THE STONE! It hit the giant in his forehead and he fell upon his face to the ground. David ran to the giant and took the giant's sword and cut off his head. Later he took the head to the camp to prove the giant was dead and would not bother them again.

When the Philistines saw their giant was dead, they were frightened and fled. The Israelites shouted the battle cry and took their enemies' camp. What a great day for David and God's people!

Next month I will tell you about David's friends.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

Children Blessed

The following were blessed into The Church:

Melody Jane Campbell of Columbus, Ohio. Parents are James B. and Sarah Campbell.

Letitia Vidette Beckett, James Edward Beckett and Tonya Nicole Beckett of South Bend, Indiana. Parents are James Edward and Sister Janet Beckett.

By Lauren Sommerville

Orlando, Florida

I knelt to pray when day was done,
And prayed, "O Lord, Bless everyone;
Lift from each saddened heart the pain
And let the sick be well again."

And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way
The whole day long I did not try,
To wipe the tear from any eye.
I did not try to share the load
Of my Brother on the road.
I did not even go to see
The sick man just next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done,
I prayed, "O Lord bless everyone."
But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear;
"Pause, hypocrite before you pray
Whom have you tried to bless today?
God's sweetest blessing always goes
By hand that serve Him here below."
And then I hid my face and cried
"Forgive me God for I have lied,"
Let me live another day
And I will live the way I Pray!

Glassport Visits McKees Rocks

On July 21, 1974 the Glassport Branch spent a day of fellowship with the Saints of the McKees Rocks Branch. The branch was full and truly God's spirit prevailed. Our prayers are that God would bless all the Saints throughout The Church, that in the trying days that we face now we may always find our hearts and thoughts on the things of God.

Just Exactly Like You

by Paul Liberto and submitted

by James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

Following is an article we have reprinted from the June issue of the San Diego Newsletter. It was written by Brother Paul Liberto. I felt it was not only fitting as a message to all who may read it but that the young also may take note. Not that they (the young) have a specific deficiency but rather the future of The Church will be in their hands. The MBA is a group that permits activity and offices for the younger set. So if you desire to be active and participate, direct yourself in a good direction. Take heed of the following message and put it to use, for all of us.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to belong to a Branch of the Church made up of people just exactly like you? I don't mean similar to you, I mean **JUST EXACTLY LIKE YOU!**

Think about it. If everyone was like you how would you rate the Branch. Good, fair, or hurting? Would your Branch be together? A Branch full of love? Would it be a paying Branch? A working Branch? A complaining Branch?

But let's get a little more specific. Who would do all the nitty-gritty, no glory jobs that have to be done to make a branch successful? Would they get done if everyone was **JUST EXACTLY LIKE YOU?**

How about assistant superintendent of Sunday School, MBA Treasurer, or Branch librarian? Who would take care of the floral committee, fix the bulletin boards, write the minutes and provide flower arrangements, if everyone was just exactly like you?

How would the congregational singing sound and what would Tuesday night attendance be if everyone was just exactly like you?

Would the branch have busy-bodies and gossips if everyone was just exactly like you?

Would there be someone to pray if everyone was like you? Would your Branch be a scripture reading group? Would there be a choir? Would there be a newsletter or a Ladies Circle if everyone was like you? Would there be rummage sales, vacation Bible Schools and visits to the sick, if everyone was exactly like you?

Would there be money in the treasury, if everyone was just exactly like you? Would there be volunteers to fix and repair, scrub floors, pull weeds or paint, if everyone was exactly like you?

Would the members of your Branch be "excuse mongers"? Would they say "I can't help you, I'm too busy." Would they have homework, housework, yardwork, jobs, sewing, shopping, car repairs, ballgames, or someplace else they rather go?

Who would clean up at conferences? Who would work in the kitchen or donate food? Who would volunteer to take extra guests into their homes? Would there be a problem, if everyone was just exactly like you?

Or would they go **OUT OF THEIR WAY TO HELP?**

Would your members go out of their way to attend showers, receptions and get-togethers to honor and respect

others, even if they didn't really want to? Even if they had to give something up they wanted to do? Even if they had to stay up a little later? Even if it cost them a little money or time? Would this be a problem, if everyone was just exactly like you?

Would you like to be a member of a Branch composed of brothers and sisters just exactly like you? My answer to that question is, "I would not."

It's easy to be a "one, two, or three day a week" member. It's easy to "talk" about doing and going and being. But that's not enough. It takes more than just showing up. It takes more than testimony and prayer. It takes action with love to be the kind of member a successful Branch needs.

A Testimony

by Sister Amelia Saccardi

I truly love reading The Gospel News. The August issue was beautiful; especially "And a Little Child Shall Lead Them" written by Brother Mark Randy. It was a touching article—well written and easy to understand by all, in The Church and out.

The Lord knows our hearts and He knew Brother Randy's heart. The way he phrased it: "Turn, turn the key." The ignition unlocked; also his heart was unlocked. This testimony touched my heart so, that I cried. It was beautiful.

I gave my testimony to my sister-in-law and her friend last week. They listened and appeared to be interested. I explained how the Lord works in a mysterious way and how He came into my life. He will come into all our lives if only we let Him. My prayer is that the Lord will enlighten the hearts and minds of all the children of men.

I thank the Lord that we belong to the true Gospel and I pray that He will keep me faithful to the end. God bless you all.

Visiting

It has been almost four years since the last time Brother Leonardo and Sister Maria Pietorenze were in the United States. This time they were only able to spend fifteen days with us. But in that time, we were able to see that they have remained strong in the Faith, and willing workers for the Lord.

To let them know how much we care and how sad we were that they had to leave us so soon, we held a coffee and cake social in their honor at Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan, on July 24, 1974. Brothers and Sisters from other branches joined us on this occasion. Brother Dominic Thomas, Brother Gorie Ciaravino, and Brother John Buffa, along with their wives, were among those who came.

As Brother and Sister Pietorenze travel back to their home in Italy, we send with them our prayers. Prayers not only for their safe return home, but that God will watch over them all the days of their lives.

I will add just one more prayer, that the Lord will bring them back again real soon.

Sister Diana Thompson

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—**Monongahela Branch News**

Alma, on one occasion, was very much concerned about the state of the soul after death. After he prayed diligently to God an angel unfolded this mystery to Alma. What a hope there is for the children of the Lord! "And then shall it come to pass, that the spirits of those who are righteous are received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise, a state of rest, a state of peace, where they shall rest from all their troubles and from all care, and sorrow."

With these words of assurance, it becomes easier for those in The Church of Jesus Christ to accept the passing of a loved one. Our Brother Joseph Reshni had this assurance and spoke of it quite often in his testimony. Thus, when the Lord saw fit to take him to paradise on May 29, 1974, we were prepared. Our beloved brother was 75 years old, but was very active in attending meetings and bearing his testimony as often as he could. Although his presence will be sadly missed, his words and example will long be remembered.

On Tuesday, July 23, the Lord called little Amanda Sue Carpenter to dwell with Him. She was the daughter of Sharon and Don Lenart and the granddaughter of Sister Irene Zukow. Brother Idris Martin assisted in the funeral services. The word of God tells us that "All little children are alive in Christ" and we know that they are "partakers of salvation." Mormon, in his epistle to his son, Moroni, adds, "Teach parents that they must repent and be baptized, and humble themselves as their little children, and they shall all be saved with their little children." Praise God for His perfect plan of salvation!

Three carloads of "young people of all ages" visited the mission in Lavale, Maryland, on Sunday, July 7. God's spirit was felt throughout the meetings, especially in the many testimonies that were offered. Following the meetings, a picnic lunch was served by Brother and Sister Border and their family. We thank God for the brief season of fellowship we enjoyed with our Brothers and Sisters in Lavale.

A chartered bus carried 46 persons from Monongahela and a few other branches to the Hill Cumorah pageant on Saturday, August 3. The trip was organized by the Willing Workers Sunday School class. After enjoying the pageant we stayed overnight so we could attend Sunday services at the Rochester, New York Branch. God's Spirit was with us as we enjoyed the message of the Restored Gospel. This message was continued the following Sunday in our M.B.A. with a slide presentation of scenes from the pageant. Brother George Johnson narrated the slides as others offered their comments. We thank God for blessing us in our efforts to learn more about Him and our duties in the latter-day work of The Church.

News From Phoenix, Arizona

We in the Phoenix Branch enjoyed the blessings of God as Sister Denise Kocuba was baptized on Sunday, August 18, 1974 by her uncle, Brother Dick Christman. Her grandfather, Brother Jake Christman confirmed her as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Sister Denise lives in Tucson, Arizona. She had requested her baptism at the California Area M. B. A. Campout at White River, Arizona. We're so happy Sister Denise allowed us to share this joyous day with her by being baptized in Phoenix.

It was good to have Brother Otto and Sister Dorothy Henderson from Anaheim, Cal., Brother Bob and Sister Sarah Watson from San Fernando Valley, Cal., the Brothers and Sisters from Tucson, and visiting friends share this day with us.

We thank God for Sister Denise and pray the Lord will richly bless her.

Apostles Visit Roscoe Branch

On July 13, Saturday evening a spiritual meeting was held at the Roscoe Branch with a large attendance from many different branches. There were five Apostles present, Brother Domenick Thomas, President of The Church, Brother Gorie Ciaravino, Brother Nick Pietrangelo (on his first official visit as an Apostle) from Detroit, Michigan; Brother Sam Kirschner from West Elizabeth and Brother Joseph Bittinger from Vanderbilt.

Brother Ciaravino opened the meeting speaking on the life of Christ, how his fame spread throughout all the nations and different reasons why many followed Him. He spoke on the Beatitudes and how Jesus lived each one. He brought out many wonderful thoughts on the life of Christ and the necessity to follow Him and His teachings in order to obtain eternal life and how He has the answer to all our problems.

Brother Pietrangelo followed, speaking on the blessings of God among us today telling many wonderful experiences. He encouraged us to serve God with all we have; that we can't have two masters. We must be dedicated to God and defend the Gospel as Moroni, who stood and fought and won.

Brother Thomas followed encouraging us to be united and love one another that God's spirit may be manifest among us and that we may reflect the image of Christ in our lives.

On Sunday, July 14, Brother Thomas opened the service speaking on the 18th Chapter, 3rd Nephi, showing us how we should pray. He spoke on how we each need to feel that call to the Lord and told how he came to know the Lord. He also spoke on how we need a surplus of God's spirit, which comes from fasting, praying and sacrificing, giving of ourselves and how we should love the oldest down to the youngest, being a united family. Brother Ciaravino followed speaking many wonderful words concerning the restoration of the Gospel and also warned us of the cunningness of the devil in deceiving the minds of people. Brother Pietrangelo followed and brought forth a beautiful message from the Lord encouraging us to watch and pray and to take inventory of ourselves and put our all into The Church. The spirit of God was felt among us during these meetings with our Brothers who traveled so far to deliver the word of God to us and we hope and pray their words of wisdom may remain in our hearts, teaching us to become better servants of God. May God Bless them in the work of the Lord.

Bertha Jean Bilsky
Roscoe Editor

A Trip To Maine

Brother Dominick Rose and I took a trip to Maine the weekend of August 14. We had a very nice trip for which we thank God. It is almost 400 miles from our home in Brooklyn, New York to North Edgecomb, Maine.

Sunday worship begins with Sunday School at 9:30 A.M. and a few minutes after its conclusion, the preaching service commences. Brother John Onorato was fine for Sunday School but became very dizzy before the service began. He sat in his living room while we had the service at the place of worship. (Our Brothers in Maine converted part of their garage and made a very comfortable meeting place for the Saints to congregate). We had a wonderful meeting with fellowship, testimonies and blessings from God. As the meeting concluded, Brother Dominick had a desire to go see Brother John who was still in his living room. Brother Dominick went to inquire how he felt. He found him lying on the couch.

When Brother John saw Brother Dominick, he was elated and asked to be anointed. While he was being anointed, a Sister had a vision. She saw a hand by Brother John as though it was pulling out a stone or a wad of matter from his body. Brother John went back to sit in the congregation and arose to testify. He said he had lost his voice and could not speak and found it difficult to breathe. He was trying to call someone to help him but his voice was gone. He started praying within himself that God would send someone to help him. He had no idea where he was nor how he got there. When he saw Brother Dominick, he thanked God that he came to get him. Brother John testified that he was completely healed after he was anointed. Thank God for His great mercy upon all His children. Our desire is the same as yours—that God will bless our Brothers and Sisters and visitors that attend the services in The Maine Mission. May God prosper their efforts.

Sister Belle Rose

Bronx, New York

The Bronx Branch rejoiced recently with the baptism of Brother Joseph Del Gudice. The ordinance was performed on July 14, 1974. The morning was beautiful. The sun was shining as the Brothers and Sisters gathered at the shore of Pelham Bay to witness the happy event. Brother Salvatore Feola performed the baptism. That wonderful feeling so characteristic at a baptism filled us all.

Brother Joseph was confirmed into The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother James R. Link. Everyone in The Bronx Branch enjoyed the blessed Spirit of God throughout the meeting. May God bless our new Brother in his endeavors to serve Him.

Sister Diana Papa

News From Dallas, Texas

Sunday, August 18, 1974 will remain a beautiful memory for The Dallas Mission. The Spirit of God was present and this was evident to everyone in the meeting. Prior to the conclusion of the morning service, Sister Stella Benyola was ordained a Deaconess. Experiences

from God, regarding our Sister, validated this blessed ordination. Contributing to the blessings were Sister Stella's mother, Sister Stella Arcuri, her brother, Brother Philip Arcuri, both from The Metuchen Branch. Brother Philip was recently ordained a Teacher. Sister Stella Arcuri washed her daughter's feet and I must admit, the "love" and "sincerity" felt by all during this ordinance was most enjoyable to our souls. By the laying on of hands, Sister Stella was ordained a Deaconess into The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother George Benyola.

After singing that very inspiring hymn, "He Touched Me", it was apparent that this wonderful feeling was continually increasing. The theme of the preaching service was the great power of God that is in The Church of Jesus Christ and only this Church. During the service, Jane Ardinger, the daughter of Brother William and Sister Theresa Gennaro, arose to her feet and proclaimed her burning desire to be baptized into The Church. This day represented the culmination of many prayers and hopes for Brother and Sister Gennaro, but most of all for Sister Jane. While preparing to go to the water's edge, Hank Ardinger, Sister Jane's husband stated how he loved his wife dearly and he asked for his baptism. Once again, Brother Hank and Sister Jane did something together, as they have done so many times in the past. They were baptized and confirmed by Brother George Benyola. The love and happiness that all the Saints of God have acquired since being baptized now belongs to Brother Hank and Sister Jane. May God bless our two new members and also our new Deaconess. We pray they will be a blessing to The Dallas Mission and also to The Church.

Brother George Benyola

Erie Mission News

On Saturday, July 27, and Sunday, July 28, we had the honor of having two apostles in our midst, Brother Rocco Biscotti and his wife, from Cleveland, and Brother Gorie Ciaravino and his wife, from Detroit. Also visiting were Brother T. D. Bucci and his wife from Youngstown, Brother Russ Martorano and family from Niles and Brother Jack Rosemier and family from Imperial.

Saturday evening's meeting was spent in singing hymns and a question and answer period. Afterwards everyone gathered at Brother Bob Dyer's home for refreshments. The Sunday service was opened by Brother Biscotti, exhorting us to live in righteousness. Brother Ciaravino followed on the same topic. Brother Russ Martorano followed thanking all the Saints for their prayers while he and his wife were in the hospital. During the service, a baby by the name of Tina Juanita Gross, daughter of Keith and Betty Gross, was blessed by Brother Harold Burge.

Before ordaining Brother Bob Dyer as a Teacher, Brother T. D. Bucci, an Evangelist, explained the duties of a teacher. Brother Delbert Lockwood washed Brother Dyer's feet and Brother Ciaravino confirmed the office of Teacher upon him. The Lord's spirit was felt by everyone, as the meeting continued with testimonies, and anointings of the sick.

All in all, a beautiful day was had by those who had gathered in our little building.

Brother H. Burge, Erie Mission

A Glorious Day In Warren, Ohio

Sunday, July 14, was a day full of the Lord in the Warren Branch. At the beginning of the service we received the happy news there was to be a baptism. Many wonderful words of life were given and we then dismissed to witness the baptism of our new brother, John David Molinatto. He was baptized by his father, Brother Jonathan Molinatto, and confirmed by his grandfather, Brother Peter Molinatto. We continued our service with feet washing and testimonies. Truly this was a joyous day spent in the Lord.

Later that evening we again gathered together with our brothers and sisters from all parts of the Ohio District for a spiritual meeting. Many wonderful testimonies were given and many words of wisdom by our Brothers, Rocco Biscotti, Tony Corrado, Ronnie Gennaro, Howard Jackson and others. Special prayers were offered on behalf of the many sick and afflicted throughout the church. The Youngstown quartet favored us with selections that were a joy to hear.

Before concluding our service, four sisters requested to be anointed for illness. At the end of the anointing, Brother Tony Corrado spoke in tongues but there was no interpretation given. As Brother Rocco was dismissing us, he encouraged us to reach out to our young brothers and sisters for they are the church of tomorrow. He then announced that on August 27th there would be fasting and prayer throughout the church and cautioned us as to the seriousness and need for fasting and praying. Brother Rocco Biscotti then spoke in the gift of tongues and the interpretation given by Brother Tony Corrado was as follows, "Ye shall receive gifts of healing if you fast and pray."

We closed our service by singing "How Great Thou Art" and as we sang the words "I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed", thunder could be heard roaring outside our meeting. Our souls had truly been fed and we rejoice and praise the Lord for his bounty toward us.

Sister Mary-Margaret Cain

Blessings At Imperial

We in Imperial have had a good active month of August. We enjoyed having Brother Russel and his wife from Fredonia Branch spend a weekend with us. Brother Russel expounded the Scriptures to us found in 53rd Chapter of Isaiah "Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant. He is despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He was wounded for our transgressions, and with his stripes we are healed." Such beautiful words fitting to our Lord Jesus Christ. Then Sunday evening Brother Russel used 2nd Chapter verses 3-6 of Nahum. This scripture describes our day referring to our automobiles and the recount God will make to find worthy ones to perform the Latter Day Work of the Restoration, that which we call Zion or the peaceful reign which Brother Russel read to us out of the 4th Chapter of Micah. "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the House of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains and it shall be exalted above the hills and people shall flow unto it, and many nations shall come

and say, "Come let us go to the mountain of the Lord and He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths." What a great future our Church has because we believe in the written word of God yet to be fulfilled in these the Latter Days.

Two weeks later we had Brother and Sister Bittinger come to show us the pictures taken in Africa and he told us of the experiences, he, Brother Gorie and Brother John Ross had among our African church people. And of the work going on among the many Brothers and Sisters who have obeyed the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Then the next day we were pleased to have Brother Gorie and his wife and Brother Nick Pietrangelo and his wife from Detroit. We had a meeting scheduled for Saturday night with some from McKees Rocks and Aliquippa in attendance. Brother Gorie spoke on 3rd Nephi. He told us how today our Book of Mormon is being used as a map and compass to locate lost cities and remains of a people who once inhabited America and left behind pyramids, tombs, and temples fashioned after those in Jerusalem and Egypt. Our Sunday Service was opened by Brother Nick Pietrangelo. He used the 13th Chapter of Matthew. "The parable of the sower." He stressed the 22nd verse "He that received the seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word and the care of this world choke the word and he becometh unfruitful." He said, anything that keeps us away from church is a thorn. Brother Gorie concluded the service by saying, "Seek ye the Kingdom God" and its righteousness and God knows what things we stand in need of." A beautiful hymn was sung by four Brothers. "Now I Have Everything." Don't we have everything? We have Jesus to show us the way.

Then on the last Sunday of August, Brother Tony Corrado and his wife and daughter attended our services. He used Exodus 4 Chapter verses 1 and 2. God spoke to Moses and said "What is that in thine hand?" And Moses answered "A rod." This rod was used many times to show the power of God in those days and Brother Tony compared it to our day. We have the rod of iron which is the written word of God or the Gospel which is the power of God unto salvation.

We wish to thank all our Brothers and Sisters who have come from other Branches to give us a spiritual lift. And we thank God for remembering and blessing our little flock here in Imperial.

Sister Eva Moore
Imperial Branch Editor

A Revelation from New Orleans

One night not long after my baptism November 25, 1973 I had an experience to confirm my belief in the faith and teachings of The Church of Jesus Christ. I had a dream in which I was watching television, nothing out of the ordinary. Suddenly from the top of the screen I saw two hands come down, in one hand was the Bible, in the other was The Book of Mormon. A beautiful heavenly voice spoke and said "These two books are one in mine hand". The voice also said "Both books contain the true word of God".

Praise God, that He reveals to us such marvelous truths.

Sister Cathy McGartlin
New Orleans

Roscoe News — An Experience

When asked if there was something we might contribute to the Gospel News by our branch editor, this experience came to me with the desire to share it with others.

When my grandson was born, the doctor called my son and said that he would be retarded. He told him many things to do to take care of him.

We all felt very mournful. My first thought was to call the Saints and ask them to pray about it. Also my husband and I prayed. The next day the doctor called back and said it was a false alarm.

My daughter-in-law dreamed a man all dressed in white came and handed her little Jimmie. That was 13 years ago. He is a well and bright young man now. For this we thank our God.

Sister Esther Andrews

New Convert Added To Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch

The Saints of the Hopelawn Branch enjoyed an extra blessing on Sunday, August 4. The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Joseph Victor Faragasso.

Brother Nick Persico immersed Brother Victor in the waters of baptism and Brother Salvatore Sgro confirmed him a member of The Church.

The name Faragasso has been a familiar name in The Church for many years and it is good news to many that the baptism of Brother Faragasso continues this.

Fredonia Branch News

Saturday, August 17, 1974, the Fredonia, Penna. Branch spent the day with Brother and Sister Samuel Kirschner.

Brother Sam baptized five of our members and visited us many times during the past years. At this time his health does not permit him to travel as he would like to.

After enjoying a picnic lunch, we spent the remainder of the day in songs of praise and testimony. Our young people sang several group selections and solo numbers.

Sister Ruth Kirschner, by way of testimony, told of her parents (Brother and Sister Cowan) hearing of the Gospel. Some of the family were instantly healed of diphtheria.

Brother Fred and Sister Charlotte Olexa and Brother John Kendall also joined us for the afternoon.

*Sister Ethel Cadman
Branch Editor*

Rochester-Lockport

On August 4, 1974 the Rochester-Lockport semi-annual gathering was held in Rochester, New York. We were joined by Brothers and Sisters from other parts of The Church including Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan.

Presiding Elder Ansel D'Amico gave a welcoming address and then encouraged all to participate in the community singing which followed. Various groups and

individuals sang selections. The Monongahela choir sang "If Jesus Goes With Me". Lydia D'Amico sang "There Is No Greater Love", and the Monongahela quartet sang a beautiful selection. All were accompanied by our pianist for the day, Sister Sharon D'Amico.

Brother Reno Bologna, president of the Michigan-Ontario district was our guest speaker. His topic was taken from *Timothy 2:15* "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed."

Brother Idris Martin was our next speaker. He reminded us that we must be as little children in order to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven.

After singing a hymn, Brother Frank Calabrese spoke on Christ being the anchor of our soul. Satan may try to tempt us and lead us astray but we must hold on fast to the anchor. Brother Nick Petrangelo told of his conversion into the Gospel. He showed how God truly works in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform.

In conclusion, Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke a few words saying that as long as we increase in the love of God, we shall increase in number also.

The meeting came to a close by singing the Centennial Hymn. Brother Paul Benyola said the closing prayer.

A wonderful day full of joy and blessings was had by all.

Brother Ansel D'Amico

Ordinations At Youngstown, Ohio

On August 11, we had visiting with us Brothers and Sisters from Niles, Ohio; Erie, Pa; Warren, Ohio; and Louisiana. Brother Joseph Genaro of Niles, introduced our morning service, speaking on *Romans 1, 16* — "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Brother Bucci followed and Brother Ron Genaro offered the benediction. Two beautiful selections were offered by the Youngstown Quartet.

The Niles Branch worshipped with us for our fellowship service and ordinations. Brother Ron Genaro introduced the service. Brother Nephi Santilli was ordained into the office of Teacher by Brother A. A. Corrado. His feet were washed by his brother, Brother Richard Santilli. Brother Nephi related a dream confirming this ordination.

Sister Teresa Pandone was ordained Deaconess. Sister Gemma Santilli washed her feet and she was ordained by Brother Sam Costarella. Several dreams and experiences confirmed this ordination. The Spirit of God bore witness to the ordinations.

Sister Flo LaRosa introduced our fellowship service with a solo, beautifully sung. Our new convert from Louisiana, Sister Cathy McGartlin, testified that it was a day she will never forget as she never felt God's spirit so strong as this day. We truly enjoyed her fellowship.

Our service was brought to a close by forming a circle of joined hands with benediction offered by Brother Frank Giovanonne. It was a beautiful spirit-filled day in God's service.

*Assistant Editor, Sister Minnie DePiero
Youngstown, Ohio*

Evangelist Meeting In Glassport

The Glassport Branch held a scheduled Evangelistic meeting on September 6, 1974. There were Saints present from many of the Pennsylvania Branches.

The service was opened with, "Do you know my Jesus" and "Heaven came down and glory filled my soul." Brother George Johnson of Monongahela Branch opened the service. Brother George spoke on the *8th Chapter of St. Mark, 18th verse*, saying that those who have ears let them know of the Gospel and whether to accept it or not. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is to be listened to. Those who have eyes let them see the true gospel. The true doctrine of belief, faith, repentance, baptism and a righteous life. God is unchangeable, He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hear the Word of the Lord. If we heed the Word of God He will bless us. The Lord's words are true.

Brother Dan Cassasanta then re-emphasized Brother George's passage. The Holy Spirit and how we should fast and pray. Jesus left His Holy Spirit as our comforter. Keep your eyes always upon the Lord. Don't be afraid to call on the Lord. He is always there.

Brother James Campbell spoke on tasting of the gifts of the Gospel. The last portion of the meeting was devoted to questions and answers. Brother John Manes closed in prayer.

In closing remarks we pray that God will continue to bless the Pennsylvania area so that we may be an asset to the Church of Jesus Christ.

*Debbie Lenhart
Asst. Branch Editor*

Note of Thanks

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Lord and all the Saints...our loved ones, friends and neighbors for their prayers and help, and for all the phone calls, cards, and visits. All this made our trials easier to bear — through my operation and my husband's leg amputation, the Lord's calling of my father (Elder Fred Heath from Branch No. 1, Detroit, formerly of Glassport Branch), and my sister, Martha Valliere. It is wonderful how God comes to our aid in times of distress. There aren't words to thank God and all sufficiently.

*Sister Gertrude and Bill Grover
Glassport Branch*

—o—

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Leslie Colleen to William and Patricia Bittinger of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania

Theresa Marie to Anthony and Billy Rattenni of Imperial, Pennsylvania

Dena to Bobbie and Freda Johnson of Maysville, Kentucky.

Kerry June to Joseph and Joy Krasnasky of San Fernando Valley, California

Hope Ardys Catherine to Phil and Valeria Van Allsburg of Branch No. 1 Detroit, Michigan

Adena Christine to John and Christine Kendall of Roscoe, Pennsylvania

Scott Ryan to Robert and Frieda Abbott of Roscoe, Pennsylvania.

— WEDDINGS —

BUFFA - SZABO

Brother William John Buffa and Sister Janet Betty Szabo were united in holy matrimony on June 22, 1974 at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother August D'Orazio, Jr. officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Sister Inez Caldwell, soloist.

The newlyweds will reside in Lincoln Park, Michigan.

ACKMAN - NATH

Sister Terri Ackman and Mr. Leon Nath were united in holy wedlock on July 6, 1974 at Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

Brother Mel Mountain, the bride's grandfather, of Arizona performed the wedding ceremony.

Our prayer is that God will bless them in their new life together. The newlyweds will reside in the Monongahela Area.

OTTAVIAN - CUOMO

Sister Kimberly Ottavian and Brother Samuel Cuomo were united in holy matrimony on July 6, 1974 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Glassport, Pennsylvania.

Brothers Alma Nolfi and John Ali officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were played by Brother Wayne Martorano. Soloist was Sister Iva Fedorka.

The couple now resides in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Our prayers are that God would bless them during their new journey of life together.

● OBITUARIES ●

EDWARD L. DREER

Brother Edward L. Dreer passed away from this life on August 3, 1974. He was born on December 30, 1889. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ over 60 years. Brother Dreer's grandparents were among the first Saints at Greenoak, Pennsylvania. He is survived by a daughter and son, both of California.

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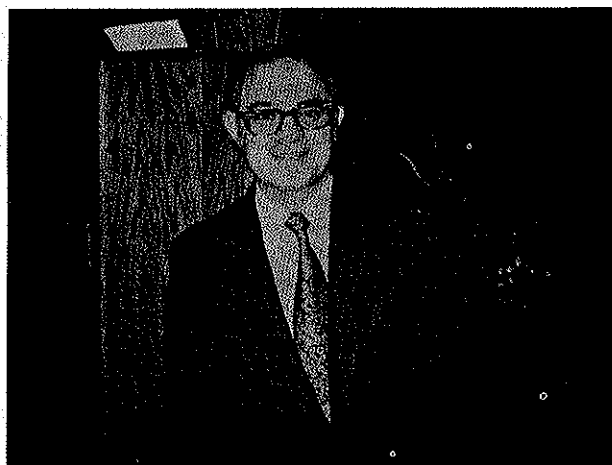
Editor's note: The following edited comments were made by Brother Dominic Thomas at a GMBA campout evening meeting:

A STIRRING CHALLENGE

I am extremely glad to have this opportunity to be together with you at this campout. We experience a blessing when we see our brothers and sisters who are afflicted receive help from the Lord when they are anointed, new converts giving their lives unto the Lord—as these seven who have just been baptized. It satisfies my soul to see them come into the Church.

Since the last April conference, I've had a chance to experience a unique responsibility, and I'd like to share with you the feelings that I have for The Church of Jesus Christ. I first began to turn over in my mind the sort of things that I thought the Church needed, and there were many things that came to mind. As I reflected about the different branches and missions, I could see those that stood in need of great help and great assistance from the Lord. As I looked at my brothers and sisters in different parts of the Church, I could see some who were afflicted physically, and some who were discouraged as they struggled along the way trying to serve God. But almost everywhere I looked, I could see the Saints of God who were in love with the Church, and had no other desire but to give their best to the Lord. And when I looked in the direction of the M.B.A., the countenances of the young people of the Church and their spiritual zeal, and great enthusiasm to serve God, caused me to praise God for our wonderful young people, and many times I have prayed to Him that He would continually anoint them with His Holy Spirit.

The Church was given an experience recently that we are moving into or that we are on the threshold of a new era. Gatherings like this one serve to illustrate how true this is. But to accomplish that kind of movement or new thrust forward, there exists a need for all of us to join together in unity and harmony under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to divest ourselves of every bit of animosity, hypocrisy, pride, arrogance, or any desire for those things that would impede the Church in reaching this marvelous goal which God has put before us. And what is that goal that you and I have had set before us, repeatedly, since the Gospel has been restored, and which has been emphasized at this gathering? Our young people sense intuitively that they are going to have a dynamic



Dominic Thomas, General Church President

role to play in the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God here upon the face of the earth. They are going to help to push back the unbelief that's in the world. They're going to help establish a kind of new attitude throughout the Church—a spiritual attitude—and create the conditions whereby the blessings of the Holy Spirit will permeate the Church. This effort is not reserved just for you and me but also for the hungering and the thirsting souls of men and women who have not yet heard the Gospel, nor heard the Restoration, nor felt the blessing of the Holy Spirit that you and I have felt (that small kindling of the Holy Spirit which changed us). We have searched and found that God has called us to be His partners in helping others who are likewise searching for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I heard repeatedly at last night's service that the testimonies of our brothers and sisters have been heard and accepted by individuals who have recently joined the Church. Oh, how God is pleased that we witness to the world that there is a new work created in these latter days to be done both among the seed of Joseph and the Gentiles.

The disciples of Christ were told to gather and to wait upon that Comforter. You and I, every branch and mission, every M.B.A. local must, figuratively speaking, assemble in that upper chamber and become infused with the Spirit of God to the point where we'll be able to put into perspective this temporal life and bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the center of the stage.

We have seen the sick healed, the distressed encouraged and uplifted, and when we put ourselves, as our brother said last night, in the hands of the Lord that He might inspire us as to how we should conduct our services, we find His Spirit directs all that we do or say. That's what makes us a little bit different, spiritually, from the world.

We need to couple the enthusiasm and the zeal of the young with the Spirit of discernment and experience of the old. We need to bring these two elements together so that God can use the Church in our day to do the work among the seed of Joseph that has to be done to prepare the way for the Choice Seer; so that when He comes, He will find us as a people spiritual minded, righteous, and willing to go out to complement His leadership.

Even though the harsh realities of our time trouble us as we seek to serve God, we need not become discouraged, because we believe in a peaceful reign, an era of peace, tranquility, and bounty, the likes of which the world has yet not seen. All the more reason then that you and I, as young people, as members of the Church, ought to strive mightily and industriously with every ounce of strength we have, to be the very best group of Saints the Church has ever seen... the most inspired, the most appreciative, the most dynamic, the most faithful, most dedicated, the most sacrificing, and the most mature. We can do it! Our forefathers (God Bless them) set the example of humility and sacrifice for the Church, and we are their spiritual offspring. And don't we have what we need? Is there anybody here who doesn't know how to love and serve God? That spirit which He's blessed us with, brings us down to the depths of humility and melts our hearts when we realize how wonderful He is, how He has loved us, and has given us His only Son to purchase your soul and mine. This spirit, which we talk about, puts the lights on inside of us so that we can see our way clearly through the darkness of the world.

I'm asking tonight, as one of the Servants of God, that we embrace and love Him, and do everything He asks us to do, because the Lord has spoken to the Church and said, "Tarry Ye With Me." Don't we want to abide with Him tonight? Who wants to leave Him? His disciples said, "Where shall we go?" Do any of you have someplace else to go? I have no other place. I don't desire any other place. And there is no other place for you or for me, except to join hands with one another, and together—united and in harmony with the truth of the Spirit of the Gospel of Christ—proceed to do His work. I praise God tonight for each one of you, and I rejoice in the gifts that God has given us as a people. We were a poor, unknown group of people—diamonds in the rough. God called us in and began to shape and mold us, and make us into something which is quite profound and astonishing. We're called upon tonight to develop those talents for God and for The Church of Jesus Christ, and use them in every place. There need not be a branch or a mission, that is not thoroughly equipped with the gifts and blessings of the Gospel. There should not be any service held that isn't replete with the Spirit and presence of God. We don't want to be devoid or empty or poor in the Spirit... that is to say, meager in the quantity of Spirit. We want to be rich in the love of God. It must be our desire to understand and love one another, to see the good that is in the human family. I humbly pray this evening that each of you will, wherever you live, wherever your branch is,

try to create the right conditions and the proper attitude in your branch so that the Church will prosper.

I don't know how many states we have branches in yet, but there are a lot of states in our own land and many provinces in Canada which yet do not have a mission or branch. Some of us have to be courageous like our forefathers who left their native lands and moved into new territories. Perhaps we will have to do as our older brothers did, and thus create a dynamic growing Church. We can do it with the help of God and with the courage and strength of each other. I look for the young people to put the Church first, to give it a central position in their lives, and I look for God to bless them abundantly. I look also for them to be that symbol of spiritual dignity in the world today.

I beg an interest in your prayers. I am a fortunate man, surrounded by wonderful officers and members of the priesthood and blessed with brothers who can run the M.B.A. without making my hair turn any grayer than what it is. I'm not a meddler by nature. I like to see people take their responsibilities seriously and then fulfill them. But I don't want the Church in any way, shape or form diminished, or the image of the Church to be anything less than superior or outstanding, not average, not mediocre, but outstanding. We're not theologians, but we are fishers of men, and we have the authority of the priesthood of Jesus Christ restored in these last days. You have often heard our brothers say, "By the power invested in me by Jesus Christ, receive ye the gift of the Holy Ghost." We must not trifle with the Gospel of Jesus Christ or with its power and its authority. Our theme has to be "Let us be courageous, valiant soldiers of the cross, and be inspiring to one another."

I haven't been blessed with much in the way of gifts, but I must and we all must do the best with what little we have. My talent, if I have one, is to reach you or my brethren, and with the help of God, to inspire you to do the very best job you can for The Church of Jesus Christ.

If you ever get discouraged about serving God, I'd like to hear about it. Maybe with the help of God, I can encourage you in such a way that you would not want to fall back but rather that you might do everything in your power to turn the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ skyward, eastward, westward, northward, southward—in every direction as a beacon light to the world. May God bless you tonight and be with you, and may He be with all the Church to lead, guide and direct us to do what He requires us to do!

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3. There are no Stockholders nor Bondholders.

4. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceeding the date shown above was 940.

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Sara I. Vancik, Office Manager
The GOSPEL NEWS

PEOPLE ARE INQUIRING

Mr. Peter E. W. Trump
12 Violet Ave.
Ramsgate, Kent, England

Dear Peter:

In regards to your still questioning some of our doctrine, please do not despair. I will never pass by anyone's sincere desire to know why or what we believe. I will try to answer your questions that are bothering you about doctrinal matters. I do thank God for what He has already shown you to be true. We pray that the attached answers to your questions will be instructive and reveal God's will to you.

1. REJECTION OF INSPIRED VERSION OF THE BIBLE:

We reject the Inspired Version because it is not consistent with the Word of God, including the *Book of Mormon*. I have read in the last Edition of *The Herald* (July, 1974) where a question was asked in "Question Time" about a discrepancy in the Inspired Version and the *Book of Mormon*, namely on the Lord's prayer, where Joseph Smith changed the words in the Inspired Version but they are the same in the King James Version and in the *Book of Mormon*. Enclosed is a photostat for your own examination and evaluation. NOTE: Not even Mr. Howard, the Historian, can give an answer that is satisfactory to explain the inconsistency.

2. THE USE OF WINE FOR SACRAMENT.

Nowhere in the *Bible* or *Book of Mormon* does it indicate any substitute for the use of "Wine". Jesus Himself commanded its use in *III Nephi 18th Chapter*, the *20th Chapter* and finally in the *5th Chapter* of Moroni where the mode of administration of the wine is explained.

Isaiah 65:8 speaks of the juice of grapes as "Wine" while it is still in the cluster and calls it "new wine" when it is just pressed out of the grapes.

Matthew 26:28 and *29* calls it "fruit of the vine." While this term sounds like "grapejuice" the *Old Testament* and a knowledge of the Hebrew Festivals will clear it up. They were celebrating the "Passover" (*Verse 18*). Of the *Old Testament* Paschal Supper it is said — "The Paschal Supper commenced by the head of the 'Company' pronouncing a benediction over the first cup of "WINE" — after supper "the second cup of WINE was filled. This later became known as 'the sop'". See *Unger's Bible Dictionary*.

In the *New Testament* there are two Greek words: OINOS, comprehending every part of wine and GLEUCHOS (must) sweet or "New Wine" as in (*Isaiah 65:8*). This "New Wine" seems to have been of an intoxicating nature (*Acts 2:13*), where the charge is made, "These men are full of 'new wine'" to which Peter replies (*Verse 15*), "These men are not drunken as ye suppose." If the wine was grapejuice and not intoxicating the accusation could have been only ironical.

From the explanations of the ancient lexicographers we may infer that the luscious qualities of this wine were due not to its being recently made but to its being produced from the purest juice of the grape.

Sacrament is the *New Testament* "Passover" memorial. (Also see *Mark 14:12-26* and *I Corinthians 11:23-30*.)

3. METHOD OF CALLING MEN INTO THE PRIESTHOOD:

I am not sure how you interpret "Our Method". We have always depended upon Revelation from God to call men into the Priesthood, (*Hebrews 5:4-6*) "No man taketh this honour unto himself." which is after the Order of the Son of God. (See *Alma 13th Chapter*; *Alma 43:2*; and *Helaman 8:18*) Under the original *Articles of Faith No. 6*) we believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, viz. (Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, et al) Article No. 5 says, "We believe that men must be called of God by inspiration and by laying on of hands by those who are duly commissioned to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof."

4. THE DOCTRINE OF BAPTISM FOR THE DEAD:

This revelation is false. While the Utah people practice it, the R.L.D.S. do not. Neither do the Temple Lot or our group. The Scripture used to defend it is *I Corinthians 15:29*. This scripture in its total content refers to the resurrection. Read it all (*Verses 20-32*) for proof. You can imagine for example, I could sin all my life and someone can be baptized for me, even if I did not want to be saved. In addition to this, the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* plainly state that if a person is to be saved, he or she must repent and be baptized in this life since this life is the probationary state. Following are reasons why baptism for the dead is unscriptural and an erroneous practice.

- A. It is a law of Scripture that every doctrine must be proven by two or more scriptures (*II Corinthians 13:1*, *Matthew 18:16*, *Deuteronomy 19:15-18*) but this verse is the only one casually mentioning the subject.
- B. The Corinthians practiced many errors and heresies (*11:19*) and Baptism for the Dead was only one of them.
- C. Salvation is a personal matter and cannot be obtained by proxy. (*Mark 16:16*; *Luke 13:1-5*; *John 3:16-20*; *Acts 3:19*; *Romans 1:16*; *10:9,10*; *Ephesians 2:8,9*; *I John 1:9*)
- D. If Baptism in water fails to save a living man who does not repent and meet the Gospel requirements, it could not save a dead man who did not meet those requirements while alive.
- E. The simple truth is that Paul here reveals the inconsistency of false teachers at Corinth in denying the Doctrine of the resurrection, and yet accepting the fallacy of baptism for the dead. He does not sanction such a doctrine or practice merely because he makes one passing reference to this error.
- F. One may as well believe there is no resurrection of the dead on the basis of false teachers saying there is none (*Verse 12*) as to believe in their practice of baptism for the dead (*Verse 29*).

5. THE NAME OF THE CHURCH:

III Nephi Chapter 27 not only explains the name, but how one could distinguish the difference from others who would name their Church by the same name, but would not have the works of the Father evident. It must also bear the fruit, and not only the name. Today, one must ask God, as did Joseph Smith, but if he wants to be sure, the question should be "Lord, which Church is the true Church among the Restoration Churches?"

6. THE DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS:

These are not the original commandments. They are not all consistent with the Scriptures; pray about this.

7. DEACONESSES:

I believe that I explained this to you on another occasion. We do not believe or consider the office of a Deaconess as holding a Priesthood Office. We consider this office as a HELP. In the dictionary section of my Bible it states Deaconess is found in *Romans* 16:1 as servant. It has led to the conclusion that there existed in the Apostolic age an order of women bearing this title. On this hypothesis it has been inferred that the women mentioned in *Romans* 16:2-15 belonged to such an order. The rules given as to the conduct of women in *1 Timothy* 3:2, *Titus* 2:8 and have been identified even with the widows *1 Timothy* 5:8-10.

Also, in a copy of the *Great Apostacy* by James E. Talmage pages 79 and 80 he says: Correspondence between Pliny, Governor of Pontus addressed to Trajan, Emperor of Rome. "I inquired by torture, for two females, who were said to be deaconesses. What is truth? But nothing could I collect except a depraved and excessive superstition." Fredrick Bodelschwingh says: Of Deaconesses: (An after view). "The Church of Jesus Christ is a serving Church or it is really no Church at all." Further in part, from the same article he says: "Today and tomorrow diaconic humility must stem from God's sovereignty. Today and tomorrow the Church diaconate witnesses to the purity of Christian love, just as it must remind the Church that it must serve."

Incidentally we do not claim our president and his counselors as others that call them Prophet, Seer and Revelator. It is an administrative Quorum and is part of the Quorum of Twelve.

I trust again I have been of some help to you. Continue to ask God for help and guidance.

Sincerely,

Brother Joseph Calabrese

—:—

WHAT MANNER OF MEN MUST WE BE?

The Sermon on the Mount, St. Matthew Chapters 5, 6, and 7 are truly words to ponder on; and, if we follow these wonderful guide lines left to us by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, it will be well with us.

I truly find much comfort in studying the holy scriptures, the word of God. The followers of Christ, St. Matthew quotes the Lord in the 5th Chapter

Verse 13: "Ye are the salt of the earth."

Verse 14: "Ye are the light of the world."

Verse 16: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

I say unto you, what manner of men must we be? "We who represent the kingdom of God on earth! The Lord said

Verse 44: "But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

Verse 46: "For if ye love them which love you what reward have ye?"

Verse 48: "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father which is in heaven."

What wonderful words of life by our Saviour Jesus Christ. I say again what manner of men must we be?

Chapter 6:

Verse 1: "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them, otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven."

Verse 3: "But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

Verse 5: "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men, verily I say unto you, they have their reward."

Verse 7: "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions as the heathen do, for they think they shall be heard for their much speaking."

Chapter 7:

Verses 1, 2 and 3:

"Judge not, that ye be not judged, for with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged, and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considereth not the beam that is in thine own eye."

These wonderful words of our Saviour gives me determination to abide by them.

Please take notice:

Ye are the salt of the earth.

Ye are the light of the world.

Love your enemies.

Bless them that hate you.

Pray for them which despitefully use you.

Judge not that ye be not judged.

With these qualities, is the manner of men we should be. I praise God for the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." (*Romans* 1:16)

The Epistle of Paul to *Titus* Chapter 2:1-8, "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine, that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience, the aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things. That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded in all things, shewing thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech, that can not be condemned, that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you."

So I say what manner of men and women ought we to be?

Apostle Rocco V. Biscotti

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

FROM PASSIVE FEAR TO VIBRANT ACTION

by Robert A. Watson

Guest Editorialist

There is nothing more pitiful than a person so filled with fears and doubts that he is afraid to test the elasticity of his abilities. The Church is somewhat of an abstract entity in its generic form. That is, it must be acted upon; it is incapable of performing without the union accomplished through the blending together of God and man.

The condescension of God to man for the purpose of church union is a mystery that only time will reveal. The Church has never been more an object of pity than when her adherents were filled with ungrounded fears. When the desire to try is withdrawn and in its place there is a complete submission to external forces—the apostolic church experienced this when after Christ's crucifixion the Apostle Peter, filled with doubts and riddled by fear, said to his fellow disciples, "I go fishing." He felt to try was in vain; the Church seemed to have lost its power. This feeling of frustration and failure was not relieved until Christ revealed himself as a resurrected being. The Church was then lifted from an abstract body to one enlivened with power beyond description. The things that brought about this change were, — first, Jesus, true to His promise, had returned again; second, The Church was not reduced to failure because of Christ's departure in the physical form. The words, "I will not leave you comfortless but will send you the Spirit of Truth that will lead, guide and show you things to come," took upon themselves a new and vibrant meaning.

What does this mean to us today in light of the recent onslaught of modernistic demagoguery that proclaims that God is dead? They have attacked God through the Church and are looking at it from its abstract image rather than through the Church which has experienced the resurrected Christ.

The powers of evil clothed in all kinds of deceptive externalism are constantly driving against the perimeters of the Church. They are afraid to walk into the place where the real changes take place. The heart of the Church are those lively stones that have been made recipients of God's revealed word. The Church does not and must not be passive, but ever viable and moving in the direction of fulfilled promises. The Church will rise to great heights in the near future; she will become the vehicle upon which man will ride to bring about a kingdom that shall bring all other kingdoms under her power. Will you become an active participant and help to move this vehicle to the fulfillment of her destiny? I urge you to work while it is yet day, for the night soon cometh when man works no more.

Thank Thee Again

By Katherine Kennon Rucker

We thank Thee, O Lord,
For the sunshine and rain,
For the seedtime that brings us
The harvest of grain.
We thank Thee, O Lord,
For the freedom to sing,

For the promise of heaven,
Where Jesus is King.
We thank Thee, O Lord,
For the privilege of prayer,
For the Saviour who helps us
Each burden to bear.



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

David's Friend

Dear Girls and Boys,

Our story this month is about two very dear friends. The *Bible* tells "A friend loveth at all times", *Proverbs* 17:17, so this proves true in this story of David.

King Saul had a son named Jonathan. He was the oldest of the princes. When he met David he felt that his soul was bound together with David's. The scripture states, 'knit together' showing their friendship was very close. They learned to love each other dearly.

After David's victory over the giant, Goliath, King Saul made him commander over the army. David soon became very popular and this made the king jealous. Jonathan tried to keep peace between his father and David, but it seemed Saul had an evil spirit.

Once after a great victory, David returned from battle and the people cheered him. This made the king angry and he seized a javelin and hurled it at David. It hit the wall and David escaped. David went to Jonathan and asked what he had done to make the king so angry. Jonathan couldn't understand his father's actions unless it was jealousy.

David and Jonathan made a plan. They wanted to know for sure how the king felt about David. Did he really want to kill him? The next day was the feast of the new moon and David was to have a special place there. He decided not to go and if Saul asked where he was, Jonathan would say he had gone home. If the king was pleased then David and Jonathan would know all was well; but if he should be angry, then they would know Saul wished to harm David.

The feast day came and David was absent. The king asked about David. When Jonathan said he was home, the king fell into a rage. He told his son because of his love for David he was a traitor to the royal family. He commanded Jonathan to bring David before him. Jonathan was ashamed of his father's wickedness. He couldn't betray David, his best friend!

David and Jonathan had planned a very special signal. David was to hide in a secret place to watch for Jonathan. Jonathan was to go to a certain place with a small boy to carry his bow and arrows. When they came to where David was hidden, Jonathan told the boy to run ahead and pick up the arrows as he shot them. As the boy ran, Jonathan shot an arrow beyond him and called, "Is not the arrow beyond you?" As the boy looked for the arrow, Jonathan shouted again, "Make speed, haste, stay not." This was the signal to David to go hiding somewhere at once for King Saul was determined to kill him.

Jonathan sent the boy back to the city with the bow and arrows. David came out of hiding and bowed three times before Jonathan. He knew his friend Jonathan was a prince and he was just a shepherd boy. The two bid farewell. Jonathan said, "Go in peace for the Lord will be a bond between us and our children forever." David hid from the wicked king but Jonathan came often to cheer and encourage him. There was no jealousy in Jonathan's heart, only love for his friend.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

Prophet Elijah?

The Prophet Elijah was always known for his ability to appear, deliver a stern warning to the people, and just as quickly disappear. So it was with Brother Leonard Lovalvo.

On Sunday, August 4, 1974 we at Branch No. 1, were visited by Brother Leonard Lovalvo, who was accompanied by Brother Sam Randazzo. Both of our brothers reside in California. Brother Leonard's visit here was so short, and he delivered such an important message, that he made me think of the Prophet Elijah.

In Brother Leonard's sermon we were asked "What Christ meant to us? What did His coming mean?"

He said in the time of Christ, there were about 15 creeds and philosophies. But Christ brought forth a completely different kind of Gospel.

He said, one time Christ asked His disciples, "Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? They replied with many varied answers.

"He saith unto them, but whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

"And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven."

So Brother Leonard explained, that man, even in Christ's time tried to make up his own answers for unanswered questions. However throughout time, all true knowledge has been revealed only, by the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God as Brother Leonard said, gives us power from a super source. Unless we possess that Spirit we will "have only a form of Godliness but will lack the power thereof."

He went on, Christ said, "Take up thy cross and follow me". Brother Leonard said, if we were to teach the concepts of man The Church would be filled. But Christ said, to forsake all things. We must deny ourselves and forsake all teachings that are not of Christ. Very few souls are willing to make that sacrifice.

Brother Leonard then warned, we could not play both sides of the fence or we would lose our souls. We could not have the things of this world and Christ at the same time.

There is one other statement he made that I should like to bring out. Following Christ's teachings does not make for an easy road, but it's one that is BLESSED.

Sister Diana Thompson
Branch No. 1
Detroit, Michigan

OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

GENERAL LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE CONFERENCE

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2. Sisters were present from Canada, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida.

The Sisters from the Michigan-Ontario Area presented a program on "UNITY". They read The Scripture and sang appropriate songs. A special prayer was had for the seriously sick by Brother Dan Casasanta of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania. Sister Mabel Bickerton spoke to us. She said that the Sisters, in their program, gave us a challenge to strive for, "UNITY", for in Unity there is strength.

The business part of the conference started with the roll call of officers. The minutes of the last conference held in Glassport, Pennsylvania were read and accepted. The delegates and treasurer's reports were read. Layettes and material for dresses were sent to Pine Top, Arizona.

The answer to the question; "How will the day of The Lord come and what will happen?" was found in the *Bible, Revelation 1:7*.

"What did Jesus do to all His disciples and then what came that the multitude could not see Jesus?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, 3 Nephi 18:38*.

Money was donated to the General Church towards the budget and for the Indian Missionary Work. \$1000.00 was raised for supplies for the Secondary School by the local Circles. The project for the next conference is to send layettes to San Carlos, Arizona.

The new question assigned to the General Circle is, "In the gift of His Son what has God prepared and by what has it been fulfilled?"

A vote of thanks was given to the Michigan-Ontario Area for their hospitality.

The next General Circle will be held on March 8 in the Florida Area.

We thank God for an enjoyable day with the Saints.

Mary Tamburrino
General Circle Editor

My body is God's wonder for all atheists to behold. It walks and talks and feels and heals and cannot be built for gold. And in this beautiful creation upon my shoulders high, He put a magnificent computer I can use till the day I die. It never stops its working for even when I sleep. It helps to stop my worries with dreams from out of its deep and when I need a quiet place in which to talk to God, it opens up its doors for me and down its halls I trod. Now wouldn't it be a terrible waste if on the day I die they throw this computer in a hole and all that its laid by. Now the first law of nature is, all must return to dust, but thoughts and dreams and beautiful scenes are not things that rust. So all these we've stored away along with a life time of love. We take with us to Heaven to give to God above.

Note: The above verse was written by James B. Wentzell, after his son and he were involved in a bad accident in 1967. The accident claimed the life of his son.

THE UNDISCIPLINED

By Ruth Taylor

According to the commentators, the newspapers, and indeed, any two people who get together, the world is in pretty much of a mess. Of course, each person has his own reason and his own solution. Here is mine.

I think most of our trouble stems from the "Undisciplined." From those people who have never learned self-control. Who have not the inner balance which makes a man capable of governing himself and capable of giving or obeying orders.

In world affairs we have suffered too much from the "Undisciplined." A dictator, — either of the left or right, — is undisciplined because he must have everything his own way for himself. His regimented followers are undisciplined. They cannot act as men capable of making their own decisions and following their own reasoning to a logical conclusion.

In our own nation we have suffered from the "Undisciplined." From those who will not live by the laws which they themselves make. From those who want power and preferment so much they will resort to trickery, false statements and chicanery to get their own way.

Is that too strong? Then look first around you. The man in the shop who fawns on his superiors and browbeats those beneath him, who is ever ready to seize the credit for another man's work, and to put the blame for his own mistakes on someone else. The woman who gossips about things of which she knows nothing in avidity to become the center of the stage. The politician who stirs up mob feeling with false accusations. The frustrated who spend, in tearing down others, energy that would have built themselves up.

But the Undisciplined are not only what the ultra charitable call the Lunatic Fringe. They are the people who do not keep their word once pledged. Who cannot admit an error. Who must always be right. Who begrudge praise to another. Who instinctively lie themselves out of difficulties. Who are so busy planning what they are going to say that they never listen to what people are saying to them. Who are afraid of competition. Who demand constant attention and adulation from those around them. Who instead of doing their job well enough to get the job ahead, want always to "learn to play the piano in six easy lessons."

Sure, you know them all, and can name dozens I've overlooked. They are the people who make the trouble.

The solution? Why, let us just be sure we are self-disciplined. All great reforms must begin with the individual and the problem of the Undisciplined is no exception.

Submitted by
Brother Joseph Manes

Note of Thanks

To my dear Brothers and Sisters:

I want to thank you for your prayers, cards, gifts and visits which shows us what this Gospel of Love is all about. May God bless you all for your concern of which I deeply appreciate. . . .

Sister Mary Tamburrino
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

M. B. A. Highlights

by James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

California Area M. B. A. Conference

by Joe Smith

The 1974 California Area M. B. A. gathering convened on Saturday, July 20 in San Diego Branch. Brother Paul Liberto, Area President, in an effort to streamline conference procedures, endeavored to adhere to the time schedule established at our previous gathering and as a result there wasn't even time for the business session to become boring!

Our weekend agenda included business, seminars, a program, and spiritual meetings—a well rounded program to interest all. Part of the business session was used to divide the assembly into five task groups to discuss Area financial structure, Area activities (including campouts and retreats), communication and the distribution of information throughout the Area, Area work projects and Area voting procedures.

Recommendations from the various task groups were then discussed by all. Work projects were scheduled for the San Carlos and Whiteriver Reservations and the Yuccaipa Mission. A proposal concerning voting procedure within the Area is to be forwarded to each Local for their consideration.

Following the business session we broke up into seminar groups. Brother Ben Ciccatti conducted an informative seminar entitled "*The Book of Mormon — Nephi to Ether*" for adults while Brother Joe Smith headed a discussion seminar for young people. In order to provide more parents with the opportunity to attend the meetings and seminars, a child care service including crafts and game activities was provided for small children.

The evening program was conducted by Brother David B. Ciccatti, San Diego Local President and was highlighted by an original play of "Noah and the Ark" performed by the children of the San Diego Local under the direction of Lynette Ciccatti who also wrote the program.

The 1974 CAMBA gathering was a new kind of experience and is best summarized by "Different, interesting and progressive" — a weekend well-spent for all who attended.

* * *

My Thoughts On 1974 GMBA Campout

By Ruth Meo

I didn't know what to expect when I was planning to go to the campout. I have never been to a campout in the west that lasted a week. When I got there, I was very scared because I only knew a few people. It seemed strange, but in about an hour's time, I knew more people and I felt comfortable. Every person was so kind and friendly. But most of all, they had that same love that all the Brothers and Sisters at home have.

I had heard a lot about the campouts, but unless one actually is there it cannot be described. I don't think there are any words that could describe the love that I felt from all those there. It felt like every day was Sunday. I wish every Sunday was a week long. It gives you a whole week to get closer to God and all his people. I feel like every Sunday is like a small stepping stone in getting closer to God; but the campout made some of the stepping stones closer together to help make you get there a little faster.

I learned something new in the seminars, because I got to know how people my own age feel, and that is important. I got to meet people I didn't know, who make up our Church in the east, and I found they had the same love and desires as those at home in The Church. Just being around the Brothers and Sisters 24 hours a day helped me. And I brought all those memories and feelings home with me. I will never forget any of you.

I think the campout showed me how I should live every day, and I'm going to try and live each day the way I know I should.

BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

News From Branch No. 1, Detroit, Mich.

Christ Enters Their Hearts

On Sunday, September 1, 1974 Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan, had reason to feel blessed. It was the first opportunity we had to welcome our new brother and sister to the family of Christ. Brother Tim Scolaro and Sister Cindy Ignagni, had made a decision to follow the Lord while they were at our last campout.

When a gift of two new souls is given to any area of the vineyard, you often find brothers and sisters from other areas coming in, to share and give praise to God for the new converts. And we were no exception.

On that Sunday we had visitors from many areas of the vineyard including Sister Brenda Jeffs from Canada, who had also asked for her baptism at the last campout.

The meeting was opened by Brother Gene Kline from Ohio. Brother Kline began by saying we could not hide from God. When we commit sin no matter where we try to hide, God will see us. Just as He saw Adam and Eve in the garden. He brought out that hiding behind the drug scene or any other would not hide you from God or your sins.

Brother Kline reminded us of the story of Jonah. Jonah tried to hide from God so that he wouldn't have to preach repentance to the city of Nineveh. But God saw Jonah, and because of that he had to live in the belly of a whale until he was finally placed on the shores of Nineveh.

It comes to my mind that it would have been a whole lot easier on Jonah if he would have listened to the voice of God. It just shows that humans then were no different than humans now. We all have to learn the hard way that God is going to have His way. And the sooner we learn to work with instead of against Him, the easier it's going to be on us.

Brother Rocco Biscotti was our second speaker. He said it's time our people became so dedicated that our

neighbors will see that our people can move the hand of God. He said our relationship with God should be so that we could move the hand of God at any time.

He directed some of his words to the young people. He told them, they have a long road ahead but let the Lord lead and guide them. He warned them if they were not being tempted by the devil to be very concerned.

Brother Biscotti then said something which absolutely amazed me. He said when Brother Kline was speaking of Jonah in the belly of the whale, it brought to mind a giant whale he had once seen. Brother Biscotti had never doubted that Jonah had been in the belly of the whale, but when he saw a whale weighing 66 thousand pounds he knew it was true. He knew that several men could have fit in the belly of that particular whale.

What amazed me was not so much the size of the whale, but the fact that one by one in one way or another, all of the Bibles so called impossible stories are being proven to be possible and true.

Our last speaker that day was Brother Louis Vitto. He said, the week of the campout was a week of prayer and of praising the Lord. That it was like having a taste of the peaceful reign. He brought out the real zeal our young people have in wanting to serve Christ. He remembered when he was a little boy he didn't have a choice whether or not he wanted to go to church. He added, he attended many Ladies Circle meetings. But the young people today choose Christ on their own because they want to serve Him.

Brother Vitto said at the campout, the ones who had been bound by Satan were freed and were able to say, "Here am I LORD".

Before the close of the meeting our three new converts gave their testimonies.

Later on that evening a time was set aside to sing praises and feel the joy of all the saints in welcoming our new converts to the family of Christ.

Only one small note of sadness was with us that evening. We had to bid farewell to Brother Gary Cicotti who was leaving us to go back to California. We had grown to love Brother Gary and will miss him. But we know wherever he goes God will be with him.

Sister Diana Thompson

Two Baptisms At Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1

Sunday, August 11, 1974, will be a day long remembered in the Cleveland, Branch No. 1.

Brother Elmer Santilli, visiting from nearby Perry Branch talked on what is needed and the reasons for baptism—to build a good house with Christ as the foundation. Brother Vince Gibson spoke of preparing our lives in building and how the Lord wants us to grow.

At the close of the morning service, Kim Alaburda, a friend and classmate of Sister Cindy Gibson, and Richard Brent, also a friend of the Gibson family, were taken into the waters of baptism by Brother Vince Gibson.

A light lunch was served by the Sisters upon our return to the church building.

In the afternoon service, our new converts were confirmed by the laying on of hands. Brother Mario Milano offered the prayer over Sister Kim Alaburda and Brother Elmer Santilli prayed over Brother Richard Brent.

Visiting with us were several Indian Sisters from the Muncey, Ontario, Canada reservation and also visitors from Detroit, Michigan; Erie, Pennsylvania and Perry, Ohio.

Showers of blessings descended on us throughout the day. The testimonies and the singing was so beautiful, that no one cared to end this wonderful day. It was a day well spent with the Lord.

Sister Margaret Abbott
Branch Editor

News From Warren, Ohio

"...weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Psalm 30:5

Sunday, July 28, 1974, Wilbert Martin asked to be baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ. He is the son of Brother Sam Martin, who passed on to his reward July 17. Brother Wilbert came from England to attend his father's funeral. He was a lay minister in the Baptist Church in England.

Brother Wilbert has now returned to England with a strong determination to hold on to the Pearl of Great Price which he has purchased. His desire before he left was that the Lord would give him words that he might relate to the people there of this wonderful truth that he has found here.

If anyone would wish to write him, I'm sure he would appreciate hearing from you and exchanging experiences had in the Gospel Restored.

His address is: 2 Sgt. Wilbert Martin
48th O.M.S.
Box 2469
APO New York 09179

May God bless all is my sincere prayer.

Sister Vera Edwards

News From Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1

Sunday, September 8, 1974 was a day full of blessings. Visiting our branch were Brother and Sister (Joseph) Genaro and daughter, Brother Ron Genaro of Niles, Ohio, Brother Tony Gerace and family of Detroit, Mich., Brother Orville Gross of Erie, Pa., and Brother John McDonald of Boston, Mass.

Brother Ron Genaro opened the service with the *Second Chapter of Galatians* and touched on the difference between Peter and Paul. Following him on the same text, were Brother Joe and Brother Tony. Brother Gerace also told some of the experiences in Muncey. Great blessings were felt and the testimonies and anointings were very uplifting.

Wednesday, September 11, 1974 was set aside for fasting and prayer for the Ohio District Conference and the sick throughout The Church. May the blessings of the Lord be with you all is our prayer.

Sister Margaret Abbott

Ohio District Conference

Sunday, September 15, 1974

The Ohio District held its semi-annual conference at Perry, Ohio. There was a very large turnout representing all segments of the district.

The Ohio area choir opened our service with two selections after which, Brother Paul Benyola from Lockport offered prayer. The Youngstown Quartet sang a hymn entitled "Thank God for the Springtime."

Brother Patsy Marinetti of Rochester, New York, introduced our service using for his text a few verses found in the 28th chapter of *Genesis*, which deals with the vision of Jacob, wherein God spoke to him saying, "And behold I am with thee and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest and will bring thee again to this land. And I will not leave thee until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of." He also read of the life of Jacob and his brother Esau, and the resulting sale of Esau's birthright to Jacob, because Esau was conscious only of his natural desire. Our Brother told the story of Jacob's quest for a wife and how, in all his trials, God reassured him that he would be with him. After his many years of laboring to win the woman he loved he still felt the guilt of what he had done to his brother Esau and longed to have the peace of reconciliation. He spoke of the preparation Jacob made to effect this reconciliation and the eventual meeting of the two brothers. Jacob was fearful of what might happen, but God had already prepared the heart of Esau. The burden which had plagued Jacob for many years was rolled away.

Material things did not mean anything to Jacob. His primary concern was his relationship with God, and if there was anything to hinder that relationship, he was willing to make whatever adjustments were necessary.

Many other famous persons throughout the *Bible* also went astray from God, but they realized and admitted their wrongs and were able once more to become reconciled to God. Regardless of our past affiliations or achievements once we have found the pearl of great price, and find that it exceeds everything else in our life, we recognize its great value. But if there is something else in our lives that we value more, we will never recognize the dimension of this great Gospel. We are all going to face many values and philosophies of life and many desires and we are going to have to make a decision as to what direction we want to go and what values we place on the material things of life. Jesus Christ came that He might give us that peace that can satisfy. Blessed is that man or woman who has found his strength on that solid rock of salvation Jesus Christ.

Brother Joe Manes, of the Niles, Ohio Branch followed next and used the hymn "There's Something About That Name.", as his theme, and an excerpt from the *Book of Enos*. Brother Joe related experiences from his life and how he came to have his personal experience with God. One of the greatest sermons his father preached was the way he lived his life, in righteousness. He lived his life for today, because tomorrow is promised to no man.

Brother Paul Benyola spoke briefly — thanking God for the wisdom of the older Brothers of The Church and also for the enthusiasm of the young people. The one thing that makes us a different church from all others is the

Love of God. Without this we would be as any other Church.

Brother Travis Perry in his discourse, warned about the doctrines and philosophies of men which are being introduced in our schools today. He mentioned also how he was inspired by the examples of Brothers Charles Ashton and Alma Cadman.

Brother Frank Giovannone was our concluding speaker and his thoughts were about the degenerate state of our society today. But he emphasized the hope of a brighter tomorrow which The Church is looking forward to.

Brother Rocco Biscotti's closing remarks were directed to the Elders, warning them to conduct themselves as they profess, and complimented those who spoke in this service on doing a wonderful job.

Brother Joseph Calabrese closed the conference with prayer.

There were many in our district who are very afflicted at this writing and we solicit your prayers in their behalf.

Brother James Alessio
District Editor

Deacon Ordained At Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch

The Vanderbilt Saints enjoyed another good day in the Lord's service on Sunday, September 2, 1974.

A special blessing attended the afternoon service during the ordination of a new Deacon, Brother Eugene Richard Thomas.

Officiating in the ordination were Brothers Joseph Bittinger and Emmett Dale. Brother Bittinger washed Brother Thomas' feet and Brother Dale ordained him to the office of Deacon.

The Spirit and Power of God were evident in the calling of Brother Thomas to the holy office of Deacon.

May God bless and direct our new Deacon in his endeavor to perform his duties and activities as he services God and also The Church.

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Kerry June to Joseph and Joy Krasnasky of San Fernando Valley, California,

Jason Michael to Leo and Carol Monaghan of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.

— W E D D I N G S —

LANDREY - ROW

Brother Mark Landrey and Miss Judy R. Row were united in holy matrimony on May 11, 1974 at Chandler, Arizona. They were married in the First Assembly of God by Brother Melvin Mountain, Sr. and Pastor George Sutherland.

The couple are making their residence in Scottsdale, Arizona.



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The GOSPEL NEWS

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Love, Joy, Faith, Hope and Peace!



*Love makes our friends a little dearer,
Joy makes our hearts a little lighter,
Faith makes our paths a little clearer,
Hope makes our lives a little brighter,
and Peace brings us all a little nearer.*

A MISSIONARY TRIP TO MEXICO CITY

I postponed my trip to Mexico City from May, 1974 to June, 1974 because the California Missionary board appointed Brother Robert Watson, Jr. and myself to visit the San Carlos & Whiteriver reservations to encourage the Brothers and Sisters and also appoint a special meeting to welcome Brother Joseph Milantoni and his wife, Rose, to the San Carlos Mission. Brothers Perdue and Mora patiently agreed to the postponement. Brother Watson could not make the trip because of his father's serious illness. Brother Mark Randy had an experience to go with my wife and I, and I gladly accepted his request to go along.

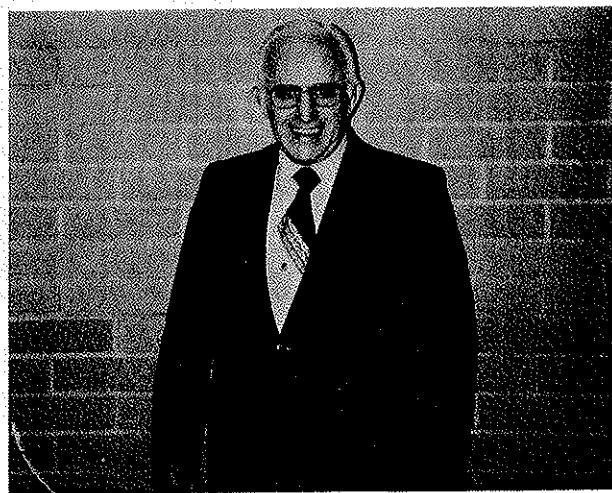
We spent almost one month on the reservations which also included several days in Red Lake or Fort Defiance. We enjoyed much of the Spirit of prophecy and revelation everywhere we went and God confirmed our visit with many wonderful experiences.

After arriving home, I started to make arrangements for my trip to Mexico City. But, on June 14th we were notified by Brother Watson, Jr. that his beloved father had passed away and along with Brother Otto Henderson, I was requested to officiate at the funeral on Monday. After taking part in the funeral of one of the greatest Saints I have ever known, and after saying farewell to my beloved wife and family, I traveled by bus to San Diego.

Brother and Sister Perdue met me in San Diego. They affectionately prepared a warm meal and within an hour, we were on our way to the San Diego Church service. We enjoyed a lovely service. The next day we, Brother and Sister Perdue and I left for Tijuana. This is a full-day service. We started to visit the sick throughout the morning and part of the afternoon. A wonderful Mexican Sister made a special meal for us (tamales). They were very good (not too hot) and I enjoyed them very much. We went to the service at 3:00 p.m. and the two buildings were packed. Before I started to speak, all the children and the grownups came up to the front to shake my hand and all the men gave me a warm embrace. They sure make you feel like an anointed of God. We had a glorious meeting. These people who are very poor are very dependent upon God and have great faith in the Ministry.

The next day we got our passports and in the evening we again attended the M.B.A. service at San Diego. They turned the service over to me and we had a question and answer session that was enjoyed by all present. The next day we went to Tijuana where we met Brother Eugenio Mora. We were told that the Mexican buses were the best in the world, but we found out different. After having passed the immigration inspection, we bid Sisters Perdue, Mora and Norma goodbye and boarded the bus at 1:30 p.m.

We went through several inspections while still in Tijuana and finally left the city around 3:00 p.m. The bus was so hot and we were sweltering. When we complained to the bus driver, he turned on the air conditioner. It got so cold we had to put our sweaters on. We were either sweating or freezing. Every hundred miles, the bus would stop for a passport and luggage inspection. The places where the bus stopped for us to eat were neither sanitary nor desirable. Finally Brother Perdue and



I bought a large box of Ritz crackers and for 52 hours we ate crackers and purified water. I recommend this diet very highly for reducing.

We finally arrived in Mexico City. Brother Mora's relatives were not there to meet us. They did not receive our telegram. After waiting for one and a half hours, we decided to get a taxi to Brother Mora's brother's house. There are eleven million people in this city and riding in a taxi-cab is an experience in itself. The cabs are very old; but, they have good horns and good brakes. Nobody pays any attention to the traffic laws. When you are riding in a taxi-cab, you pray all the way. We drove about 10 or 12 miles and arrived at Brother Mora's relative's house at 6:30 p.m. They were very excited to see Brother Mora, especially his 84 year old mother. They greeted us with great warmth and respect. They helped us to find a motel and later walked one mile to carry warm food over to our motel. Everyone warned us not to eat their food because we would get sick. We were so tired and hungry. We prayed over the food and it was simply delicious. We visited together until 10:30 p.m. and then we joined in prayer and they left for their homes.

On Monday Brother Mora came with his two nephews, one was 23 years old and the other 14 years old. They were very polite and dignified. After a session of prayer, we all went to Mr. Odi-lon Mora Garcia's home for breakfast. He is a minister and also Brother Eugenio Mora's brother. He appeared to be a very reasonable and sincere person. We met his wife and family and they were very kind and hospitable. Mrs. Mora insisted that we not only have breakfast there every morning but also our evening meals. Brother Perdue brought enough tea bags with him to last us the whole trip. Nobody knows what tea is among the poor people in Mexico. They either drink coffee or soft drinks, if they can afford it.

The homes are built in a court-like fashion, in the form of a horseshoe. There are from six to eight two-room homes in these courts and six to eight people live in each two-room home, along with their dogs, cats, chickens or other pets. There is only one bathroom for the whole group and they wash their clothes in a cement washtub outdoors. Yet, with all their poverty they are a very clean people.

Brothers Perdue, Mora and I preached the Gospel from morning until night. We walked from seven to ten miles everyday. Walking is the way of life in Mexico.

We held meetings every night and on the third night about 60 people came to hear us preach. The power of God fell upon us and upon the people. Brother Eugenio's uncle, who is also a minister, testified that he now had the evidence in his heart because he felt the power of God. He has since left the church that he was affiliated with.

Brother Perdue and I prayed to God to give us an evidence and show us that it was His will that we were there. On Tuesday night, Brother Perdue saw in a vision a large and mighty Angel with a sword in his hand, standing majestically over the city of Mexico. On Wednesday morning he saw the same Angel again and after he told me of his experience, we knelt in mighty prayer and thanked God for His glorious blessings.

As the time neared for Brother Perdue, Brother Mora and I to return home, we were inspired to ask Brother Mora to stay for one month and continue to preach the Gospel. He wept and said that it was his desire to stay and preach the Gospel to his people. We had prayer together and Brother Perdue and I laid our hands on Brother Mora. As I prayed, the power of God came upon us and especially upon Brother Mora. He was so filled with the power of God that his body shook and trembled for a long time. The whole room was filled with the power and glory of Christ; insomuch that we could not separate. After instructing Brother Mora on some Church regulations and the faith of the Church, we boarded a plane for home.

I felt so much of the Spirit and blessings of God in Mexico City that I am, along with Brother Perdue, convinced that we will soon have a branch of the Church there.

Brother Mora has just returned from Mexico City with his nephew and niece, after a month of preaching the Gospel there. He is very anxious to return.

Brother Perdue, Brother Mora and I enjoyed a wonderful spirit of oneness and it was a great blessing for me to be with them in Mexico. Enclosed is a letter I just received from Brother Eugenio Mora about his work in Mexico City. I am well pleased with the progress he made. Love to all the Saints.

Brother Joe Lovalvo

P.S. The young man who followed us when we (Brother Perdue and I) were in Mexico City was baptized. He is 24 years old and very dedicated. This is the first fruits of our trip. Since then five or six people have asked for their baptism and Brother Eugenio Mora is making another trip to Mexico City.

THE NIGERIAN CORNER

BROTHER JOSEPH BITTINGER

After conferring with Brother John Ross, Chairman of the African sub-committee, and Brother Paul Palmieri, Editor of *The Gospel News*, we shall endeavor to keep the readers of *The Gospel News* better informed on the activities of the Nigerian Church and Secondary Technical School. We will depend on the ministry of the Nigerian Church to help bring about this better rapport by providing us with as much information as possible of their

activities, current events, and spiritual experiences enjoyed in their worship of Almighty God.

I was selected along with Brothers John Ross and Corie Ciaravino to represent the parent church at the formal opening of the Secondary Technical School of The Church of Jesus Christ at Atai Otoro, Abak, S. E. State, Nigeria on March 30, 1974.

I wish to express my profound thanks and appreciation to the General Church Board of Missions and to the General Church Ministry for according me this most desirable privilege to return to Nigeria after sixteen years to see the progress of the School the Church has built, which is now in operation through the combined efforts of the Parent Church and the Nigerian Church.

The progress of the church in Nigeria has been of a very special interest to me. In company with our late Brother William H. Cadman (then President of the Church), we pioneered this work by the introduction of the restored gospel and establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ, in September 1954. Since that first trip, this work has become indelibly stamped in my heart and mind. It is ever in my prayers to God that He will continue to bless and help these humble, virtuous people, our Brothers and Sisters in The Church of Jesus Christ. A large measure of credit for the success of this work goes to Brother John Ross and his wife, Sister Mary Ross, who so far has been the only Sister of the Church to have served a tour of duty with her husband in Nigeria. Brother Ross has been there five times, going the first time in 1960, accompanied by Brother Alvin Swanson.

We thank God for the progress that has been made through His blessing and the labors contributed by all the Missionaries that have volunteered their time and services over these past two decades.

The Lord also provided the Church with a man of noble leadership and a humble servant of God, in the person of Brother E. U. A. Arthur, President of the church in Nigeria. His dedication to the service of God and to The Church of Jesus Christ has been a major contributing factor to the development and progress of the Church and Secondary Technical School to their present status.

The Church at present consists of fifty-two branches and missions, with approximately three thousand members, having seventy-one ordained in the Priesthood.

A number of the especially large branches have constructed permanent type buildings of cement blocks and metal roofs. The majority of their church buildings remain the old type, constructed with a bamboo frame work plastered inside and outside with mud, having a thatch roof.

I was very pleased to again meet some of the people first baptized into the Church twenty years ago, and they were just as happy to see me. To meet so many I had never met before and make their acquaintances was a blessing I shall never forget.

(To be continued.)



THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." I Corinthians 14:15

Singing, next to Bible Teaching, is the best feature of a religious service, one of the most effective ways to preach the Gospel. The Gospel of Jesus Christ can be proclaimed in different ways. One way is to preach the word, another is to give testimony of what God has done in your life, another is to convey the message of Christ in song.

Moses sang and taught the people to sing. Israel sang along the journey to the Promised Land. Deborah and Barak sang. David was musical thru and thru, and sang with all his heart. Hezekiah's singers sang the words of David, with trumpets sounding. Nehemiah's singers sang loud, at the dedication of the wall. Paul and Silas sang in prison. At the dawn of creation "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." In heaven 10,000 times 10,000 angels sing, and all the whole creation joins in the chorus. In Heaven—everybody will sing, and NEVER, thru endless ages, will tire of singing God's praises.

Gospel music is a positive force for good! The good comes in many forms to many people. To some—it is food for the soul, enriching the heart with inspiration and encouragement. Most gospel lyrics are optimistic and hopeful—emphasizing the happiness and joy of serving the Lord. Gospel music drives away gloom and sorrow and lightens the burdens of heavy hearts. It is not only inspirational but affords one an outlet for their creativity (talent) and an opportunity to minister, as well. God gives talent as a ministry and He will help and bless those who use and dedicate it in this way. If one possesses a burning desire to serve the Lord and His Church in this capacity, if one is willing to do all in his power to better his own God-given talent and above all, if one is willing to consecrate, dedicate and devote his time and money to this ministry . . . he can truly be used of God to be a blessing to others.

Church music must not become competitive but should be motivated by the desire to sing to the Honor and Glory of God; to bless, uplift and inspire others; to aid the ministry in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No one can truly convey the message of Christ or sing about God except he be born again! Then you can sing about something with which you are familiar and sing of one whom you personally KNOW!

I have heard voices lacking in training suddenly become thrilling when God added the final touch with His blessing upon the human, His ability to put His blessing in earthen vessels. Talent plus God's blessing is an unbeatable combination. The goal of every talented person should be to give God the very best. God DESERVES and DEMANDS our BEST. He gave the talent to us untrained and it is our DUTY to perfect it before we offer it back to Him. (Matthew 25)

As the Lord comes alive in the praises of His Saints, each must search for a way of offering Him praise. Many forms of praise are offered to the Lord and music is a great vehicle of praise. Praise to God is a confession and acknowledgment of the great and wonderful excellences and perfections that be in God. His name is worthy to be praised and we are told to praise Him—"to make a joy-

ful noise unto the Lord." If gospel music is anything, it is truly a joyful noise unto the Lord. God created man a free moral agent and when we praise Him of our own choice, I'm sure, without a doubt, it pleases Him and makes Him glad. Not only does this please God, it benefits us, also. So, it is a good thing to praise the Lord.

Sister Teresa Pandone,
Youngstown, Ohio

—:—

MEMORIES

Sister Patti Wright, a teenager of Windsor Branch, Canada went to campout in Cheboygan, Michigan and after campout she was inspired to write this poem.

Her friend Brenda Jeffs also a teenager who has been attending Windsor Branch for quite some time went to campout with her. Brenda was baptized at campout on August 30, 1974.

Memories

Continuous rotations of events in your mind
Your first spiritual kiss, your first sip of wine
But the greatest memory cannot unfold
It's the one you want to grasp and hold
Like in New Hope, Pennsylvania, two years ago
I got baptized and God cleansed my soul
And then in Cheboygan, Michigan this year
With our common desires, God drew us near
Beautiful people who love and serve God
And in His pathway are determined to trod.
People I grew close to, some more than others
I thank God for ALL my Sisters and Brothers
Chapel, seminars and Church at night
Filled with Gods' blessings, what a delight!
The campfires glowing upon our faces
On both the Lamanite and Gentile races.
We fasted, we prayed, God answered us too
By giving us ten converts new
God called four Sisters and six Brothers
And still has plenty of room for others
When you're receiving blessings, the week flies by
And when it's time to leave, I sit and cry
We said our goodbyes, we clung to each other
We embraced and kissed every Sister and Brother
It was time to leave, I didn't want to go
Everyone was rushing me, but I was moving slow.
I got attached to people (we're so far away)
But I hope and pray that I'll see that day
When we're together and there'll be no goodbyes
Where there is no hate and nobody dies.
Well now I'm home and feeling down
Because my Brothers and Sisters aren't around
But we gotta work hard until the end
and "Reach out to God, and bring a friend"
Memories, precious memories, all through the years
Those beautiful memories that bring back my tears.

Sister Patti Wright
Windsor Branch Canada.

Submitted by
Sister Ruth Stanek
Windsor Branch Editor

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EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

The Christmas season is a time when we are stirring reminded of the great love of God for the human family.

Our *Holy Bible* and *Book of Mormon* offer interested readers and lovers of truth many accounts of the various workings of God down through the ages by which He richly and generously manifested His love for His people.

However, the most outstanding example of the outpouring of God's love is His gift to the world of His only begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We are greatly indebted to the beloved Apostle John for including in his gospel narrative the interesting and informative account of the question and answer exchange between Nicodemus and the Lord. At this time the Lord uttered those memorable words:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (*John 3:16,17*)

The great Apostle Paul in writing to the Saints in Rome included an eloquent commentary on the love of God:

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (*Romans 5:6,7*)

The Apostle Paul acknowledged that there are people who would dare to die for a righteous or good man. However, he hastened to add that the love of God toward all mankind was wonderfully demonstrated without respect of persons, whether good or bad, "in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

THE CONDESCENSION OF GOD

The *Book of Mormon* also contains a beautiful illustration of the greatness of God's love as highlighted in Nephi's remarkable vision of the Virgin Mary whom he describes as "most beautiful and fair above all other virgins."

In the vision, the angel asked Nephi, "Knowest thou the condescension of God?" Nephi replied, "I know that he LOVETH his children, nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things." The angel said to Nephi, "Behold, the virgin whom thou seest is the mother of the Son of God after the manner of the flesh."

Later in the vision, Nephi beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms. At this point, the angel declared to Nephi, "Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father!"

Thus, we learn from Nephi's account of his vision that the love of God for mankind is so great that He condescended to bring forth His Son as the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish but have everlasting life."



The Children's Corner

Mabel Bickerton

David the King

Dear Girls and Boys,

The time had come when David was to take his high position as king. He had been anointed years before by the Prophet Samuel. God had been preparing him through many strange experiences for this work.

Although the jealous King Saul had hunted David, David still honored him as king. One hot day David and his men were hiding in a dark cave. To their surprise King Saul came into the cave alone. His men were in the valley below. He wanted rest and quiet. David and his men kept very, very still. They watched Saul lie down, cover himself with his cloak and go to sleep. David's men urged David to do away with Saul. Now was his chance, they thought. But David would not do such a thing. Saul was the father of David's dearest friend, Jonathan and also God's anointed. David spared Saul's life but he cut off a piece of his robe. Later David showed the piece to prove he had the chance to kill the king. David said, "The Lord judge between me and thee but my hand shall never be against you." This touched Saul and he said, "You are more righteous than I." Later Saul said, "Blessed be thou, my son David, you shall do great things and shall still prevail." Saul never persecuted David again.

David was sad when King Saul and Jonathan were killed. He prayed, "Thank you God for keeping me safe." David always praised God for the many times he helped and protected him. The *Psalms* are full of his songs of praise.

David married King Saul's daughter Michal. Before the marriage he had to give gifts to her family as was the custom. Now David was just a poor shepherd and felt he could not give gifts, especially for a king's daughter. The king's servants told him to go out and kill one hundred Philistines. Out went David and got two hundred of them! When King Saul saw this he gave Michal to David.

David was the father of many children. One of his sons was the wisest king who ever lived. He was Solomon. Another son Absalom, was a fine looking prince. He had long thick hair which he cut once a year. The hair he cut off weighed 20 shekels of silver or six pounds. He had a great desire to be king instead of his father. One day, as he was riding on a mule, the mule went under the thick branches of an oak tree. Absalom's long, beautiful hair became caught in the branches. The mule went riding away leaving Absalom hanging high above the ground. Later he was found hanging from the tree, dead. This was sad for his father, King David to accept.

David was the second and greatest king over Israel. His name means "beloved" and surely all the people loved

him. As he grew older, he knew another must be chosen to be king. His son Solomon was chosen to be his successor. David wished only success and happiness for his son and he knew it would come if he served the Lord.

Next month I will tell you about a little prince named Mephibosheth. Isn't that a strange name? Do you know anyone by that name? King David was very kind to this boy.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

ORDINATION

On October 27, 1974, we were privileged to witness the ordination of Brother Julius Kovacs into the priesthood at the Hopelawn Branch.

Many visitors gathered from other Branches to be present to witness this blessed event. Brother Dominick Rose from the Brooklyn Branch washed the feet of Brother Julius. He was ordained into the office of Elder by Brother August D'Orazio. As the Elders were laying hands on Brother Julius, Brother Joseph Faragasso Jr. had an experience.* He saw in a vision a personage dressed in white descend and place his hands upon Brother Julius's head, thus confirming his holy calling into The Ministry. Many wonderful words were spoken, and there were words of great beauty and significance in the prayers offered. All rejoiced at the blessings felt that morning, and many gathered again for the afternoon service at the Metuchen Branch to witness yet another ordination into The Priesthood and the blessings were doubled.

Brother Julius was immediately put to work in the afternoon meeting by anointing the sick and in the passing of the Communion. Brother Julius was baptized into The Church on June 24, 1973. He is the son-in-law of the late Brother Julius Sipos, who was an Elder in The Hopelawn Branch and then in The Metuchen Branch. Our prayers are that the Lord may bless our new Elder and give him grace sufficient to respond to this calling, and strength and courage to face the difficult task of furthering His Kingdom on earth. "The harvest is truly plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into His harvest." *Matt. 9:37,38.*

Our Sabbath Day came to an end by the gathering of The New Jersey and New York Branches for the Area MBA Singspiration, where we had the opportunity of hearing the testimonies of our two new Elders, and the singing of praises to our Lord.

Indeed, it was a day well spent serving our Lord. Our cups were filled to overflowing with the blessings that can only come from our Heavenly Father.

Sister Helen Kovacs
Branch Editor

* Brother Joseph Faragasso Jr. witnessed the identical experience at The Metuchen Branch during Brother Joseph Arcuri's ordination in the afternoon.

ORDINATION

The Sabbath Day, October 27, 1974, started out in a most enjoyable way—sunshine. It appeared from the dawn of day the Lord's blessings were to be showered upon the Metuchen Branch.

The moment we entered the Metuchen Branch, we felt the blessings of God. It was a privilege to see Brother R. Lawson, our Presiding Elder, who is commuting from his home in Pennsylvania to care for The Branch.

The morning meeting was opened by Brother Sam Risola. He took his message from the *Book of St. Luke, 10th chapter, 38-42 verses*, relating to Mary and Martha, two sisters, one who served the Lord naturally, the other listening to the words of the Lord. Brother Lawson followed and exhorted the Brothers and Sisters that they should be like Mary and choose the better part — The Gospel.

The Church building was filled for our afternoon meeting with visitors from many Branches. Also visiting was our District President, Brother August D'Orazio and his family.

The afternoon meeting was opened by Brother Dominick Rose from the Brooklyn Branch and he urged the Brothers and Sisters to be united with The Ministry; where there is unity, there is strength. Brother Joseph Arcuri was ordained into The Ministry. Brother Dominick Rose washed Brother Joe's feet and stated he had a great desire to perform this ordinance and when Brother Lawson asked if any of the Elders present desired to do so, he accepted. Brother Joseph Arcuri was anointed with oil and ordained by Brother Richard Lawson. As the Elders were laying hands on Brother Arcuri, Brother Joseph Faragasso Jr. had an experience.* He saw in a vision a Personage dressed in white descend and place his hands upon Brother Joe's head, thus confirming his holy calling into The Ministry.

Brother Arcuri expressed his testimony and requested the prayers of the Brothers and Sisters that he may fulfill his calling and be a shepherd to the flock.

There were many wonderful testimonies with a wonderful spirit prevailing. Brother Arcuri was immediately put to work passing Communion. While he was passing sacrament, Brother Walter Cihomsky had an experience. As Brother Joe was about to give him the Bread, he felt the Spirit of God from his head to his toes and when he took the bread and ate it, it was as sweet as could be. He had never tasted anything sweeter, just as sweet as the fruit of the tree that Lehi saw in his vision.

All spent a wonderful day in the service of God. May God richly bless Brother Arcuri and may he be a good shepherd to the flock.

Paul Risola
Branch Editor

* Brother Joseph Faragasso Jr. witnessed the identical experience at The Hopelawn Branch during Brother Julius Kovac's ordination in the morning.



M. B. A. Highlights

by James D. Gibson
G.M.B.A. Editor

PENNSYLVANIA AREA M.B.A. CONFERENCE

Sister Iva Fedorka, Editor

We held our annual M.B.A. Conference at Imperial, Pennsylvania on October 12, 1974. It was a beautiful day to hold our Conference, and a peaceful setting at Imperial. The President, Bob Nicklow, addressed the Conference with some opening remarks after which we went into our business.

Our Chaplain, Brother Carl McCartney, was absent and Brother John Manes was elected to act as Chaplain for the Conference.

Items of unfinished business were discussed, and it was noted that we had been involved in many projects during the past year. One such project was the raising of \$1,000 to send Brother Gorie Ciaravino to Nigeria for the opening of the Secondary School.

New business began with the election of officers. Officers for the next year are as follows:

President: Brother Robert Nicklow
Vice President: Brother Jesse Carr
Chaplain: Brother Robert Buffington
Secretary: Sister Janet Mancini
Treasurer: Brother Richard Scaglione
Auditor: Brother Walter Laird
Editor: Sister Iva Fedorka
Historian: Brother John Mancini

Some of the activities planned for the next year include:

1. The 1975 Area Conference to be held at Monongahela. The date will be set by the Activities Committee.
2. A week-end retreat (a survey will be sent to the locals for their response. The survey will include all pertinent information.)
3. A seminar to be held at Monongahela on Saturday, December 7, at 10:30 a.m.
4. An area outing to be handled by the Activities Committee.
5. Two evening meetings to be held... one at Imperial and the other at Glassport. Details will be worked out by the Activities Committee.

We closed our meeting at 8:00 p.m. It was a day of planning for the future.

Ohio District Spiritual Meetings

The Ohio District has been conducting spiritual meetings on Sunday evenings on a twice a year basis.

The first meeting took place in Warren, Ohio on the Sunday following the G.M.B.A. Campout at Dunkirk, New York. This was Brother Rocco Biscotti's first exposure to our campouts and he was very impressed and felt inspired to call this meeting.

We were notified in the Sunday morning service that there was to be a meeting that night. In spite of the last minute notification, The Church was filled to capacity. Since that time, we have had additional meetings in Lorain, Youngstown and another in Warren. Each of these meetings has been very well attended. They have been conducted as our Brothers have been directed by The Spirit. There have been a variety of activities at these meetings such as testimonies, singing by various groups, etc., all directed toward the praising of God.

We hope to continue these meetings feeling that they are satisfying a need among our people.

Brother James Alessio
District Editor

Florida District Conference

The Florida District Conference convened at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 7, 1974 at the Ft. Pierce church building. There were many Brothers and Sisters and visitors in attendance. The weather was beautiful, sunny and warm. The order of business went very smoothly throughout the day. Brother Dominic Thomas of Detroit, Michigan opened the morning session. He attended this conference so as to meet as many of the Brothers and Sisters as possible in this part of the vineyard. He also expressed himself briefly on the recent G.M.B.A. campout and how the young people of today are taking The Church at heart.

Brother Thomas stated that as a minister of the Gospel he has tried to work for The Church and that we all have a profound interest in The Church. The precepts and teachings of Christ have become our guideline in life. The challenge of the priesthood is to maintain and uphold these precepts and teachings; also the Faith and Doctrine of The Church. The elders are to set the pattern for others. In conclusion, Brother Thomas thanked God once more for the privilege of being in Florida and in His Service.

The afternoon service included a seminar which proved to be very interesting and beneficial to all.

Sunday, September 8, 1974 was also a beautiful and sunny day. The Conference was conducted by Brother V. J. Loyalvo, President of the District. Following a hymn and a beautiful prayer by Brother Cleveland Baldwin, the Miami group sang a selection which was a testimony of one of the New Sisters from New Orleans, Louisiana. Sister Joyce Rogolino sang, "Promises" while Brother Loyalvo sang, "If I Could Not Take Jesus Along."

Brother Frank Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio was the principal speaker taking for his text *Haggai* 2:3,9. The theme of the day was the HOUSE of the LORD in the PAST and in the LATTER DAYS. Brother Calabrese said, "Jesus took time to touch me, I know where I'm going, and I know whom I have believed." He also touched on the 14th Chapter of Revelation — the Apostle John's vision of an angel flying in the midst of heaven.

Brother Calabrese recounted how God worked with Israel in the past, assuring us that God will also restore to His covenant people what rightfully belongs to them in these latter days.

Brother Thomas in his closing remarks, said that our fathers left us a spiritual legacy and the Lord requires our full concentration. Directing his remarks to the young,

he said, "Put your life in the hands of the Lord; we need the Lord always. He is always with us, FEAR NOT. Our ultimate goal is the gathering of the House of Israel and ZION. The Lord is always watching to see if He has FIRST PLACE IN YOUR HEARTS. The Church needs everyone and we should keep our eyes on the spiritual things."

The afternoon speaker was Brother William Tucker of Tampa, Elder in charge of the mission in that part of the vineyard. Brother Tucker referred to the Apostle Paul's readiness to lose his life for the sake of the Gospel; and how the people were concerned for his welfare, knowing that they would never see him again. Surely, they displayed that true love. The day ended with a wonderful spirit and we departed joyfully and with our cups filled.

We wish to express thanks to all the Sisters and all who hosted and served throughout Saturday and Sunday. May God bless you for your efforts.

Sister Shoemaker, Brother Tucker's mother-in-law, is very ill and in very much need of prayers. We also request that you pray for the Tampa Mission that the work there may flourish.

P.S.: By the time this article reaches print Brother Tucker will be in Israel to view the land where much of God's work was done. We pray that he will bring back a wonderful report and our prayers are that the Lord will protect him and return him safely home. GOD BLESS YOU, BROTHER BILL.

Brother Lou Pandone
Assistant Editor

My Spiritual Anniversary

On December 14, 1919 I was baptized by Brother Peter Garofalo and I promised God I would serve Him the remainder of my days. That was 55 years ago and I have not had any regrets that I made that promise to my God. I praise Him for all His wonderful blessings extended toward me and I ask you, The Church, to pray that I may remain faithful the balance of my days. May God bless you all.

Sister Minnie DePiero,
Youngstown, Ohio

A Dream

A sermon which was recently spoken by Brother Michael La Sala, of Detroit, Michigan, Branch No. 1, reminded Sister Raffaella Di Falco of a dream she had many years ago:

In 1942 I had a dream. We were in the Church. We were all of one mind and one spirit.

All at once above the ministry I saw a window. Little by little the window was opening. When the window was completely open, a pure white cloud came through that window.

The cloud came down and stood over the sacrament table. Then the cloud opened wide. In the midst of the cloud I saw Jesus Christ.

Remarks by Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Morris Thompson, at the Commencement Exercises, Phoenix Indian School, Phoenix, Arizona May 16, 1974.

Now that I have said to you some of the things I wanted to get across, I would like to talk about the theme of this graduation ceremony.

I am very impressed with the theme you have chosen — learning to live in peace. It indicated to me that the graduates of Phoenix Indian School have already achieved a level of maturity that some statesmen who hold the fate of the world in their hands have yet to attain.

Living in peace — with one's self, within one's community or with other nations doesn't just happen. One has to learn how to live in peace. To learn, that one has to determine what is right and wrong — in life, in the community and in the world.

We are not born knowing what the proper rules of living are for mankind. We have to learn them. From the time we are born, while we were learning how to walk, talk and eat with a spoon, we were also learning that it is right to ask our parents for money and wrong to just take it; we learned that it was right to tell exactly what happened and wrong to lie; we learned that it was right to study for an exam and wrong to cheat.

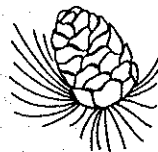
If we did what was right, we sailed along happily — with a clear conscience and at peace within ourselves. If we stole, lied or cheated, we were at war within ourselves. Perhaps, we didn't know it. Perhaps consciously we felt an unholy glee at having gotten away with misdeeds.

But, sub-consciously, we know that stealing is an admission that we were incompetent to earn our own money, that lying is an admission that we don't have the courage to be responsible for our own actions, that cheating is an admission that we are stupid or lazy.

Deep within ourselves there was an uneasiness. No one can be at peace within themselves under these circumstances. Once we have learned right from wrong we have to act on that knowledge or pay the price of internal war. Parents, friends and neighbors may not be able to see the war raging within, but they will see the symptoms; unhappiness, purposeless, or, worse alcohol and drugs.

Living at peace in our communities and nations also has to be learned. We aren't born knowing the proper way for men to live together. Is it right for one man to be master of another? Do men need governments? What is the right way for citizens to settle disputes between themselves?

All of these things have to be learned and generally agreed upon before a proper course of action can be taken that will allow citizens of a community or nation to live at peace with one another.



A Beautiful Dream

Dear Brothers and Sisters:



Years ago I wrote about a Brother who was quite ill. I wanted to give him a "verbal" bouquet of flowers. It was just in time, as he passed on to his reward several months later.

Now, I am too late and another Brother has passed on to a better place. I am sorry for that because he was like a father to me in many ways. His quiet, steady strength was always there in the background.

He was an orphan and knew the real meaning of hunger, loneliness, and fear. Perhaps these were some of the reasons that made him so appreciative of everything, no matter how small. He had a good word for everybody he met and that word was the Gospel. He wanted to share this precious jewel with anyone that would listen to him; this he did, literally. There wasn't a person he met that he didn't try to tell about the goodness of Christ. I understand he was instrumental in introducing the Gospel to quite a few Brothers and Sisters. What a beautiful heritage he left his three sons.

Now I would like to share a dream that his oldest son, Paul, had just one week before his father's death.

"I dreamed that I was standing downtown on Woodward Avenue. There were people standing on both sides of the street by the thousands and I realized that it was a parade. As I was standing there waiting for the parade to start, I looked to my left and I began to see an honor guard coming in front of a caisson being drawn by six white horses. The caisson was white, as well as the casket, and I said to myself, this cannot be President Kennedy because I realized that he had already passed away. I thought surely this must be another great man. As the honor guard passed in front of me I stood at attention and saluted the procession as the flags passed by. I then heard a voice say: 'This is your father — he too was a great man.'

And then I awoke."

This man was my father-in-law, Brother Gregory Vitto.

Sister Katherine Vitto

Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to relay to you via the *Gospel News* my heartfelt thanks for your prayers during my recent surgery. Thank you for the many beautiful cards and phone calls.

May God Bless you and repay you with many blessings. I am much improved but still need your prayers.

Brother Frank Sirangelo
Lake Worth Branch

Greetings from Oklahoma

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Once again I am sending greetings from Oklahoma. Since I wrote last, we have been able to find a home in the Anadarko area. We are quite pleased to be here. This is the area Brother Dom Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio first came and made contacts with many of the Seed of Joseph, The American Indian.

Shortly after we moved here Brother George Benyola came to our home on August 11, 1974 and held the first meeting of The Church of Jesus Christ, Restored Gospel, in our home. He was accompanied here with his wife Sister Stella and children, also, Brother Doug McClellan of Dallas and Brother Keith White of New Jersey. Attending this meeting was Russell and Nancy Ann Ross. They were our first contact made among the American Indian.

We had desired to attend church in Dallas. So, on Friday, October 4 we called Brother George Benyola. Much to our surprise he asked if Brother Gorrie Ciaravino was with us. He and Sister Ann and Brother John Dulisse were supposed to be in the Anadarko Area. Being quite sad, thinking we had missed them we began to come home. On our way home we had stopped at a traffic light, about a block in front of us, I noticed a car make a turn in front of us with clothes hanging in the back. We began to follow and there we found Brother Gorrie in the police station. We brought them home with us and had a grand visit. Brother Gorrie's group left our home on Saturday morning for Dallas. In the afternoon our family left for Dallas. We were able to attend church with the Saints in Dallas. Brother Gorrie spoke on *Alma 36th Chapter 1st thru the 9th verses*. Speaking that if we hear the words and learn that we put our trust in God that we shall be supported in our trials, troubles and afflictions and in the last days we will be lifted up. Brother John Dulisse followed in the same thought and lifting all in attendance to put all of our trust in the Lord. We are all very thankful for the uplifting message delivered to us in Dallas on October 6, 1974. Brothers and Sisters, I would like to ask a little question. Could you move to a strange town and state and try your best to introduce the church to many? We are so thankful to be in the state of Oklahoma. I'm sure Brother Benyola feels the same way about Texas.

We shall be looking forward to seeing many of our Brothers and Sisters as they travel through our area. Where we live now is not too far off your routes west or east. Also, in helping you, we now have a telephone.

Telephone No. 1-405-247-5983

Our new address:

Bill and Evelyn Crall
Route No. 1
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005



BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

News From Cape Coral, Florida Mission

We were honored with a surprise visit August 18 by our General Church President, Dominic Thomas, and his family. Also visiting with us were Brother and Sister (Joseph) Perry, Brother and Sister (Mike) Radd, and Brother and Sister (Harry) McGuire, all of Lake Worth Branch.

Brother Thomas introduced the morning service, giving us a wonderful lesson from *The Book of Mormon*. Many testimonies were also given. I was then anointed and prayed for as I was to enter the hospital the next day for back surgery. Our meeting dismissed with a great feeling.

We assembled again in the afternoon in the home of Brother and Sister Velardi and enjoyed visiting with one another.

Our Mission has been enjoying many visitors, both Saints and friends.

I wate to relate an experience. I had been in the hospital for two weeks and the doctor finally decided to cancel the operation. He was confident that treatments would help me. This made me happy and I felt the Lord had a hand in it. Sister Radd telephoned to tell me that the Saints had fasted and prayed for me and they had enjoyed a wonderful spirit. I thank God for His love and I want to thank all of you for your prayers. God bless you all.

Sister Bertha Constantine
Branch Editor

Lorain, Ohio News

Dear Brothers and Sisters, I am going to try to fill the spot of editor for the Lorain Branch. Sister Josephine Dominico, our former editor, along with her companion Brother Alfred Dominico, have moved to California. Their presence alone was a blessing to our Branch.

On September 6, we had a social night in their honor. A plaque was presented to them with their favorite verse engraved on it. They were also presented with a photograph of the flowers that were sent by the Lorain Branch to Brother Thurman Furnier's funeral. This represents something from the entire Branch. Many came from out of town to spend the evening with us.

After a short meeting we gathered downstairs for a social night. Refreshments were shared and the evening was well worth our time and effort. We thank God for the time He has given to us with our dear Brother and Sister. Many good times were spent with them spiritually as well as naturally. My prayer is that God will continue to shower them with blessings.

Sunday, September 22, was another beautiful day spent in fellowship with the Saints. We had in our midst, Brother Joseph Manes and his daughter, Sister Monica, from the Niles, Ohio Branch. Brother Joe opened the service by reading from *St. John, Chapter 21*. The thought presented was Christ preaching to His disciples that if they loved Him, they should feed His sheep. This was truly a good thought presented. Following this, we took part in the sacred ordinance of feet-washing. That evening, we also held a meeting, and we had visiting with us, Bro-

ther Rocco Biscotti and his wife, Sister Angeline. We witnessed the ordination of Sister Katherine Cocco into the office of Deaconess.

Brothers Joseph Calabrese and Rocco Biscotti spoke on the duties and importance of this office. Her works have proven her a devoted servant of God. In a dream she had six years ago, she was with Sister Carmella Alessio, a Deaconess of the Lorain Branch. She was handing Sister Katherine a white sacrament cloth. She looked at Sister Katherine and said, "These are for you." At that time she knew what the dream meant. In a more recent experience, she found herself standing between the sacrament table and the front pew where the sacrament basket sets. She had seen a beautiful, exquisite piece of crystal setting on the sacrament table. This crystal was shiny red in color with a black vase. Sister Katherine felt the red represented the blood Jesus shed for us and the black represented the suffering and darkness that came over the world. She knew she had to have this crystal and that she would take care of it. She testified of these experiences and the hearts of many were filled with a love for her. God bless you Sister Katherine. We thank God for bestowing upon us His goodness and mercy, for surely we can say we serve a true and living God.

* * *

On Saturday morning, October 5, our branch met in fasting and prayer for Brother Frank Nardozzi and others who were sick and afflicted. During the meeting the Lord spoke through Brother Frank Altomare and the following was said, "Thus saith the Lord, draw near unto me. I will keep you from these things that are upon this world. I will heal you, for my anger is upon the nations of the world."

We can say that God is with His children and will continue to be with us if we prove faithful unto Him. We had another fasting and prayer meeting the following Saturday for the General Church Conference. We were privileged to have Brothers Rocco Biscotti and Bill De-Franco in our midst. As Brother Biscotti was praying he said, "I feel that the presence of the Lord is with us at this gathering." (The gathering, at that time, being the upcoming General Church Conference). He also spoke in the Gift of Tongues while he was praying, and later had the interpretation, "I will guide my people and sustain them." This was a wonderful blessing. The Sunday meeting at conference confirmed what God had spoken to us earlier.

The Lord called two more souls into His Church on Sunday, October 27: Brother Philip Dore and Sister Jewell Evans. Sister Lena Calabrese, in her testimony, related a dream she had. After the dream was told, the Lord spoke through Brother Frank Altomare. At this time, Philip Dore rose to his feet, filled with the Spirit of God, and asked for his baptism. The Lord also touched the heart of Jewell Evans, and she asked for her baptism. We gathered that evening to confirm the new converts and they were given the opportunity to express themselves. What beautiful and promising testimonies were given. May God bless them both as they strive to serve Him.

Sister Rose Palacios gave her testimony and related a dream she had about an hour before coming to the meeting that night. At the time of the dream, she knew only of the two baptisms in our branch. In her dream, she saw a silver train and it had "The Church of Jesus Christ"

written on the side. There were four people in line outside this train, three men and one woman. As she looked up to Heaven the clouds opened and a silver helicopter appeared. A bright light came down on these four individuals. As the light came down to each of them, they started to board the train. She did not know what the dream meant at the time she awoke, but when she came to church that evening she learned about the two brothers who asked to be baptized at the meeting in Warren, Ohio the same afternoon. This is when she knew that her dream was a confirmation of the four baptisms.

God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform.

Sister Leona Nardozzi
Lorain Branch Editor

Lake Worth, Florida

Sunday, September 29 was another "Shower of Blessing". Diane Jasmin called for her baptism. Brother V. J. Lovalvo of Ft. Pierce was visiting and began our morning service exhorting on the leaven of The Pharisees. The young people were called up front to sing "God's Way". There was a feeling of excitement throughout as though someone would declare themselves to God. While the group was singing, Sister Rose Aldous related, "I began to pray to God in behalf of the young people. She closed her eyes and Diane appeared in front of her. She began to say to herself "Diane, Diane, please ask for your baptism". Then she saw a white cloak come down and cover Diane. The young people returned to their seats and Diane arose calling for her baptism. We went to the waters edge and she was baptized by Brother Mike Radd. Our afternoon meeting began and Diane was confirmed by Brother Joseph Perri. May God bless our new Sister.

Youngstown, Ohio

On Sunday, November 3, 1974, our morning service was opened by Brother Sam Costarella, reading from *Revelation chapter 21*. Having just received news of the passing of our Sister, June Loewenthal, we were comforted in the words, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Brother Raymond Cosetti, visiting us from Cape Coral, Fla., followed on the same subject, and closed by stating: "We will find true happiness in obeying The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the evening, the Ohio District held a spiritual revival meeting with Brother Rocco Biscotti, President of the District, presiding. We enjoyed community singing, and selections from the quartet. Brother A. A. Corrado spoke on the subject, "Seek and you shall find." A large group of young people sang and gave their testimony. Brother Mitchel Edwards, recently ordained an Elder, gave a beautiful testimony of his conversion. The Deaconesses of the Ohio District were asked to sing. Their song was "My Jesus I Love Thee". Meeting was closed in prayer by Brother Travis Perry.

Rochester, New York

On October 6, 1974 we had the joy and pleasure to have Brother Reno Bologna, president of the Michigan

Canada District and Evangelist Brother Paul Benyola and family from Lockport, New York Branch.

We had community singing with Bob Marinetti as pianist. "Speak My Lord", was the opening hymn. Brother Reno chose the 5th chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke, the healing of the sick and the blindness of the Pharisees about the observation of the Sabbath. We should answer the call or face an angry God at the last day. We must put our hand on the plow and look to Jesus.

After the hymn, "Jesus is Real to Me", Brother Paul Benyola related of his conversion in The Church. He then continued on the same subject stressing how a tree must bear good fruit or it shall be thrown into a furnace of fire. We must make a decision to serve God or be with the world.

The Presiding Elder, Brother Ansel D'Amico emphasized to train the child when young and when he grows old he will not depart from it.

The meeting was turned over for testimony. Two sisters were anointed for their afflictions.

A wonderful spirit prevailed all during the meeting.

We were dismissed with prayer offered by Brother Patsy Marinetti.

Sister Carmella D'Amico

— NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the following new members of their families. New arrivals have been as follows:

Philip, Jr. to Philip and Linda Anthony of Hopelawn, New Jersey.

Austin Herbert to Arthur, Jr. and Bonnie Landrey of Phoenix, Arizona.

Hope Ardys Catherine to Phillip and Valerie Allsburg of Detroit, Michigan.

Joshua Albert to Timothy and Deborah Sue Jenkins of Lorain, Ohio.

Jonathan Eric to Joseph and Ruth Rogallo of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.

Erin Joyce to Joseph and Hazel Cindrich of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

— WEDDINGS —

DAMORE - HUTCHISON

Brother Gary Damore and Miss Karen Hutchison were joined in holy wedlock on June 21, 1974 in the United Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Officiating in the ceremony were the bride's father, Rev. W. W. Hutchison and the groom's father, Brother Philip Damore.

The newlyweds will reside in Bagdad, Arizona.

NUMKENA - MASE

Mr. Hank Numkena and Miss Renee Mase were united in holy matrimony on August 10, 1974 in The Church of Jesus Christ, Phoenix, Arizona.

Brother Ether Furnier officiated in the wedding ceremony.

Phoenix, Arizona will be the place of residence for the newlywedded couple.

SECOR - WILSON

Mr. Douglas Secor and Miss Kathy Sue Wilson were united in holy marriage on September 7, 1974 in The Church of Jesus Christ, Perry, Ohio.

Brother Eugene Kline officiated in the marriage ceremony.

Musical selections were by Sister Jean Brumigan.

The couple will reside in Perry, Ohio.

● OBITUARIES ●

GREGORY VITTO

Brother Gregory Vitto passed from this life on October 1, 1974. He was born on September 5, 1888 and baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 27, 1930.

He is survived by his wife, three sons and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Nick Pietrangelo and Peter Capone.

Brother Gregory was truly a man loved by all. May God comfort and be with his family.

ANNA ROSATI

Sister Anna Rosati passed on to her reward on September 28, 1974. She was 86 years old. She was a faithful member of the Lockport, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul Benyola and Paul D'Amico.

She will be missed very much by all who knew her.

EMMA QUINNT

Sister Emma Quinnt, a member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her heavenly reward on October 17, 1974. She was born on March 7, 1892 and was baptised on May 12, 1963.

She is survived by one son, one brother, one sister, eight grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Frank Calabrese.

She had a beautiful talent of playing the piano and organ and loved to play hymns.