

# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

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## GET INTO THE MAIN STREAM

by Robert A. Watson

The question is being asked by man, "Is there something that I can do to help move The Church in a forward direction?" The answer comes crisp and clear, "Yes, there is." In order to feel the forward movement of The Church you must get into the mainstream, for this is where the action is.

How do I condition myself to find this, and how do I know when I have found it?

The answer to the first question is that the conditioning begins by draining all of self from your life and in its place, fill it with complete and selfless dedication. This requires the pulling out of the many comfortable alternatives that we run for when the strength of our commitment is tested. We must capture the vision of The Church and be willing to be disciplined and marshalled in this great army of Christ. The Apostle Paul in speaking to Timothy gives us an insight of this conditioning in *II Timothy 2:3-6*. "Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully."

Paul uncovers the human pattern that evolves when a breakdown occurs in our conditioning. It is the entangling of oneself in the affairs of this world. This conditioning is not predicated on our moods and depressions. We cannot afford the luxury of moving in comfort and of travelling at the price we want to pay. We must submit ourselves to the admonition of Christ. Deny yourself. "Take up your cross and follow me." This means insulating ourselves against our moods and depressions; it means the desire to move not only in comfort but also in adversity. It means that we do not set the price we want to pay, but God has His own bookkeeping system and He sets the price we must pay.

Perhaps by now you are becoming a little uneasy in this conditioning program. It could be that you are spiritually out of shape. You have not exercised the inward

man, but merely catered to the whims and lusts of the outward man. For you to measure the distance you are today from the mainstream of The Church may require a painful yet necessary and honest evaluation of your efforts. If you will begin right now and start on this conditioning program you will soon experience a gravitational pull towards the center of Church activity.

In answer to the second part of the question, "How will I know when I have reached the mainstream of The Church?" You will experience some of the following—an excitement will pervade your whole mind and body and soul. The promises to Israel will not be a distant fading hope; but a thing of the now. An almost uncontrollable feeling will live with you constantly that any day could bring with it the beginning of a great marshalling of God's covenant people. You will almost begin in your spirit to look for material on a daily basis needed for the building of the New Jerusalem. When this excitement awakens you in the morning, when this excitement is the last thought on your mind before going to sleep at night, Brothers and Sisters, you have now found the mainstream of The Church.

To many this may just represent a few words that will soon be forgotten, but to others it represents a challenge that deserves further thoughts. They say, "Now that we have found the mainstream, what can I specifically do?" Let me preface my answer by saying either lead, follow, or get out of the way. The Church has been filled for too long a period of time with all kinds of stumbling blocks placed in her pathway by minds that have stagnated with fear and intrepidity. To many the thunderous roar of the crowd is heard with reverberating echoes, "It is not time, wait the day will come." They seem to feel that by pushing the work to a future day it will act as a catharsis to numb the pain of a pricked conscience. Yet the cry comes loud and clear. "Work while it is yet day, for the night soon cometh when man can work no more."

Yes, it is time to work harder in our Branches, our Districts, and our General Church. Get all excited; do something you have thought about doing for a long time, but never had the courage to do. Stand solidly behind the Brothers and Sisters that are breaking open new frontiers for The Church. Take a new look at yourself and your Church. And if you are not now in the mainstream of The Church, don't let another day pass. Begin the conditioning program.

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

by Joseph Bittinger

### INSPECTION REPORT

#### THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST TECHNICAL SCHOOL, ATAÍ OTORO

THE PROPRIETOR: The Church of Jesus Christ  
(Foreign Mission).

INSPECTING OFFICER: Leo U. Essien — Subject In-  
spector \* History

AIM OF INSPECTION: To inspect the School; check  
status of history, and advise on the teaching of history.

DATE OF INSPECTION: 17th May, 1974.

1. INTRODUCTION: "The Church of Jesus Christ's intention was to build, equip and run a technical Secondary School. As of now there is no technical department but an attempt has been made to operate a class three Secondary School since 1972. With sufficient financial support either from the Foreign Mission or from the community there is hope for a brighter future. The attachment and running of the technical wing may slow the pace to a considerable extent, but if there is a serious determination to make their dream come true the Atai Otoro Community must rally round support for a young institution which promises to be a source of pride to Abak Division in a few years."

2. THE SCHOOL: "There are 210 boys and girls, 101 of them are boarders and 109 students go to school from their houses. I was satisfied that the Principal is working hard to reduce the number of day students."

3. NUMBER ON ROLL: "The list supplied by the Principal shows the following registered students: The proportion of girls to boys in each class is fair. This is however a fair opinion, based on personal head count. Records available in the school showed discriminate enrollment. Twenty-eight girls are boarders. Although the school is a new school, there is a healthy relationship between the staff and the students. The atmosphere is congenial for learning. The students appear neat, healthy and properly dressed. There should be a First Aid Box for the school under a member of the staff since the school is rather far from the hospital at Abak."

#### BUILDINGS AND THE SCHOOL COMPOUND

"The School compound is about three years old and still new. Buildings are springing up while others although uncompleted are being used. There are two blocks of two classrooms for classes two and three. The other is not completed but accommodates class one. Two dormitories provide quarters for boys and girls. The kitchen is of mud and wattle, and the dining hall is for girls only. Special rooms, Laboratory and domestic Science room are yet to be put up. There are a good number of books donated by The Church of Jesus Christ Foreign Mission, but, there is no library where they could be indexed and used. The Principal's Office is no place for such books and to leave them on the floor is more than one could expect. . . There is no light and no water on the premises. The running spring across the road is a good source of

water supply but action should be taken to lay pipes now on the compound and tap water for the school."

#### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

"Action recommended for the Proprietor:  
The Technical wing should be developed immediately.

Qualified teachers should be found to teach the following subjects: History, Integrated Science, Physics and Chemistry.

Permanent Dining Hall for the whole school.

Efforts should be redoubled over building projects for the school.

Provide Domestic Science facilities.

Light and pipe-borne water should be provided if the school is to remain a boarding school.

As a technical school the technical wings require light and water hard by. . ."

#### COMPOUND FACILITIES

One football pitch, one netball pitch and one tennis lawn provide facilities for games and recreation. The compound is kept clean and trim. Latrines and urinals are a make-shift affair, but other buildings are made of permanent materials, and are generally in good state of repair.

#### CURRICULUM FACILITIES

"There is a deliberate attempt to draw up good working schemes of work for each class in the school. The well kept diaries show at a glance the work load covered by each teacher each week. The Principal, (Mr. Peter U. Iniodu) is to be commended for efforts spared in checking records of work and useful directives given to each teacher on most subjects. All the teachers appreciate this effort. . ."

Subjects being taught in the School, History, Geography, Bible Knowledge, Electrical Engineering, and Automobile Engineering, and English Language. The Staff consists of the Principal and eleven teachers.

The Board of Governors are responsible for the operation of the school. Pastor E.U.A. Arthur, President of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria, is Chairman of the Board. He is also known as the Proprietor of the School.

## 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Brother Weller and Sister Gertrude Little, of the Glassport Branch recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on October 10, 1914, at Cumberland, Maryland. Brother and Sister Little have eight living children and 69 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As an added memory to this occasion they received a letter from President and Mrs. Gerald Gord, congratulating them on their anniversary and wishing them their blessings.

We also would like to congratulate Brother and Sister Little. Our prayers are that God will continue to bless them in the service of the king.

Robin Nicklow  
Glassport Editor

## Greetings to all of you in Christ:

The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life. (*Job 33:5*) Thanks for your concern toward me, I am deeply moved with humility.

If the bouts I have had in mine infirmities have stirred the love and concern of the Saints in my behalf, then I praise the Lord for such love.

I have learned in depth the meaning of Paul's words: "Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

I am well by the grace of God, and by the time you read these lines I am on my way again, if God wills. May I live for your sake and the sake of others whom I shall meet, according to God's purpose.

May His name be glorified in these our few fleeting years that He has allotted us.

I just received a letter from Sister Pat McLaughlin of Portland, Oregon informing me of her sister, Becky, and family of San Diego moving to Portland. She is formally Sister Nelson. Both sisters are God-filled dedicated women. May this be a beginning of the door being opened in Portland.

Several years ago I took a bus trip to Klamath Falls, Oregon; when Richard Castelli and a few others had moved there. At Woodland, 100 miles north from Modesto, California an elderly woman boarded the bus and sat next to me. She had her arm in a cast. She had been to see her daughter. As she heard me speaking of God, she said, "You see, God broke my arm." "Oh, no!", I exclaimed, "God has been accused of many things, but not of breaking His children's arms." During our many miles of travel I told her of the wondrous things that God does for us in spite of our unbelief. As we arrived at Klamath Falls, I suddenly noticed that I either misplaced or forgot the address of Richard Castelli. I was so embarrassed.

Turning to the woman I said, "I have been telling you all about the wondrous ways that God works and loves; now I find that I do not have my friend's address and it is 9:00 p.m." She replied, "You are a man of God; God will help you." I entered into a phone booth and whispered, "Lord, for this woman's sake won't you help now?" The name Rovolet came to my mind instead of Castelli. Castelli's address would have been of no value as he had moved and had no telephone.

As I opened the telephone directory and looked to the R column, my finger went to the name I sought though I did not know the proper spelling of the name. Willa answered the phone and I said, "Is this Rovolet's residence?" She replied, "Yes, Brother Marco. Where are you?" "Willa, how could you remember my voice?" I asked. She then said, "How can I forget? Stay there, we will be right over to get you. We have a surprise for you."

The lady of Portland was waiting outside of the booth. "I knew!" I just knew that God would help you," she said. "My heart was burning within me as you were telling me all about God's love to man; and if you find it in your heart, come to Portland and bring this gospel to us."

As Bob and Willa came, they presented their little babe to me. That was the surprise. They both embraced me. The woman came near and said to them, "Indeed this man is of God." With tears in her eyes, Willa replied, "We know it, we know it."

Many years have gone by and God is opening the door in Portland—not Brother Marco. How wonderful, how gracious is our everliving God. We praise Him and adore Him in life and in death.

These are days of opportunity to us. There is open an effectual door. Shall we do our part, or shall we wait for the next generation? The choice is ours. Do not waste your time with those who have no hope. Now is our opportunity. Let us stand up in Jesus' name.

Brother Marco Randy

Portland, Oregon  
November 3, 1974

Dear Brother Mark and Sister Mary,

This letter is way over due and I am sorry it has taken me so long to answer your most welcome letter.

Thank you for the subscription of *The Gospel News*. It was very thoughtful of you both.

I am glad you had a pleasant trip to the Northwest and saw some beauty in this part of the country. I am sorry your visit was so short. But it was nice seeing you both and I appreciate you going out of your way and taking the time to stop and visit. It is nice to know that there are people who care so much.

Starting Monday, November 4, I have a new job. It is a promotion within the bank and I am quite pleased; it's also much closer to home. Also, our landlord has sold our house so that means moving. My sister, Becky, and her husband, Paul, and their two children are moving to Portland and should be here December 5th or 6th. It will be wonderful to have some family here.

How are all of you there? Give my best to Joe and Sharon.

It is beautiful today. Fall has really set in; all the leaves have partially turned and most are on the ground. The sun is out and it's crisp outside. I love it like that.

Give my best to all your family and the Brothers and Sisters there. Best to you at Thanksgiving and always.

Thank you again for your nice letter and lovely thoughts. God bless you.

Love,  
Pat (McLaughlin)

## Note of Thanks . . .

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We wish to thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, calls, and visits which were a consolation to us at the passing away of our Mother. Your tokens of love to us are greatly appreciated and we pray that God will bless and reward you for your goodness.

With love  
The Maria Ross Family  
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

## POWER IN THE GOSPEL

We have just attended our first GMBA conference at the auditorium in Greensburg, what a beautiful weekend it was.

Driving there from Aliquippa with Brother John Ross Sr., we had a beautiful time. We talked about the power that the Gospel has and the power of the word of God. Approaching the auditorium Brother John asked me what I thought of it. I was awed by it. Not the sight of the building itself, but the work that the Brothers and Sisters have put into it. Looking at that building showed me that when God is in the matter, nothing is impossible. That goes for building a building or spreading the Gospel to the world.

During the evening program a song was sung that said "get all excited, go tell everybody that Jesus Christ is King." It made me think of the scripture that says "Go, ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." That is worth getting excited about. As Jesus Christ shared His word with us, so should we share His word with someone else. The Gospel of this Church is not for any one person or any one group of people, nor is it for any one country alone. This Gospel is to be preached to the world by the word of God. This Gospel is to be brought to them by the Saints of The Church of Jesus Christ, the children of God. Someone once brought this Gospel to me, a sinner in the eyes of God. Someone once brought this Gospel to all of us. The Lord teaches us to give from our hearts. What greater thing do we have to offer our fellow man than to share the word of God with them. As Peter said in scripture, "God is not a respecter of persons." Likewise this should hold true with all the Saints of God. The Apostles and missionaries of old such as Paul in the *Bible* and Aaron in the *Book of Mormon* went forth following the Spirit of God into foreign lands, preaching and teaching the word of God. They faced death, persecution, and a sinful world.

Times haven't changed the world much, time hasn't changed God's word one little bit. As the spirit of God did abide in Paul and Aaron in their day, so shall this same Spirit abide within us today. As it protected them in spreading the Gospel to their world; so shall it protect us today in spreading the Gospel to our world.

If good news only travels as fast as good people carry it, and children of God are good people with good news, then we have a large task at hand spreading the good news, the Gospel, to the world.

When you have something good inside of you and you don't let it out, it builds up force. If you ask God to direct this force through you, then as the scriptures say, this Gospel shall go forth in power. God is able, if we are willing.

God's word is eternal, everlasting, and for everybody.

Jesus Christ one day almost 2000 years ago traveled all the way to the cross to bring us the restored Gospel. Now the question we as Brothers and Sisters in the family of God almost 2000 years later need to ask ourselves is; "How far are we willing to travel to bring this restored Gospel to others?"

We sing the hymn "Hallelujah, the Gospel is Restored." Just imagine teaching it to someone in a foreign

land. I think in any and all languages it would sound beautiful to our ears.

This Gospel has the power to fill the world if we as Saints take the effort to carry it there personally.

May the Lord smile upon all the Saints.

Brother Phil Van Allsburg

—:—

## KNOW THYSELF

Have you learned to take the soundings of your own soul? Can you express the abundance of your own heart? It is a simple matter. So simple that you do not need the assistance of a neurologist or a psychiatrist. I am taught that as a man speaketh, so he thinketh, and so he is. This I believe is our key. Use it to unlock your heart, and when you discover the contents of your heart, do not hesitate to appraise sincerely any dross you may find. Examine it under the microscope of hard sense. Judge it according to the severest moral standards. Throughout the ages, sin has fought behind triple plates of armor, which is a perfect insulation of ignorance, and gay pleasure. Sin also fights today despite the progress of civilization.

*The youth of the church today must take the same fight against sin as did the youth and church of old. Remember, the old truths and God speaking out in the beginning of the Restoration, must still be our monitor in this day and time. Therefore, we must open our hearts to counsel and guidance that only God can give.*

We must cultivate a sensitive, but yet a stern delicate conscience.

Cling to your modesty as to your life. It is nature's protection of virtue. Remember, when that protection is scaled, life's sacred treasure is imperiled. Changes in our dress, naturally or spiritually without the sanction of the Almighty debases, and the guilt shall in time torment and perhaps intimidate. There is little courage in a timid conscience, but a guiltless heart knows no fear. *Stay away from that so-called pleasure which lessens the enjoyment of spiritual things and weakens our sense of the nearness of God. When we approach any pleasure, we must first count the cost. It should have the warrant that it is without sin and without excess. Fleshly pleasure is deadly. It increases the strength and authority of the body over the mind. No person can rise high in the beauty of God if he is careless in the sacred things of God.* Thus, for your guidance whoever you are, let me remind you of the words of a true man of God as he was directed to write, "Be not deceived. God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth, so shall he reap. He that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption. He that soweth to the spirit, shall of the spirit reap life everlasting." *Galatians, 6th chapter, 7th verse.*

Bob Ciarrochi





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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### INVOLVEMENT

by Brother Eugene Kline

Guest Editoralist

First, let's establish an understanding on Webster's definition of involvement: "to occupy absorbingly."

Jesus became involved by healing the sick man when He said, "Rise. Take up thy bed and walk." After being accused by the Jews for doing this miracle on the Sabbath day, He sought this same man and found him in the temple. Then Jesus said unto him, "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." (John 5:14) However, Jesus wasn't shaken by His people who sought His life for this deed, for He was totally committed to the work of His Father; therefore, He willingly became involved.

To understand this we must first know that, again, according to Webster, the meaning of "commitment" is: "to pledge or assign to some particular course or use." Jesus' commitment was, of course, to His Father and The Church.

When we were born in Christ, we also made a promise—that being: to serve God all the days of our lives and to the best of our ability. This is quite a pledge to make; however, we must have had the desire to become involved in the work of God, to commit ourselves to it.

But sometimes we become so deeply involved in the things of this world, that we tend to forget our commitment to God and soon grow spiritually weak. Jesus explained this as being "lukewarm." It is this period in our lives that we tend to fall into sin, as the result of forgetting our commitment to become actively involved in the things of the Lord.

It is also during this period that we face a very grave crisis in our commitment to God. It seems that the blessings and experiences we need to remain strong and faithful are brought out, if we continue to involve ourselves in God's work, just as it was in the parable of the good Samaritan. Who was it that passed the injured man by? The first was the Priest who was the minister for that day. The second was the Levite who was charged with the care of the temple. Both of these men were looked upon as Godly. Then thirdly was the Samaritan who was held in contempt and reproach by the Jews.

Now, although the first two were committed to the work of the Lord, they obviously wished not to become involved. But this Samaritan became committed through his involvement.

Therefore, these two words, (1) involved and (2) committed, become related in realizing that we cannot commit ourselves without becoming involved. Joshua must have realized this when he said to the children of Israel, "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Too often we realize too late in life that there truly is much enjoyment in committing our lives to Christ. The poet penned these words:

*"Give of your best to the Master; give of the strength of your youth."*



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### David, the Kind King

Dear Girls and Boys,

David was now the King of Israel. He remembered many times of the love he had for his dear friend, Prince Jonathan. Jonathan and his father Saul had been killed in battle. Jonathan had left a little son five years old. The little boy was named Mephibosheth. When the news of Jonathan's death came, Mephibosheth's nurse snatched the little boy up and fled to a place of safety. In her haste she let the little boy fall and he was badly hurt. He grew up lame. For a long, long time the nurse kept their hiding place a secret.

One day King David remembered the promise he and Jonathan had made to each other that each would look after each other's children if anything ever happened to them. David asked some members of his court if there were any left of the House of Saul? For Jonathan's sake he wanted to be kind to them. One remembered there was a servant named Ziba who might know. Immediately David sent for Ziba.

David was happy that Ziba was found and came to him. He asked, "Is there not any of the House of Saul left that I may show kindness of God unto him?" Ziba replied, "Jonathan has a son, who is lame on his feet. He is in the house of Machir." David sent at once for Jonathan's son. When the lame prince came before the king, he was afraid. He bowed low before David and said, "Behold thy servant." David said, "Do not be afraid, for I will surely show you kindness for your father's sake. I will restore to you all the land of your grandfather King Saul, and you shall eat bread at my table forever."

Then King David called Ziba and put him in charge of all the property for Mephibosheth. Ziba was to have part of the income to support himself. He had fifteen sons and twenty servants. Mephibosheth could now live with all the dignity of a king's son, thanks to his father's friend King David. His family came and lived in Jerusalem and true to David's promise, they ate at his table continually.

What a wonderful way for David to honor his dear friend's memory. He had kept the promise they had made long, long ago when Jonathan had warned David by the signal of the arrows, that he was in danger and over the jealousy of King Saul.

Next month I will tell you another story about David. It is DAVID THE PSALMIST.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### The California District Ladies Uplift Circle Meeting

The California District Ladies Uplift Circle meeting was held in Bell, California on November 2, 1974.

Opening scripture was read from Psalm 139; it was read by Sister Mavis Hayward. Opening prayer was offered by Sister Evelyn Perdue. The thought from Psalm 139 was carried into our testimony meeting, and that thought was "be thankful for the small things in our lives."

A beautiful letter was read from our Ladies Circle Sisters in Fort Defiance, Arizona. It began with the heading, "We've Come This Far By Faith." This is the title of one of our songs as our hearts were touched by this letter. These Sisters have fasted much and have had to leave much behind, but they are standing fast and truly have had to depend on God for all their needs.

Also a letter was read from Sister Vio Thomas urging us at this Thanksgiving time to truly be thankful for all our blessings.

Brother John Azzinaro spoke to us and urged us to donate to Pine Top for Christmas and Thanksgiving.

The various Circle presidents related the different activities and worship services held in their meetings.

Sister Perdue gave an inspiring report about the progress of the work in Sinaloa and Mexico City.

Brother Charles Curry encouraged us to continue in serving God and He will bless us in our endeavors to serve Him.

Brother Edward Perdue told us that we were an example to the Sisters in Tijuana, and they in turn are trying to help those that are less fortunate than they.

Brother John Azzinaro read in *Proverbs* about a virtuous woman.

Brother Jim Tucker visited Jerusalem and felt much freedom in preaching the *Book of Mormon*. One man he approached said that he knew beforehand that Brother Jim had a message for him.

In the evening, Bell's program consisted of parodies on television commercials changing certain words to scriptural or spiritual.

Our thanks to Bell for such wonderful hospitality. Also we want to thank the Bell Brothers for graciously consenting to serve the meals so that the Sisters could enjoy the meeting.

Sister Joan McNabb

\* \* \*

### "We've Come This Far By Faith" Saturday, October 19, 1974

There are five women in our mission. We all felt very strongly that we needed to have a Ladies Circle. When the officers and members of the California District Ladies Circle came to our mission we told them of our desires. We were organized in August of this year. Being only five we realized very quickly that we were all needed to be

active participants. Each of us holds three offices and rarely do we have less than 100% in attendance.

We felt to come together in fasting and prayer that we might unite our hearts and think of one another's needs. This fast was called as a result of the needs of each of us and our desires to draw closer to God and learn more of his plan for each of us.

We chose to meet on land which was leased to us by the Red Lake Chapter for purposes of an experimental farm. To each of us this land has had great meaning in our lives, and so we felt it would be a place to begin our talk with God.

We looked to the beautiful mountains that face us on every side, and while sitting on the ground we began to pray. There is so much to pray for. We felt so committed while we remembered one another's needs.

We are just a small mission and in order for us to go on this fast apart from our families, everyone in the mission had to support us. The fathers as well as the single young men took care of our children for the day. That meant feeding, changing diapers and so on.

We have looked forward to these rare quiet moments together for we knew that as women in a land and life new to us, that God must touch us and direct our thoughts.

Tremendous rock-like mountains surround the reservation. Many times while looking at them we felt the strength and peace of God. On this afternoon for the first time, we traveled behind them and then climbed to a place where we again prayed and spoke of the marvels to unfold in the future.

Even now as we write beneath a tall pine the beauty of God's Creation is before us.

We live in Navajo Land as residents of Fort Defiance, Arizona. As a result of the great plan of God each of us and our families felt His direction in moving.

The beginning of this summer none of us had a permanent home. Within one week's time four of us were given one day's notice to leave our temporary summer housing. Only God knows how frightened we all were. Perhaps it was His way of making us lean on Him and trust in His wisdom.

Through much prayer, Mary and Rob Duncan were able to purchase their own home, and Candee Calabrese also was provided for.

Judy and Dennis Calabrese had temporary teachers housing provided. Elaine and Dwayne Jordan and Donna Ciccatti and their families moved into a single trailer together.

Thus began the long wait. All three families had purchased permanent housing, but due to no electricity, water or gas, were unable to move in for two and a half months. Here, too, God has His purposes. Faith, patience and appreciation are three words which have come to take on a new meaning.

Even in the purchase of Elaine and Judy's trailers there is a beautiful experience to be told.

After praying for God's direction they felt especially inspired to deal with a man who had only three trailers to sell. The purchases were made. After two and one half months, while the trailers were being set up we were told that this man, along with his church had prayed that God

would send them someone special to buy these trailers. Even the call of confirmation of purchase came while he was in prayer about it.

Today, as a result of this fast and many others, while we write to you; our water is running and our gas and electricity have become a reality this very day. God hears and does answer prayers in His own due time.

We are not with you in body, but the Spirit moving within us hopefully has reached you all at this time.

Your Sisters in Christ,  
Mary Duncan  
Judy Calabrese  
Candace Calabrese  
Donna Ciccatti  
Elaine Jordan

\* \* \*

## MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET HELD IN OHIO AREA

On Saturday evening, October 5, 1974, at 6:30 p.m., the second Mother-Daughter Banquet of the Ohio Area was held at the Ramada Inn Restaurant in Wickliffe, Ohio. A nice group of mothers, daughters, grandmothers, aunts, sisters of The Church, and friends met for an enjoyable evening. There was a representation from Cleveland, Youngstown, Niles, Warren and Perry Branches.

The dinner prayer was offered by Sister Jean Pusateri of Youngstown, Ohio. After dinner and some socializing with one another, Sister Sevilla Gibson, hostess for the evening, introduced our guest speaker, Sister Teresa Pandone, of Youngstown. She chose for her topic "Family Relationships." Highlights of her speech stressed the importance of a good working relationship between mother, father, and children. Sister Teresa stated, "The most sacred trust of the home is to train the capacity for LOVE so that every child can come to know a relationship with God as his Heavenly Father." To try and quote our Sister would be an injustice, as truly the words that she spoke were inspired of God.

As the program continued, a song entitled "Medals for Mothers" was sung by Sister Madia Elliott and her two daughters, Sister Chris and Sister Kathy. Recitations on various mothers of the Bible were presented by the following: Sister Sue Pandone and Sister Carolyn Martorano of Niles, Sister Karen Pandone and Sandy Santilli of Youngstown, Diane Miller of Warren, Sister Cindy Gibson of Cleveland and Sheree Elliott of Perry, Ohio.

A short story entitled: "Why Moms Are Something Special" was read by Sister Roberta Hufnagle. She then sang the beautiful hymn "Fill My Cup, Lord." Special recognition was bestowed upon our Sisters who had been in the Gospel for many years. They were as follows: Sister Madalena Ranieri 42 years, Sister Carmella Ventura 47 years, Sister Erma Milano 43 years, Sister Gladys (Gibson) Brent 43 years, Sister Rose Eiletz 53 years, Sister Sarah Manes 48 years, Sister Nilda Buoscio 42 years, and Sister Jean Pusateri 24 years. Indeed these Sisters have been an inspiration and spiritual mothers to us all.

(Continued on next page)

# M. B. A. Highlights

by James D. Gibson, GMBA Editor

## GMBA CONFERENCE

The semi-annual GMBA Conference was held on November 9, 1974 at Greensburg, Pennsylvania at the General Church Auditorium where quite a group gathered to transact the day's business.

The conference was under the capable guidance of Brothers Paul Palmieri, Don Ross and Joe Milantoni.

Roll call of officers found most in attendance with Sisters Lydia Link and Rosemary Furitano acting as secretaries pro-tem in the absence of Sisters Ruth Rogallo and Karen Milantoni.

A report was received from Brother Domenic Moraco concerning the progress of the Lesson Plans of the *Book of Mormon*. He stated that work is still moving along toward completion.

The paperback edition of the *Book of Mormon* has been printed with 4,000 copies made available. They will sell for \$1.00 each with the exception that they are free for use in any mission field.

New standardized minute report blanks for Locals are also ready. They can be had from the GMBA Librarian, Brother Joe Draskovich.

Brother Joe Carlini of Detroit, Michigan, Camp Director for the '74 Campout at Cheboygan, Michigan gave his report. He thanked all who attended, all committee members and those who assisted in any way to make the camp a success. The camp song was "Do You Know My Jesus" and was sung with enthusiasm over and over by all.

Next a report was given by Brother Alex Gentile on the progress of "Copyrights of Songs". He explained that we now have 96 songs on a list that we can use.

There was no progress by the committee that was formed to expedite conference business matters.

Possibly a spiritual gathering will be held in some future year if no campout is held. (It was voted later to hold a campout in the Pennsylvania area for 1975).

The officers in attendance gave their reports. Reporting were the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Librarian, Historian, Editor and Auditors.

The following Area Presidents gave reports: Brother Bob Nicklow, Pennsylvania Area; Brother Peter Scolaro, Michigan-Ontario; Brother Jon Gennaro, Ohio Area.

They all stated that their respective MBA Areas are striving to remain active and hold projects and meetings throughout the year.

Election of officers found some new people in office for the coming year: Brother Lou Vitto, Chaplain; Sister Robin Nicklow and Sister Mary Ann Ensana, Assistant Secretaries; Brother Wayne Mortorano, Treasurer.

The conference voted to hold the "75 Campout" at Camp Lutherlyn, Butler, Pennsylvania. Camp will be held from August 9 to August 16.

A goal of \$4,000 was set for the coming six-month period. If each Local of the MBA can raise \$200 the goal can be met. (Attention MBA Presidents of the Locals).

The following money was donated by the conference: \$700 for emergency in any mission field that may arise; \$600 for motorcycle repairs in Nigeria; \$700 toward purchase of stationwagon for mission work.

The conference was well attended and was "capped off" by an inspiring evening program. The Michigan-Ontario Area presented a program exhorting us to get excited about Christ and His Church. Their singing was well inspired with God's blessing.

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

The *Book of Mormon* was translated by the power of God through Joseph Smith, but how exactly was it done?

David Whitmer, one of the three who witnessed the translation of the gold plates into what is now the *Book of Mormon*, gave reference to that account in some of his writings. I will proceed to describe in simplicity what David Whitmer\* has written.

Joseph Smith put the seer stone into a hat. He then put his face into the hat blocking out all the light. A spiritual light shone within the hat and "something resembling parchment" appeared. One figure at a time would appear, with the English translation below it. Joseph Smith would read the English translation to Oliver Cowdery, who would write it down. Oliver Cowdery would then read it back to Joseph Smith to make sure it was correct. It would then disappear and a new figure with its translation would take its place.

\* See David Whitmer's, *An Address To All Believers In Christ*.

## MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET . . .

(Continued from page 7)

The door prize, a white Bible, was presented to Terri Santilli of Youngstown, Ohio by Sister Kathy Boerner. Sister Donna Kline presented a small Bible to our new Sister, Sheree Elliott, who was to be baptized the next day at the Perry Branch.

We can say that it was an evening long to be remembered by all who attended. The main reason for our gathering was not so much to have dinner, but to meet one with another and to instill within the hearts of our young daughters (and Sisters) the importance of their role in the Gospel. Many of them will become mothers in the future, and our prayer is that, as Sister Pandone stated in her talk, "They too will leave a spiritual heritage to their children as our parents left to us."

Sister Betty Santilli

## - Branch and Mission News -

### Blessings in the Hopelawn, N.J. Branch

On Sunday, September 22, 1974, this branch surely was blessed and infused with the love of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We had visitors from the Niles, Ohio branch, Brother Ron Gennaro, an Elder, and Brothers John Gennaro and Wayne Mortorano. Brother Ron delivered an inspiring sermon on the Apostle Peter. Only in the True Church can such warmth and brotherly love be felt when the Saints gather from near and far. Our hearts and souls rejoiced and the singing of hymns and the testimonies of the brethren and sisters gave full indication that the Holy Ghost was in our midst.

We missed our brothers and sisters who had afflictions and could not be present. Yet the Apostle Paul stated in *Colossians 2:5-7*,

"For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

We observed the ordinance of feet washing to bring the day to a wondrous spiritual fruition.

Sister Helen Kovacs

### McKees Rocks News

Tuesday, October 15, was our "welcome back night" for the Brother Dick Lawson family to McKees Rocks from Metuchen, New Jersey. Originally from the McKees Rocks Branch, Brother Dick, Sister Erma and their children moved to Metuchen 7 years ago.

A good attendance of Brothers, Sisters and friends helped make the potluck dinner a success. After the dinner, we had a short singing meeting, during which Brother Dick expressed his thanks and his happiness at being "home".

We know the Metuchen Branch has suffered a loss, but pray that it, along with our gain, will be of much benefit.

### Two Baptisms at Lorain, Ohio Branch

The Lorain Branch enjoyed another wonderful day in the service of the Lord on Sunday, October 27. They were also cheered as the holy ordinance of baptism was administered to two new converts.

Philip Kay Dore was baptized by Brother Joseph Calabrese and confirmed by Brother Frank Calabrese.

Jewell Lee Evans was baptized and confirmed by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

There was a very good feeling during the service. May God richly bless and direct Brother Dore and Sister Evans as they begin their journey on the straight and narrow way.

### Perry, Ohio Branch Welcomes Two New Members

The Saints of the Perry Branch experienced extra blessings on separate occasions.

On Sunday, October 6, Brother Elmer Santilli immersed Joan Sheree Elliott in the waters of baptism. Brother Ron Genaro confirmed Sister Elliott as a member of The Church. It was a beautiful fall day.

On Thursday, October 30, Randy Lee Brooks was baptized by Brother Eugene Kline and confirmed by Brother Elmer Santilli.

The Perry Branch has been cheered and uplifted by the baptisms of these two new converts.

We pray God's blessings upon each of them and may He direct their ways continually.

### Monongahela Branch News

"The Brave Ones" was the theme for our annual Vacation Bible School held from August 12 to 22, the average daily attendance was in the nineties and included children from nine different denominations. As usual, the lessons and songs were written by Sister Mabel Bickerton, who also served as the Bible School director. The Brave Ones included Moses, Noah, Esther, Daniel, Abinadi, Samuel the Lamanite, John the Baptist and the three Hebrew children—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Handcrafts were made to correspond with the lessons and give the children some mementoes to take home.

A quilt was made by the high school class, picturing Noah and the Ark. It is customary to present the quilt to someone from our Branch who is engaged in missionary work for The Church. It was decided to give this quilt to Brother and Sister Hemmings who are in Pine Top. Brother David Hemmings accepted the quilt in behalf of his parents and sent it to Arizona to them.

Once again it was shown what can be accomplished with desire and effort.

### BAPTISM

The most thrilling words in our church vocabulary must be "I want to be baptized!" At this moment an individual indicates his choice of serving the Lord and decides to begin a new life in the gospel. In our afternoon fellowship meeting on August 18, Rosemary Pettyjohn surprised the congregation and, most of all, her mother when she stood and declared those beautiful words: "I want to be baptized!" The meeting suddenly came to an abrupt halt and we went to the Monongahela river for the baptism. Brother Idris Martin immersed Rosemary in the liquid grave to fulfill Christ's words: "Ye must be born again." She was confirmed by Brother John Griffith as we continued our meeting.

As Rosemary joins her mother in the gospel, we pray that together they will be an example of godliness to the rest of their family as well as their friends. May God continue to bless the children of the Saints as they strive to follow the footsteps of their parents in serving the Lord.

Brother Richard Scaglione  
Monongahela Branch Editor

## Ordinations At Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

On October 27, 1974, the Aliquippa Branch was fortunate to have visiting with us five Evangelists, one Apostle, and two Elders. They had come to witness and participate in the ordination of Brother Joseph Ross into the Ministry, and Brother Paul Palmieri into the office of Evangelist.

Our morning service was opened by Brother Joseph Bittinger of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. He used as his text the *twelfth chapter of Acts*, how Peter was released from prison, and the attitude of the Church at that time. Brother Joe expounded on this very well and concluded by saying that God has acted in the past to help His servants and He will do the same today, even if it must be by sending an angel. He was followed by Brothers George Johnson and Fred Olexa. Brother Anthony Ross, the presiding Elder, concluded by relating an experience of his grandmother, Sister Maria Rossi.

A few years ago, our Sister Rossi was in the hospital for the first time, at the age of 81. As she began to cry unto the Lord for aid, the Lord appeared to her at the foot of her bed along with her son, Brother John Ross, and other Elders. She was very comforted at this time.

Brother James Campbell closed our morning service with prayer.

The afternoon service was opened by singing "Our Church", followed by prayer by Brother James Moore. After a few opening remarks from Brother Anthony Ross, we went into the ordinations. Brother Joseph Ross was ordained as an Elder by the washing of feet by Brother James Moore, Jr. Brother Joseph Bittinger then anointed him with oil as he ordained him into the Priesthood.

Brother Paul Palmieri's father, Brother Anthony Palmieri, washed his feet, and Brother John Manes ordained him into the office of Evangelist.

Both Brothers expressed themselves and the beautiful day came to an end. We sang the appropriate hymn, "I Ought To Do Something For Jesus", and Brother James Moore closed the meeting with prayer.

### VISITORS

On Wednesday, November 6, 1974, the Aliquippa Branch was very glad to have a surprise visit from Brother Gorie Ciaravino and his wife, Sister Antionette. Brother Gorie opened our Wednesday night service by using the *seventh chapter of John*. We were all edified with his words.

On Friday, November 8, 1974, Brother Philip Van Allsburg of Detroit Branch No. 4, visited our M.B.A. service. He showed slides of the Papago Indians of Arizona. Brother Phil has spent considerable time teaching these people on the Reservation. He made a very excellent presentation, depicting the conditions of the Papago people. It helped us relate to things we take for granted in our normal way of living and realize how fortunate we are. May God bless these people, not only spiritually but also materially.

## Niles Is Blessed Again

On Sunday, September 29, 1974, we had the privilege of having Brother Mario Milano and Sister Milano from

Cleveland, Ohio and Brother Elmer Santilli and family from Perry, Ohio, visit with us.

Brother Mario opened the morning service, using for his text the *Fifth Chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel*; the Sermon on the Mount. Brother Elmer followed and elaborated on how the people in the time of Christ, showed no mercy. He mentioned how Saul was not a merciful man until the Lord entered his heart.

In our fellowship meeting we heard many wonderful testimonies and a few more visitors from Perry came into our midst. Joan Sheree Elliott, who was visiting with us all day, asked to be baptized. She wanted to wait until the following Sunday so that her parents could witness her baptism in Perry. We also had four young brothers from the New Jersey area with us. I can truly say we all felt the love and Spirit of God. We ask you might continue to pray for us in Niles and we will try to remember each of you.

Sister Wanda Pandone

## Lorain, Ohio Branch Welcomes New Member

The Lorain Branch membership happily welcomes Joel Thomas Calabrese as their newest member.

He requested baptism during the California Area M.B.A. Campout that was held at White River, Arizona.

On Wednesday, August 14, Joel was immersed in the waters of baptism by his brother, Brother Dennis Calabrese. He was later confirmed by his father, Brother Joseph Calabrese.

May God bless Brother Joel as he joins his parents and family in the wonderful service of God.

## Hear Ye the Word

On October 27, 1974, Brother Pete Capone, before leaving for his new home in Arizona, spent Sunday morning at our Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan.

He began his sermon from the *7th chapter of Jeremiah*. Jeremiah was a good worker for the Lord. He was tortured and even accused of being a spy. One time he became very discouraged in his efforts. He felt no one was listening to his words. Jeremiah wanted to give up. As he had second thoughts, he referred to his service to God as a — burning fire within him. So Jeremiah went on to fulfill his mission.

Brother Pete said he understood how frustrating it was to talk and to know that no one is listening. He said, the children of Abraham did not listen to the prophets and they lost all that they had, including their freedom. He said, "They were going through all the religious rituals, but they were not obeying the commandments of God. Everybody did that which seemed good in their own sight."

In Brother Pete's final words, he told us to hold fast to the truth. Because the house of Israel did not hold fast, they lost not only the truth, they lost their freedom.

Brother Dominic Moraco was also visiting us that day. He was our second speaker. Brother Dominic spoke

to us about the captivity of Israel. How for 400 years they lived in bondage because they did not listen to God's word.

He said even after Christ came, man still was not listening. On the day of Pentecost there were 3,000 who repented and were baptized. He wondered though, how many heard the word and did not listen.

In closing Brother Dominic said on the day of Pentecost they were given all the gifts of the spirit. But God gave His people one special gift that could not be copied by the devil. That gift was our love for one another, the gift called charity.

Just before our meeting was closed Sister Francis Capone, Brother Pete's wife, gave her testimony. She said while looking for a home in Arizona, she had a dream. Sister Gioia came to her and told her, "Don't worry, Friday or Saturday I'll help you find a home".

Sister Francis said her son took her out to look at homes, and indeed she found just what she had been looking for.

We will all miss Brother and Sister Capone as they leave for their new home in Arizona. As they travel west we will send with them, prayers of love asking for God's guiding hand to watch over them.

Sister Diana Thompson

## Good News from the West Coast

One of the beauties of the Gospel News is that, unlike almost all other newspapers, from cover to cover all you read is good news. I guess it depends on whose Kingdom you're reporting on. All the good news is coming from the Kingdom of God and all the bad news is coming from the Kingdom of the Devil (the world).

The good news I have is from the California District Conference held on the weekend of September 7 and 8. One of the highlights of the business meeting was the establishment of a new branch in Lindsay, California.

On Sunday morning it was standing room only in the San Fernando Valley Church auditorium. Brother Robert Watson, District President, presided over the meeting. He left the meeting open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. One of our recently ordained ministers, Brother Edmond Buccelato, was inspired to open the service. He stirred up the congregation by giving them the same challenge Alma gave the Zoramites (Alma 32:27-43) to arouse their faculties and perform an experiment of faith upon the word of God to determine if it was not satisfying to the soul.

Then followed a series of speakers, all verifying the truth of Brother Edmond's words with their own personal experiments of faith. Brother Dwayne Jordan related an experience he had recently in Fort Defiance. He was working underneath a car when the jack gave way and the car fell on top of him and crushed him. He was trapped because the full weight of the car was resting on top of him. As he cried out for help, Brother Pete Genaro lifted up the car and Sister Candee Calabrese pulled him out. (Brother Pete knows it was the Lord who picked up the car because he could never lift it alone). Brother Dwayne said he felt something snap in his back when the car fell. After being pulled out he could not move

and had difficulty breathing. Someone wanted to call for an ambulance, but our brother asked for a minister instead. Brother Pete rushed to my home and brought me to the scene of the accident. I anointed him right where he was. When I had finished, Brother Dwayne exercised his faith and lifted himself off the ground and exclaimed he was healed. Five days later he was in the woods logging with the rest of us.

I followed Brother Dwayne and spoke concerning my experience in the Soviet Union in 1968. At that time I was arrested at a border patrol and falsely accused of espionage and smuggling. We were not allowed to contact anyone in our defense. Our only hope was in God. We prayed continually for our freedom. Miraculously on the fifth day they had a change of heart and released us. Later that same day, astonished government officials told us they never expected the Russians to let us go. I will never forget God's mercy to me during my time of greatest need for I was so undeserving and still am.

Brother Richard Christman was the next speaker. Following the same theme he told us of the desire he had in his youth to work amongst the Seed of Joseph. He had faith that someday God would grant him this opportunity, although he was working in a coal mine at the time. Truly the Lord has rewarded his faith because now he is the Superintendent of BIA schools on the Papago Reservation.

Brother Joe Ciarolla spoke next. He related an experience he had several years ago when a little boy pulled him out of an irrigation canal where he was drowning.

We thank the Lord for an inspiring weekend.

Brother Larry Watson

## Deaconess Ordained at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2

Detroit Branch No. 2 welcomed a new Deaconess on Sunday, November 3, 1974, with the ordination of Sister Philomena DiRado.

Sister DiRado's feet were washed by Sister Rose Milantoni. Brother Querino Bologna then ordained her to the office of Deaconess.

Our Branch also had feet washing, and we enjoyed the presence of Brother Joseph and Sister Rose Milantoni who were visiting from San Carlos, Arizona. God's spirit was manifested throughout the meeting.

We pray that God will bless and direct Sister DiRado in the performance of the duties of her Holy office.

### 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

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Eleanor Tracy to Andrew and Theresa Locci of Rochester, New York,

Ryan Keith to Dale and Kathryn Groff of Greensburg, Pennsylvania,

Jose Edgardo to Juan and Gladys Gonzalez of Lorain, Ohio.

## — WEDDINGS —

## ZUCCO - GENNARO

Mr. Anthony Joseph Zucco and Sister Gail Ann Gennaro were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, December 7, 1974 at the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. They were married by Brother Donald Pandone.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Teresa Pandone, organist; and vocalist, Mr. Robert Gray.

The couple are making their residence in Boardman, Ohio.

## SMITH - KELLY

Mr. Steve Smith and Miss Linda Kelly were united in the bonds of holy wedlock on August 20, 1974 at Greensburg, Pennsylvania. They were married by Brother Oskar Hagen in the General Church Auditorium.

Musical selections were presented by Brother Joe and Sister Erma Draskovich.

The newlyweds will reside in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

## THOMAS - KING

Mr. Robert C. Thomas and Miss Donna J. King were united in holy marriage on November 15, 1974 at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. They were united in marriage by Brother Joseph Shazer in The Church of Jesus Christ, Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

The couple will reside in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

## BONADUCE - SGRO

Mr. Joseph Bonaduce and Sister Rose Ann Sgro were united in holy wedlock in New Brunswick, New Jersey. The service was officiated by Brothers Salvatore Sgro and Carmen Sgro in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Florence Risola, pianist; and soloist, Sister Linda Gomes.

The newlyweds will reside in Piscataway, New Jersey.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

## MARIA ROSS

Sister Maria Ross passed on to her eternal reward on November 16, 1974, at the age of 87. She was a faithful member of the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was baptized on June 24, 1928.

Surviving are three sons, two daughters, twelve grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

Brothers Anthony Ross and Paul Palmieri conducted the funeral services.

Her family will surely miss her, as well as the Saints and friends in the Church.

## JUNE T. LOEWENTHAL

Sister June T. Loewenthal, a member of the Bronx, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed on to her heavenly reward on November 3, 1974. She was born March 16, 1933 and was baptized October 16, 1955.

She is survived by her husband, her parents, two sisters, and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother A. A. Corrado at Youngstown, Ohio. She was laid to rest at the Tod Homestead Cemetery, Youngstown, Ohio.

June was a very faithful servant to God and her husband, Ludwig. She will be greatly missed by her family and members of the Youngstown, Ohio and Bronx, New York Branches.

## CONCETTA PAGNIOZZI

Sister Concetta Pagniozzi passed on to her eternal reward on November 11, 1974. She was a faithful member of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on May 28, 1891, and was baptized July 10, 1932.

Surviving are three sons, four daughters, ten grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Salvatore Sgro.

Sister Concetta was a faithful and avid follower of Christ for many years. She will be missed by all who knew her.

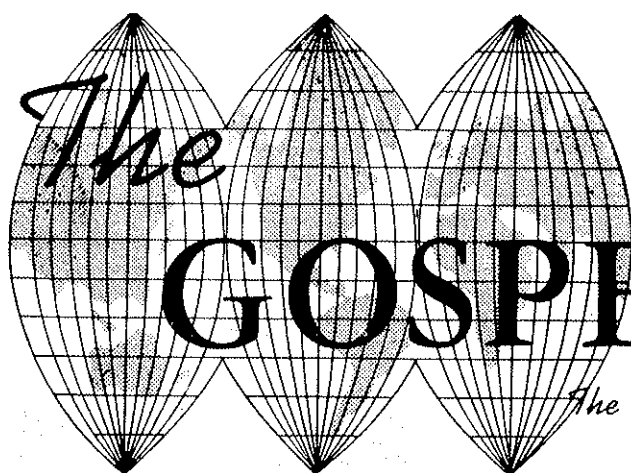
## PAUL VANCİK, SR.

Brother Paul Vancik, Sr. of the Monongahela, Pa. Branch passed on to his heavenly reward on November 24, 1974. Brother Paul was born on January 24, 1886. He was baptized into The Church on May 30, 1909 and was later ordained to the offices of Elder and Evangelist.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother John Olexa and he was laid to rest in the Monongahela Cemetery.

Our Brother was a faithful worker in The Church and brought many souls to the knowledge of the Restored Gospel. He was blessed with the gift of tongues on many occasions. We pray that God will bless his family and loved ones with the assurance that Brother Paul is now resting in the Paradise of God.





# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

February, 1975

Volume 31, No. 2

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA

Approximately 100 miles east of Phoenix and 120 miles north of Tucson lies a territory known as the San Carlos Apache Indian reservation. The reservation contains approximately 1,800,000 square acres of mountains, valleys, mesas, rivers, lakes, washes or dry river beds, lush and scraggly vegetation, deserts, immense forests, extensive cattle grazing lands, etc. In varying degrees of abundance is found game animals such as deer, bear, antelope, javelina (wild pig), etc. Bass, catfish and other panfish are found in San Carlos lake, a short distance from the village of San Carlos. In the large reservation area dwell 4,000 or more Apache Indians.

The Apache, as well as the Navajo, were related to the Athabaskan-speaking tribes of Northwestern Canada. Sometime after A.D. 1000 they drifted southward, entered and settled along the Colorado-New Mexico boundary between the Chama and San Juan Rivers. They later spread south and west into today's Navajo country. The Apache separated from the Navajo and eventually occupied and roamed as far south as Texas (the Mescalero—"Mess-kah-lair-o") and as far east as Kansas (the Jicarilla—"he-kah-ree'-ya").

Approximately in 1961, the Gospel of Jesus Christ was introduced to the Apache on the San Carlos Reservation by The Church of Jesus Christ with Headquarters in Monongahela, Pennsylvania. The revelation of their true origin brought great joy and hope to those that believed and accepted the *Book of Mormon* and the restoration belief. The Lord confirmed these great truths to them by great manifestations of His power. Miracles, healings, outpourings of Spirit and great blessings were bestowed in great abundance upon those early adherents of the faith.

Today, those that have proven faithful, still speak with great awe and respect for that great God who brought such wonderful joy into their lives. Listening to the Brothers and Sisters recount their experiences of miracles, healings, and great blessings makes you so tremendously proud of The Church of Jesus Christ that strives so diligently to be the "fishers" and "hunters" of Israel. The magnitude of those miracles and healings are indicative of God's great love for them and His determination to prove to them that He is their Shepherd and King. All that is required of them is to love and serve Him.

Last Sunday night, (December 29) I heard Sister

Nash relate how her grandson was healed of cancer. A few weeks ago, Sister Isadore Kayson spoke of her niece, I believe, who was unable to walk for the longest time. Sister Isadore brought this three year old child to a fast and prayer service to be anointed. After the girl was anointed, Sister Isadore carried her back home and laid her on her bed. And then, praise God, the prayer of faith was answered. The youngster, unknown and unseen by anyone, got off the bed and began playing and running. That is when everyone of that household saw the Power of God manifested by that healing. Today, this youngster is 13 years old and perfectly healthy.

God has not changed. We continue to see God move miraculously in the lives of the faithful in San Carlos. We have seen the poor provided for in a most wonderful way; the sick made well; the blind receive their sight, etc. This past summer, all the buildings of the compound were badly infested with scorpions. Throughout this whole period of time, we saw mothers unconcernedly laying their children on the floor of the church or in the play pen located in one of our Sunday School rooms. Not one of the youngsters was bitten by these insects. One young mother picked her baby up out of the play pen and in the blanket underneath the baby was a scorpion. The baby was not touched, praise God.

Faith in God is more than an idle expression. It is a way of life, a standard in spiritual excellence that only a few achieve. Sister Anita Hopkins, a Deaconess of the mission in San Carlos, is one of those beautiful people that has demonstrated great faith in God. Her world could have been crushed many times because of the trials and heartaches of life she has experienced. She is a widowed mother of perhaps 11 children. Recently, one of her sons died in a most heartbreaking and tragic way. At the wake, on the eve of her son's burial, our mission group went forward to the microphone to sing a few hymns to comfort her, the young man's wife, Theresa, and two small children. When we arrived at the microphone, Sister Anita left her place of mourning and joined our group and sang with us. She never missed a service throughout this entire trying ordeal.

While the priesthood was anointing a very afflicted young Sister, a vision was seen in which the Lord descended and stood directly above the Sister and the Elders praying for her. The Sister heard the Lord say one word, "Amen!". She was instantly healed! Praise God for His Church and His love for His People!

San Carlos, a land of mountains, valleys, animals, vegetation, and most important, a land where the seed of Joseph dwells. More important still, the *Book of Mormon*, a book full of merit, it speaks to Joseph's seed from the dust "by the power of His Spirit, a voice from the Saviour, that Saints can rely on, to watch for the day when He brings again Zion."

A few nights ago, Brother Ron Dyer, a wonderful young Brother with an intense desire to see Israel restored, and a whole van load of our people were driving through the reserve after a service. We began to sing "An Angel Came Down From The Mansions of Glory." My beloved Brother and Sisters, we all wept as God filled our souls and the van with His rich blessings.

Our prayer is always that God will continually bless this most beautiful Church, The Church of Jesus Christ. It is our only real refuge in life, our only real purpose for living, our only real hope in this life and that which is to come. I want to join my voice and my heart with yours as we sing in praise to our God, "O Church of God, the day of Jubilee, has dawned so bright and glorious for thee; rejoice be glad, the Shepherd has begun, His long divided flock again to gather into one!" God bless you always is my prayer.

Brother Joe Milantoni, Missionary  
The San Carlos, Arizona Mission  
Field

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Is there a difference between feeling the Spirit of God, and being filled with the Spirit?

As humans each of us will one day, in some way come in contact with the Spirit. For instance, on the day of our baptism. We know we have been washed clean because the living Spirit tells us so. This is merely a small taste of the Spirit. It comes also in other forms such as, the love we feel for one another, our new kind of understanding, the kind of joyful blessings that bring tears to our eyes, and even healings. But Nephi and Moses felt and knew God's Spirit on much different terms.

Nephi says: "... Behold I am full of the Spirit of God, insomuch that my frame has no strength." (*1 Nephi 17:47*)

In verse 48 he says: "... I am filled with the power of God unto the consuming of my flesh; and whoso shall lay his hands upon me shall wither even as a dried reed..."

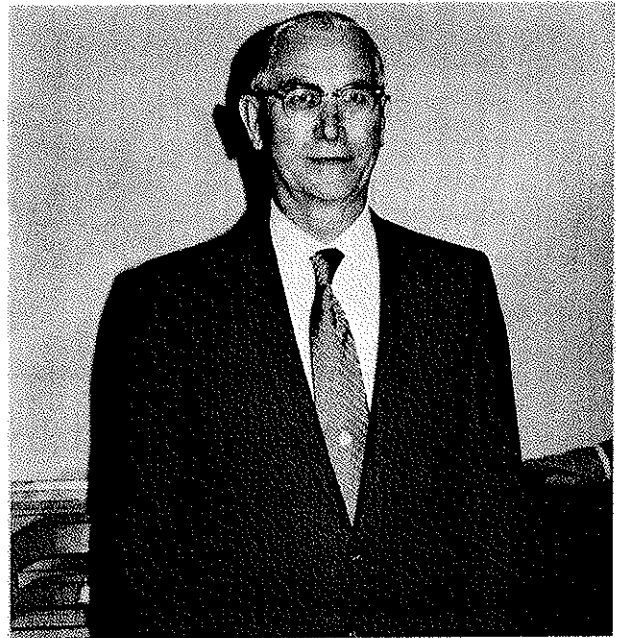
After speaking to the Lord on Mt. Sinai, Moses had to cover his face with a veil. He was so filled with the Spirit that "his face shone", and the children of Israel were afraid to look upon him.

The degree of the Spirit you receive is completely dependent on your relationship with God. Nephi and Moses were not just given what they had. Much hard work and a great love for God is what caused it. Indeed there is a difference between feeling the Spirit and being filled with Spirit.

Sister Diana Thompson  
Branch No. 1  
Detroit, Michigan

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

By Joseph Bittinger



I shall endeavor to acquaint our readers with the two Nigerian Brothers who have been appointed as traveling Elders, by the Nigerian Church. Elder Edem A. Ebong and Elder George F. Arthur have as their mission to visit as many as possible of the outlying Branches and Missions, to teach them the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to instruct the members in the Faith and Doctrine, and Order of The Church. They also serve the Sacrament and conduct feet-washing services in those Branches or Missions where there is no permanent Elder to preside over them. Their visiting and holding of services is of the utmost value and importance to the members, to their spiritual growth and stability.

Their means of travel is principally by motorcycles that have been supplied by the Parent Church. These Brothers are to be commended for their faithful and dedicated service as Ministers in The Church of Jesus Christ, traveling many miles, much of it on mud roads the year round in a tropical country where it rains six months or more each year. It takes considerable courage and dedication, especially when the means of travel is by motorcycle or bicycle covering a great distance in order to be in a service to participate in the worship of God. We thank God for providing The Church with men of such dedication and sincerity, willing to spend and be spent for The Gospel of Jesus Christ, and for their fellow men!

Here in America we travel in the best automobiles with air-conditioning and on the finest highways in the world, yet we hear many complaints of how weary and exhausted we are as we return home after spending a day visiting some of the Branches or Missions, what a contrast!

Soon after our return home from Nigeria, we learned that Brother E. A. Ebong and his wife Sister Edna Ebong suffered some misfortune. Sister Ebong lost a child resulting in a severe illness for her. In their latest correspondence it is stated that she was fully recovered. We

thank God for her recovery and for answering the many prayers offered in her behalf. Brother Ebong developed serious stomach trouble and was in the hospital for a period of time. He says, he has not fully recovered and is still not feeling well, that he needs thousands of calories daily to regain his health.

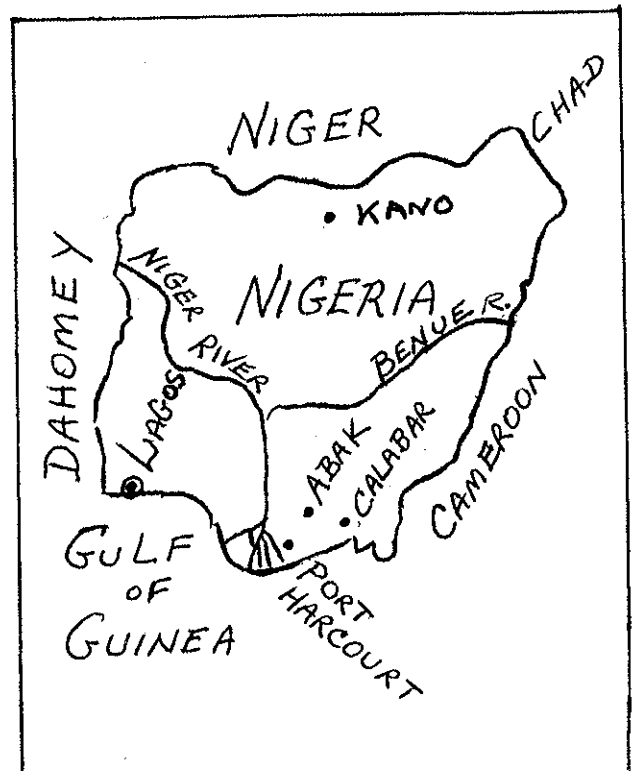
In a letter I received recently from Brother George F. Arthur, he states, "Brother Ebong and I have made a very extensive tour to different divisions and states for religious duties since you left. We visited Arochukwu very often. (This is a new Mission established among the Ibo people.) These people lived in the Abak area, for many years where a few of them met and obeyed The Gospel of Jesus Christ. After the Civil War they returned to their native area, Obinkinta, Arochukwu, to live. We were told they returned as strangers to the land of their forefathers. The distance from Abak, is quite far. We made visits to Branches at Itu, Opobo and Aba. We educate our Brothers and Sisters in the Faith and Doctrines, order of services, baptizing many converts and administering Communion. Oftentimes we suffer greatly from rain because this is the rainy season in our country, and some of our roads are really very bad. However, all these and other problems cannot hinder the progress of our religious duties, except that I was down in health during the last three weeks and Brother Ebong, too. My health is improving now.

I will be a happy man if God will give me the power and Spirit to serve Him sincerely throughout my life time. I have known that God created me for His own purpose on earth, for right from my youth I have felt the presence of the indwelling Spirit of our Lord within me. He has ordained me to carry out his wishes and wisdom among His people. He has chosen The Church of Jesus Christ to be the basis of my religious pursuit. Pray to the Lord for me to stand fast in the way and ordinances of our Lord. I can assure you that very soon the Nigeria Church will rank with the Parent Church in the conduct of Faith and Doctrines of The Church. But the Nigeria Church cannot achieve this goal without the leadership of the Parent Church. . . In a recent letter received from Brother Ebong he states, "Despite the weak condition of my health, George Arthur, I and some of our people went to Arochukwu on the 13th of this month and had Communion and feet-washing with them. We had a hard and unpleasant journey. Our car sank twice on the way. We had to go one hundred miles out of the way in our return, and reached home at 10:00 P.M. safe and unhurt." Again I want to say our Nigerian Elders are to be commended for their untiring efforts to help their people and The Church.

Brother Ebong further states, "My motorcycle is not in a good working order. It has a lot of unexpressed complaints to be adjusted, besides the parts replaced. . . If this is done, I am sure it will be in a good running order. The constant complaints caused by bad roads and distances made me to apply for a stronger, and more durable means of transportation which I hope you are still bearing in mind."

In a letter received recently from Brother E. U. A. Arthur, President of The Church in Nigeria, he says, "In regards to the progress of the Nigerian Church and School, it is needless to over-emphasize its vast progress and development, since your personal experience during your last visit should vindicate its truth. The institutions are developing more and more. I thank you people for all

that you have done for the interest of the Nigerian Church and School. Thanks also for the electric generator and other equipment waiting to be shipped to us here."



Dear Editor,

Permit me a space in your monthly publication of *The Gospel News* to express my appreciation to Brother Joseph Bittinger, one of the pioneer Missionaries in The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria on his publication in *The Gospel News* of December, 1974.

I personally thank God who has injected the idea into Brother Bittinger's mind that the 'Nigerian Corner' should be included in *The Gospel News* in which the activities of the Nigerian Church and that of the Comprehensive Technical Secondary School will be disseminated to the members and readers throughout the world. Solomon, the wisest man according to the scripture says in *Ecclesiastes* 3:7 that there is a time to keep silence and a time to speak. Now is the time the Nigerians in The Church of Jesus Christ should declare the glory of God and the parent Church declare her handiwork in Nigeria and other parts of the globe.

My fervent thanks also go to Brother John Ross, Chairman of the African Sub-committee and Brother Paul Palmieri, Editor of *The Gospel News* who endorsed the inclusion of the Nigerian Corner in *The Gospel News*.

I hope that the Nigerian Church President with the cooperation of the dynamic principal of the Secondary School will use this opportunity to the advantage of both the Church and her School in the glory of God.

Brother George Ekpo  
U. S. A.

## HAPPENINGS IN MEXICO

We are very happy to report to you some of the wonderful happenings in Mexico. On November 11, 1974, our Minister, Brother Eugenio Mora, along with two other Brothers, left for Mexico City. The two accompanying our Minister paid their own expenses and just planned on staying a couple weeks. On the way to Mexico City, they stopped at our mission in Ahome, Sinaloa for several days, and from there continued on to Mexico City. The following is a copy of the letter Brother Eugenio wrote to us regarding his trip up to November 19. He will be spending three months altogether on this trip, including some time in Sinaloa:

"Ahome, Sinaloa, November 17, 1974. To my Brother and Sister Perdue, Norma and to all The Church of Jesus Christ in Tijuana who have been washed and blessed in the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May the peace of the Almighty God be with you. It is our hope that upon receiving this letter you are all in good health. It is also the wishes of our Brother Barajas and Brother Rivas, and all the Brothers and Sisters of Ahome. We are all well, thank God. Since the day we arrived here, we have had services daily and we have rejoiced much, seeing and hearing the joy of our Brethren. The following is an account of our daily services: November 12 - forty persons, November 13 - thirty-eight persons, November 14 - forty persons, November 15 - fifty persons, November 16 - twenty-five persons, and on the 17th, we had a glorious service with blessings from Heaven. We blessed four children; we had a feet washing service and we prayed for a Sister so that she might be able to partake of sacrament. Many tears were shed upon saying goodbye, and I desired very much to have stayed another week. Best regards to all of The Church in general. I would like to mention their names but I love them all equally, and I do not forget them in my prayers. Best regards from Brother Barajas and Brother Rivas. When our Brothers go back they will tell you of the great things that happened in Ahome and its future. Best regards from the Brothers and Sisters of Ahome." (Signed) Eugenio Mora G.

When the Brothers came back at the end of the month, they surely glorified the Lord for the things that took place. The buildings overflowed with people both in Sinaloa and in Mexico City. They witnessed five baptisms in Mexico City. Brother Eugenio baptized his brother who had been a Minister in another church for thirty-five years, but when he visited Tijuana with his wife and mother last year, he declared that he had never seen charity like it was manifested in Tijuana. He also baptized his brother-in-law who also used to be a minister in the same church that his brother went to, and which they both left. Brother Eugenio baptized his mother who is eighty-five years old, his sister and sister-in-law. When Brother Eugenio leaves Mexico City on his way back to Tijuana, he will stop in Sinaloa and baptize a young couple. This will probably be after the first of the year. So far this year, twenty-three persons have been baptized in Mexico — sixteen in Tijuana, two in Sinaloa, five in Mexico City, and two more to be baptized in Sinaloa after the first of the year. We are sure that before Brother Eugenio returns home he will have baptized more people. The Lord has blessed him with a great gift of preaching, plus other gifts.

We thank God for the work that he is doing in these

last days. All of our people in Sinaloa are Maya Indians and those in Mexico City are Turasco Indians.

Remember us in your prayers, especially that the Gospel will be preached in many parts of Mexico as well as South America where the seed of Joseph abounds. May God bless my Brothers and Sisters everywhere. We send you our love.

Yours in Christ,  
Brother and Sister Perdue

## An Experience

By Brother Edward J. Wergin  
Wichita, Kansas (Deceased)

Dear Readers of *The Gospel News* of Jesus Christ:

I would like to take this opportunity to relate an experience that my husband had before his calling to his eternal reward. This was his dream: He was walking through a valley and the grass was beautiful and green. There was a light breeze and the grass was waving in the breeze. He walked a little further and he saw an angel holding up a white sheet. He walked further and saw another angel holding the center of this sheet. In the center of this sheet was a half circle opening. The angel said to him, "Would you like to see the other side?" He said, "Yes." The angel let him look through this half circle, and to his surprise there were all nationalities including the Indian people. They were all mixed together and were very happy. They were all singing a beautiful hymn. He said, "I never heard such beautiful singing in my life." Later, after he looked through this sheet, the angel told him that this sheet can fall down most any time. Then he left and walked further and saw another angel holding up the other end of the same sheet. Then he awoke from this dream, feeling very happy and contented. He shed tears of joy when he related this dream at the breakfast table the following morning.

Oh what a wonderful Saviour we are worshipping. The love of God is great to all those who worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Phyllis Wergin

—:—

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Why doesn't The Church of Jesus Christ believe in the baptism of children and infants?

Our Church believes that each man is responsible for his own sins and not for the sin of Adam. Since we believe according to the scriptures, it stands to reason that a young child has no need of baptism. He is born without sin and must go on to commit his own sins before there can be such a need for baptism.

Christ said: "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of God."

"Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein." *Luke 18:16 and 17.*

If you think about the quotation you will reason that, Christ is telling man unless he again returns to the innocence and pureness of a child, he cannot enter heaven. A child, however, has nothing which he must return to, since he is already an innocent and pure individual.

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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### THE YEAR 1975 IN PROSPECT

The year 1974 has rolled away with all its joys and sorrows and a new year has been ushered in bringing new hope and expectation.

In looking back, as it were, we note many serious and difficult situations that arose at varying times, here in America and abroad. Surely, this was cause for distress and concern to the peoples and governments of the world.

### ANTICIPATION, HOPE, AND PRAYER

As we enter the year 1975 we want to look forward with anticipation, with hope, and prayer. It is to be hoped that tensions between Israel and her Arab neighbors will continue to diminish. We trust also that the armed hostilities that have interrupted the cease-fire between North and South Vietnam will give way to peaceful negotiation.

Would to God that the governments of these two troubled areas, the Middle East and Southeast Asia, would pursue peaceful negotiations, thus enabling them to expend their goods and services to promote the general welfare of their people, rather than sustaining armed conflict which bring desolation and resultant poverty, suffering, and sorrow.

The plight of many underprivileged people in Africa, Asia and in other areas of the world is surely cause for concern and compassion by those who are more prosperous. The recently concluded World Food Conference that convened in Rome was a giant step in the right direction in exchanging ideas and exploring ways and means by which the surplus food of more prosperous nations could be transported as speedily as possible to needy people in the distressed areas of the world. We are confident that our own government will act generously and liberally in supporting this worthy and deserving cause.

Many domestic problems, two of which are rising unemployment and inflation, present serious challenges to our government. We pray that God will direct President Ford and others in authority that they may pursue the proper courses of action which will promote the general welfare of our nation.

As a Church, we too face many challenges and opportunities in the year 1974 and in the years that lie ahead.

### INQUIRIES FROM FAR AND NEAR

Inquiries about our Church are coming from far and near. Dr. Livingston, one of the inquirers, is concluding a tour of the Church in the company of Brother Joseph Calabrese. He will return to India shortly, highly pleased and impressed.

The group from Ghana, Africa has been unsuccessful thus far in obtaining visas for a proposed visit to America and a tour of The Church. We trust that visas will eventually be issued to them.

In the December 1974 issue of *The Gospel News* Brother Joseph Lovalvo reported that he, and Brothers Edward Perdue and Eugenio Mora enjoyed a successful and fruitful missionary trip to Mexico City.

The list of states in which The Church is represented continues to grow — New Mexico, Texas, Oregon, Louisiana, and most recently, Georgia.

Last month's issue carried an eloquent and stirring challenge by Brother Robert Watson, "Get Into The Mainstream" in which he urged us to work harder in our Branches, Districts, and our General Church, and to stand solidly behind the Brothers and Sisters who are breaking open new frontiers for The Church.

May God help us to do more in His service.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### David the Psalmist

Dear Girls and Boys,

This is another interesting story about David the shepherd boy. One day King Saul's messenger came to David's home. He told David's father, Jesse, "King Saul is sick and very troubled. We want your son David, to come to the palace and play sweet music for him. We hope this will help the king." Jesse was happy to let David go. He gave him a donkey, a bottle of wine, bread and some meat as a gift for the king. Off they went to the king's palace.

As soon as King Saul saw David he liked him. When he was sick and weary, David would run his fingers over his harp and sing. This sweet music cheered the king. As a result, David was appointed Saul's armor bearer and lived at the palace. When the king recovered, David went back to his home and fields to care for his father's sheep.

It was in the fields that David learned to play the harp and sing. He played over and over the music of song birds, the wind, the brooks, the beauty of the heavens and the good earth. The words he composed to the little tunes were about God's creation.

In our Bible we find many of David's songs. This book is titled the Psalms. It is the longest book in the Bible. It has 150 sacred songs. They are so beautiful that for thousands of years, God's people have enjoyed singing them. There are Psalms for worship and praise, for hope, for meditation and prayer, for thanksgiving, for trust, courage and forgiveness. It is very complete.

One of the best loved Psalms is the Shepherd's Psalm or the Twenty-third Psalm. It begins, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want". Can you finish it? Why don't you try to memorize it. As David sat in the fields with his sheep, he realized the Lord was his shepherd and would provide everything good for him.

Psalms were sung in the Temple each day. A different Psalm was used each day. The song for the Sabbath was *Psalm ninety-two*. Each feast day had a special song. Many instruments were used in Temple worship and David sang about them. God inspired him to put all these things to beautiful music.

Fifty-five Psalms bear the name of David and are titled "For the chief musician." These give musical directions. Some of the Psalms have ancient titles. Not all Psalms were composed by David but he was known as the chief. Look in your *Bible* and find some with David's name. Begin with the *third Psalm*.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## MY TRIP TO THE LAST CONFERENCE

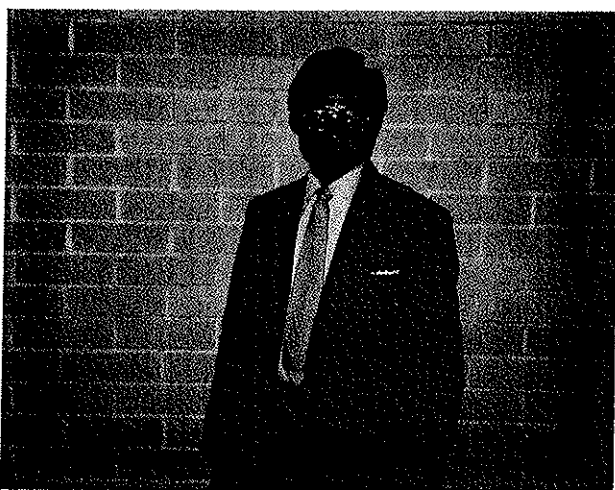
I woke up early in the morning of October 18, 1974 to attend the Semi-Annual General Church Conference as a representative of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria, Africa. No sooner I arrived at the airport, than I emplaned because my aircraft was loading for take-off. It was a pleasant flight. We made a brief stop-over at Charlotte, North Carolina Airport from where we took off to the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. My plane touched down at 9:30 a.m. and I was received by Brother John Ross, Sister Ross and Brother Joseph Ross who were waiting for me. Brother Joseph Ross was on the steering and he did an excellent driving job to the Conference room at Greensburg, Pa. We met the Conference already in session after one hour drive from the airport.

In the second session of the Conference, I was given the privilege by the General Church President, Brother Dominic Thomas, to open the session with a spiritual lesson. This I did from the Gospel of *St. Matthew 16:15-18* on the "Divine Establishment of Christianity." I was given a very warm welcome by the Brothers and Sisters assembled for the Conference. Brother Joseph Bittinger and Sister Bittinger were host to us during the three day stay for the Conference. Brother John Ross, Sister Ross and I were their chief guests. I was quite at home with them and enjoyed not only the delicious dishes presented by Sister Bittinger, but also their hospitality shown me. While Brother John narrated the story of their visit to Nigeria in March, Brother Bittinger showed me the slide pictures he took during that visit and played the tape that went with the pictures. The highlight of the pictures was the picture of my children, brother and mother.

The Conference went on for three days and I had the privilege of exchanging views with Brothers and Sisters—answering questions about Nigeria. Brother John Ross, the Chairman of the African Committee, played a very significant role in the Conference by presenting the Nigerian affairs vividly to the Conference. He ended it by mentioning the steadfastness of the Nigerian Brothers in the Church and the role played by my late father, Elder James Etukudo.

The Conference entered its third and last day on October 20th. This was the General Church Sabbath Service which brought everything to its conclusion. On this day I was again blessed by giving me a second opportunity to make a brief remark on my observation in the conduct of the Conference. This was a very remarkable day, for everyone was filled with the Holy Ghost as Brothers spoke on Spiritual lessons to the congregation. I rounded up my brief observation from a lesson taken from the Gospel of *St. John 15:5* on "Christ, as the Head of The Church."

At 1:20 p.m., the Church service was over and it was snowing outside. I had no top coat on; so Brother John surrendered his top coat to me before I could catch cold. With Brother Joseph Ross on the steering, we left by road for Aliquippa where I was the guest to the Anthony Ross family. In the evening I was seen off to the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport by the family after different expression of hospitality, I left by air to Orange-



*Brother Augustine I. Etukudo*

burg, South Carolina where my wife, Joseph Arthur and Dr. E. R. Iwok waited for me.

Brother Augustine I. Etukudo  
Box 1533  
South Carolina State College  
Orangeburg, S. C. 29117

### An Experience

On October 2, 1974, as I was walking to the bakery, I was standing on the corner to cross the street, I saw a handsome, tall police officer, whom I had never seen before. I have always gone this route. He walked towards me, thirty feet before me, he smiled to me and I smiled back to him. He came to me to take me across two streets. I felt his presence but didn't actually see him by my side. I felt he was there but didn't see him. As I walked to the bakery, I felt he was near me but he wasn't. I wanted to thank him but couldn't find him. I always pray before I leave the house that God will look after me and protect me. Since I am up in age (80 years) I need his protection even more.

This was not a dream; this was an actual occurrence.

Sister Pauline Kowalczyk  
of Hopelawn, N. J.

### THOT!

CHURCH MEMBERS ARE LIKE COALS IN A FIRE; WHEN THEY CLING TOGETHER THEY KEEP THE FLAME AGLOW; WHEN THEY SEPERATE THEY DIE OUT.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### MONONGAHELA BRANCH NEWS

Three Apostles of The Church occupied the rostrum in our Sunday morning preaching service on November 24th. Brother Russell Cadman opened the service by reading from the 14th Chapter of Revelations concerning the angel flying with the everlasting Gospel. He told that the Gospel was taken away because of the disobedience of man. This latter Gospel is the same one preached by Christ and will remain on the earth until Christ comes again. The angel delivered the priesthood of God and also warned of the judgment of God. As the children of God, we must keep His commandments to escape His judgment. The building of Zion, the new Jerusalem, is the heritage of the people of God.

Brother Rocco Biscotti spoke of the Brothers of old who were the pillars of The Church. They gave us a good image to follow. Our Brother told how he met the Gospel and exhorted us to have greater love for each other. We must not get involved with the things of the world, but we must be the righteous Saints of God, and rely upon His word. Charity is the most important quality to have. Brother Rocco also exhorted the young people to love and honor their parents, for this pleases God.

In the few closing minutes, Brother Sam Kirschner gave an invitation for those who are not baptized to become God's children and be born again. He stressed the great need for God today.

We closed the meeting with the hymn, "O Paradise," as a remembrance of our old Brothers and Sisters who have passed on to their eternal reward. May God continue to bless our Brothers as they preach the pure Gospel and set good examples for us to follow.

### NEWS FROM BELL, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brother Editor,

It has been several months since we have sent any news to you from Bell Branch. In those months there have been noteworthy events here. The uppermost in our hearts is the three new members we have gained through baptism. The first, at the beginning of the year, was Sister Sandy Scalise which we did write about. The other two are, Sister Minnie McDonald and Sister Cheryl LaValle. Sister Minnie has been in our midst for many years now. Her young son and daughter have been members of our Branch for quite a while and have prayed for and asked us to pray for their parents. God has answered their prayers this year in bringing Sister Minnie into our fold. Sister Cheryl is the daughter of one of our Deaconesses, Sister Grace LaValle. She was raised in this beautiful Gospel and struggled with her decision to become a member of it for many years. I pray God will strengthen our new members daily.

We have also had many visiting Elders come to us with uplifting words of encouragement. Brother Gorie Ciaravino was among this number. He, along with his wife, their daughter Carol, and their grandchildren came to Bell on September 22 with Brother John and Sister Pauline Dulisse from San Diego. Following the meeting



we all remained to have lunch together and fellowship with our visitors.

The following Sunday, September 29, Brother Joseph Capone had the joy of asking God's blessing on his great-grandson, Corry Custer. The baby is the son of Marianne Custer and the grandson of Brother Tony Capone.

On November 3, the members of the Valley Branch met with us along with Brother Paul Liberto of San Diego. We had held the Ladies Circle district meeting the day before and many had remained so that our Sunday congregation really filled our building. Brother and Sister Reyes' daughter, Rosemary, brought her new baby son to be blessed this day and Brother Jim Scalise petitioned God on his behalf. I love to see a baby start out his journey through life with a prayer for God's blessing.

Earlier this year Brother Harry Marshall transferred to Bell from Anaheim. His coming has given Brothers Jim and Joe added support as Elders. He has also met in the home of one of our Sisters a few evenings to talk to some of her family and friends who appear interested in our Church.

Our Wednesday night meetings have been a source of great blessing to us. We had so few attending we decided it was better to meet in our kitchen building and comply with the conservation of energy program. We sat around one of our tables and had very informal *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* study. It wasn't too many meetings before we had to add another table to accommodate our group. We have now gotten to the place where we need three tables. Our Wednesday meetings have increased in number and interest. We had one night where we all testified of the opposition we had received individually to try to break up the group who meet in our mid-week service. This was sparked by Brother Bill Meo who told of being tempted to stay home, and how he put aside this evil thought and heeded only the good spirit to be in the meeting place.

These are a few of the wonderful things God has done for us at Bell Branch this year.

Sister Betty Capone  
Bell Branch Editor

## CLEVELAND WEST SIDE MISSION

On Sunday, September 9, 1974, the Brothers and Sisters of the Cleveland Mission witnessed the ordination of Sister Rose Palermo as a Deaconess. Sister Lena Perlioni, washed the feet of Sister Rose and Brother Don Pandone of Youngstown, confirmed her. Brother Pandone was accompanied to Cleveland by his wife, Sister Theresa, who also had been recently ordained a Deaconess. Also present to share our blessings were Brother Raymond and Sister Mary Cossetti of Youngstown.

On October 5, 1974, we had visiting with us from San Diego, California, Brother William and Sister Rose DiFranco. We enjoyed their visit as it was a reunion for all of us. They were formerly members of our mission. While here, Brother and Sister DiFranco attended the General Church Conference. This is the first time they have been to the auditorium.

Sister Lena Perlioni

## WASHINGTON, D. C. MISSION NEWS

Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters in the Church of Jesus Christ. This comes as an introduction to many of you and to others an affirmation of our existence.

We are the Brothers and Sisters of the Washington, D. C. Mission. This is our way of extending an open invitation to you to visit us at any time.

We have approximately 23 baptized members. We meet at the YMCA building in Washington, D. C. Our mission is small but our faith is strong and we never tire of praising the Lord and giving all honor and glory unto Him.

Brother George Timms is our Elder; Brother Merle Swanger, our Teacher and Brother Mike Hildenbrand, our Deacon. Sister Pat Hildenbrand is our Deaconess.

We wish to thank God for the help He has sent us in our Mission and most of all for our wonderful Brothers and Sisters.

We were recently honored with a visit from the Ohio District and also from visitors from New Jersey. The Spirit of the Lord was truly with us in this meeting and His presence could be felt by all.

On August 25 of this year, our Sister, Pat Hildenbrand was ordained a Deaconess. Sister Lydia Allen washed Sister Pat's feet and Brother George Timms ordained her to the office.

The Spirit of the Lord was evident in the calling of our Sister to this holy office and we ask your prayers that God may bless and direct our new Deaconess in her endeavor to perform her duties in service to God and to the Church.

On December 1, Brother George took his text from *II Corinthians*. His focus was "The Gospel Restored." His theme was that men, women and children benefit from this Restored Gospel, even those who have not heard or will not accept. This Gospel brings forth the beginning of the many promises that were made unto the children of men. It will bring forth a peace to the Gentiles that they have never known before.

At this service, Brother Merle Swanger had an experience during communion. He saw a vision of a hand, its fingers pointing to each piece of bread on the communion plate.

We ask for your prayers, Brothers and Sisters and we will pray for you when we feel the Lord near. If you are ever in the city or surrounding area, please remember that we consider it a blessing to be among the Saints from other parts of the vineyard.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Hythia Young  
Washington, D. C. Mission

## A GLORIOUS DAY IN THE LORD

A glorious meeting was enjoyed by the Saints in Warren on October 27. With the impending ordination, we were all in anticipation of a great blessing and tears of joy began to flow with the first hymn that was sung.



We were honored to have many visiting Brothers and Sisters with us to observe the ordination of Brother Mitchell Edwards as an Elder in The Church of Jesus Christ. Present also, were many apostles, evangelists and elders and Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the Church and Brother Rocco Biscotti, President of the Ohio District.

Brother Dominic Thomas gave us a wonderful outline of the duties and qualifications of an elder as set down by our Lord. He encouraged us all that our righteousness should be such that God hears and answers our prayers. Brother Dominic called our attention to the wonderful order of the Gospel set down by our Lord and to the need for apostles, evangelists and elders and that God fills this need to the edification of the souls of mankind. He continued by saying we must allow the Lord's spirit to guide us in order for the Church to really be alive and move ahead.

The quartet from Youngstown, Ohio then favored us with two beautiful selections, "Gentle Shepherd" and "There's Something About That Name." Brother Rocco Biscotti then spoke to us of his experience in being called to be an elder in the Church 51 years ago and how he gave himself to much fasting and prayer to fulfill his calling. Brother Rocco then stated that our greatest sermon is the way we walk and that evil will flee if you follow Jesus and the precepts He set down.

Our afternoon meeting was opened by Brother A. A. Corrado. Sister Betty Alessio sang a beautiful solo entitled "My Task." Brother Frank Giovannone stated that those in the priesthood are never stronger than when the Brothers and Sisters are united in Christ and that no man taketh the priesthood upon himself but must be chosen of God.

Brother Mitchell was called forward and his feet were washed by Brother Joe Gennaro and Brother Jerry Giovannone laid hands on him to ordain him into the ministry. Brother Bob Ciarrochi then continued by saying "we are all sons and daughters of Christ because someone was set aside by God to teach us the ways of our Lord Jesus Christ. How beautiful it is to be Brothers and Sisters because we have obeyed the commands our Lord set down. It is a burden to be in the priesthood but we praise God for that burden."

Many wonderful testimonies were given and Sister Vera Edwards testified as to the fulfilling of her dream the night before as to who would ordain her husband. Brother Rocco Biscotti then admonished with the words, "Love ye one another—by this the world will know ye are my disciples." Then a young man from Perry arose to his feet and asked for his baptism. The Elders from Perry felt to consult with his parents first and if all things went well, he would be baptized on Wednesday evening.

Brother Dominic Thomas offered a prayer to the Lord and the meeting continued in singing the hymn "Shall I Empty Handed Be." While we were singing, Brother Rocco Biscotti left the pulpit to talk with a young man, Stanley Ainsworth, who was touched. Brother Frank Giovannone asked Stan if he had anything to say. Stan rose to his feet and said he could no longer wait, and wanted to be baptized. Joyfully we went to the water's edge to witness the baptism of our Brother.

We met that evening and Brother Stan was confirmed into the Church by Brother Jerry Giovannone. Many more testimonies were given and Sister Carol McCracken testi-

fied of a dream she had several weeks previous, revealing to her that Brother Mitchell Edwards was an elder of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Words cannot adequately describe the spirit felt throughout the day. God truly did minister unto us with His Spirit and did pour out His blessings upon us and for this we do praise and glorify His name. May God Bless All—

Sister Mary Margaret Cain  
Sister Carol McCracken  
Editors of the Warren Branch

## NEWS FROM MIAMI

The Miami Mission has added six new members to the congregation. Barbara Ann Micale and her daughter, Deborah Ann Micale, were baptized on September 29, 1974 in Miami, Florida. Barbara Ann was baptized by Brother Alvin Swanson and confirmed by Brother James Sheffler. Deborah Ann was baptized by Brother Alvin Swanson and confirmed by Brother James Sheffler.

Brother Joe Catone and Sister Susan Shaffer were baptized on August 29, 1974 at the G.M.B.A. Campout.

Brother Dennis and wife, Sister Joyce Morrao, transferred to Miami from Branch No. 4, Detroit, Michigan.

We thank God for His blessings to us, and may they continue.

Sister Angie DeNardo

## BRANCH NO. 4, DETROIT, MICH.

On Sunday, November 3, 1974 the Brothers and Sisters of the Michigan-Ontario Branch No. 4 were very happy to have Brother John and Sister Pauline Dulisse of California visit with us.

After enjoying the blessings of God in our morning service with Brother John and Sister Pauline, we gave a farewell dinner in honor of Brother Peter, Sister Frances and Brother David Capone who were soon departing for Arizona.

After worshipping with Brother and Sister Capone for so many years, it was difficult for us to see them go; but we know that the Lord will continue to bless them in Arizona just as He blessed them in Michigan.

## ROCHESTER, NEW YORK CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

On November 16 and 17, 1974 the Rochester, New York Branch celebrated its 43rd anniversary that the Church was established in Rochester, New York; and it is 15 years since our Church building was erected. Invitations were sent out to our friends and former members who helped to erect the building.

We were honored to have with us Brother Domenic Thomas, General Church President; Brother Reno Bologna, President of the Michigan-Ontario District; and Brother Paul Francione, Elder of Detroit, Michigan.

On Saturday evening we had community singing that was enjoyed by all. Bob Marinetti and Lydia D'Amico

were the pianists. We then saw movies in the basement, of the erection of the building. It brought many happy memories of the hard labor that was put into the building. Refreshments were served and we were happy to socialize with one another.

On Sunday Brother Ansel D'Amico, the Presiding Elder gave the welcome address and gave a brief history on how the Church started in Rochester. Brother Frank Rosati, who was baptized in Detroit, Michigan came to Rochester and gave his testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to his friends and relatives. Brother and Sister Simone and Brother and Sister Castronovo accepted the Gospel and were baptized by Brother Ishmael D'Amico. It was also noted that God directed them in purchasing a site and blessed their labors in building the Church building. We want to thank all the wonderful friends and Brothers who helped us in erecting the building, especially Brother John D'Amico, who was the mastermind of the building.

We paused to sing, "When Mothers in Salem", as Brother and Sister (Andrew) Locci had their baby blessed by Brother Domenic Thomas. Brother Thomas chose for his text the 3rd chapter of *St. John's Gospel*, 16th verse. "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 Church has struggled for the past 100 years. Brother William Bickerton found himself alone to preach the truth in simplicity. The key to prayer leads to the Power of God. Jesus prayed for His disciples for the success of the Church. The congregation that prays together stays together.

We sang "Now Let Us Rejoice." Brother Reno Bologna was our next speaker, pointing out how Satan tempts the Saints, by telling us we are weak and our hope is in vain; but through faith and much fasting and prayer we can conquer, for Jesus is the way, the truth and life.

Brother Paul Francione emphasized on the same subject; that it pays to be obedient for our reward is great. He related an experience that an Indian Sister had. She saw a man on a white horse and he said, "It will not be long!" This evidently means that the Gospel will go to the Redman.

"Nearer My God To Thee" was sung. While Brother Domenic Thomas was speaking I saw in a vision many loaves of bread on the sacramental table. The words of our Brother were like the Bread of Life. They were like apples of gold in a basket of silver.

We sang "My God Thou See'st Me." Closing prayer was said by Brother Patsy Marinetti. A good spirit prevailed all during the meeting and God's blessings were felt by all.

Sister Carmella D'Amico

## The Fort Defiance Mission Has Two Ordinations And Other Blessings

Sunday, September 29, 1974 was a day full of blessings for our mission. A combination of ordinations, feet washing, and visitors made up our day.

Sister Elaine Jordan was ordained a Deaconess by her husband, Brother Dwayne Jordan. Her grandmother, Sister Nancy Watson, visiting from the San Fernando

Valley Branch, washed her feet. Brother Peter Genaro was ordained a Deacon by Brother Larry Watson. His feet were washed by Brother Dennis Calabrese. May the Lord watch over these two new ordained servants.

Our meeting continued into Testimony, Sacrament and Feet Washing. A good spirit was felt by everyone. We enjoyed Sister Lana Rich and Sister Gail Santilli who were visiting from Flagstaff, Arizona.

After the meeting most of us went to the hospital and sang to the patients as we usually do. We always feel good in singing to the sick and the afflicted.

The day was still not over! We all went to Sister Elaine and Brother Dwayne's home for food and fellowship. We just didn't want to see the day end.

Sister Mary Duncan  
Mission Editor

## THE GOSPEL IN GEORGIA

We have received a report from Brother and Sister (James) T. Moore of Imperial, Pennsylvania, doing missionary work in the state of Georgia. (Editor)

We have sent brochures to all the neighborhood as an invitation to attend our meetings in a rented community building. For three Sundays we have averaged 20 people (including children) in our services. There are possibilities of a mission being opened here in the future.

To date we have baptized two people: our granddaughter, Karen E. Watford and Stewart Byars.

Karen was baptized and confirmed by Brother James T. Moore on December 1, 1974 at College Park, Georgia. Also in attendance was Brother Frank Rogolino and his wife, and Brother Anthony Ensana and his wife.

On December 22, 1974 Stewart Byars was baptized and confirmed by Brother Moore.

Two more souls have been added to The Church of Jesus Christ in the state of Georgia. God has even provided a safe, beautiful stream of water just three minutes from our meeting place. In the evening we had a Christmas program for the children. There were thirty in attendance.

We pray that God will convert many here to take up the work and help in spreading the Gospel.

Brother and Sister Moore  
College Park, Georgia

## YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO BRANCH WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Sunday, December 15, 1974 was a good day for the Youngstown Saints and for Donna Jean Manes who was received into membership by baptism.

Sister Donna was baptized by Brother Donald Pandone and confirmed by Brother Ralph Berardino.

The theme of the day was the importance of being obedient to Jesus Christ. The Youngstown Branch quartet sang, "Lovest Thou Me?"

God's Holy Spirit prevailed throughout the day's service. May God bless and sustain Sister Donna Manes as she takes up her task in the service of the Lord.

## THE DETROIT, MICHIGAN NEWS

On Sunday, December 15, 1974, Branch No. 1 was deeply honored to have with us three visiting elders, Brothers Joseph Calabrese, Reno Bologna, and Carl Framolin.

Brother Calabrese was our speaker. He spoke to us of how it was written in *1 Nephi*, that they were led by the Ball or Director. The ball which was given to them by God only worked according to their faith. When their faith failed them, the ball also failed.

During his sermon he also brought out that when things are going pretty well we tend to forget about God. Thinking we can do allright on our own, we forget to pray.

The last part of his sermon was on the importance of being humble. He told us that Christ, who was the Son of God, humbled himself before mankind. Christ already knowing what power He had, could have done or obtained anything He wanted, but instead remained humble to set the example for all of us.

After Brother Calabrese spoke to us, Dr. David Livingston was asked to say a few words. He had traveled 9000 miles from India, to meet our people and Our Church. Dr. Livingston told us about how long he had been searching for the truth, how he depended on the Lord to help and direct him.

But what impressed me the most was when he told us about the prayer group to which he belongs. There are about 18 people who meet twice a week. They fast and pray from 8 o'clock at night to 4:30 the next morning.

Dr. Livingston said that he himself was impressed by the people in our Church, because of our informal warmth. How we greet one another with a Holy Kiss.

May the Gospel of Jesus Christ continue to be spread and God's people forever abound in love.

Sister Diana Thompson

## VISITORS AT GLASSPORT BRANCH

Glassport Branch was once again blessed as Brothers Reno Bologna and Dominic Thomas from the Michigan-Ontario District, and Brother John Manes from Pennsylvania District visited our Branch.

Brother Dominic Thomas made a few opening remarks on how blessed the Church of Jesus Christ is.

Brother Reno Bologna spoke on how our life is likened unto a chart, and that it has many ups and downs ... there are drops which would be valleys and there are elevations or mountains. He said the valleys would be depressions and the mountains would be where we are feasting on God's blessings. Brother Reno also said that there may be a few straight lines on the chart. Brother Reno proceeded to express himself by saying that where God's blessings are, so there is Satan; that you may feel alone, but just whisper His name and He is there. Just as we clean our homes and trim the shrubs outside our homes, there must also be a pruning and trimming in our lives. We must remember to serve God to the best of our ability and follow His commands, and live each day, one at a time that we may hear our names read out of the Lamb's Book of Life.

Brother Dominic Thomas continued by saying that for many of us our greatest experience in The Church is our baptism.

Brother John Manes expressed himself on his baptism also.

We thank our Brothers for visiting our Branch and we thank God for all our wonderful Brothers and Sisters.

Robin Nicklow

Glassport Branch Editor

## TEACHER ORDAINED AT NILES, OHIO BRANCH

The ordination of Brother John Thomas Genaro as a Teacher highlighted a wonderful day in the service of the Lord on Sunday, December 15, 1974.

Brother Genaro's feet were washed by his uncle, Brother Joseph Genaro. Brother Peter Molinatto then ordained Brother Genaro to the office of Teacher.

Many visitors were in attendance from nearby Kinsman, Youngstown, Warren, Perry and from Florida.

A very humble spirit was felt throughout the day.

May the Lord bless and direct Brother Genaro in the performance of the duties of his holy office.

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Danielle to Donald and Linda Gomes of Bronx, New York,

Traci Lee to Donald and Linda Cottom of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania,

Jody Lynn to Allen and Linda Henderson of Windsor, Ontario,

Rachel Elisabeth to Fred and Rosalie Mott of Kinsman, Ohio,

Joyce Elaine to Charles and Mary Savona of Roscoe, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### LOVELL - CALHOUN

Brother Kurt Lovell and Miss Gayle Calhoun were united in marriage on November 29, 1974 at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Hagerstown, Maryland. They will reside in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

### BRIGHT - SOCHASKY

Brother Malcolm Bright and Miss Rhoda Sochasky were united in holy marriage on January 1, 1974 following the New Year's Eve watch meeting in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

The surprised congregation saw "Mac" and "Dolly" exchange their wedding vows as Brother James Grazan officiated. Brother Herb Hemmings, the groom's uncle from Pine Top, Arizona, assisted in the service.

The newlyweds will reside in the Monongahela area. Our prayers are that God would bless Mac and Dolly and continue to be a part of their lives.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### CONCETTA CAPONE

Sister Concetta Capone passed on to her heavenly reward on November 29, 1974. She was a member of the Bell, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Sister Capone was born on May 12, 1901 and was baptized in October, 1937.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, three sons, two daughters, 18 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and three brothers.

The funeral services were conducted at the Bell Branch by Brothers Peter Capone and John Dulisse.

Sister Capone met the Church in Detroit where she was ordained a Deaconess. She moved to California in 1954 and served God the rest of her days with the Saints of Bell Branch.

### LEON GERRY

Brother Leon Gerry of the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his eternal reward on November 14, 1974. He was born on November 19, 1896 and was baptized on September 10, 1933.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, one son, one daughter, and four grandchildren.

The funeral services were held at the Bagnasco funeral home by Brother Paul Vitto.

He will be missed very much by all who knew him.

### THEODORA LAIRD SEELEY

Sister Theodora Laird Seeley passed away from this life on December 17, 1974 at the age of 32 after a very short illness. She was a member of the McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ where she was baptized in 1968. She was born on November 29, 1942.

She is survived by her husband, one son, one daughter, mother, two sisters and one brother.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers John Manes and Dan Casasanta.

Even though Sister Theodora was in much pain, she attended almost every meeting. She will be greatly missed by her family and all who knew her.

### JAMES E. ANDREWS

Brother James Erwin Andrews of The Church of Jesus Christ, Roscoe Branch passed away on December 9, 1974. He was baptized on June 18, 1950 at the Washington, D. C. Mission.

Brothers John Kendall and B. J. Martin officiated the funeral service.

His survivors are his wife, two sons and six grandchildren. The Brothers and Sisters of the Roscoe Branch will mourn the loss of his fellowship, along with his friends and family.

### LAWRENCE AMBROSE

Brother Lawrence Ambrose, a member of the Roscoe Branch passed away from this life on December 27, 1974. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ for 54 years, being baptized on November 2, 1920.

Brother J. Fred Olexa officiated the funeral service.

His survivors are his wife, three sons, three daughters and one stepson, twelve grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Brother Ambrose was very faithful and fervent in his service to God and the Brother and Sisters at Roscoe will miss his wonderful testimony to God's goodness and his warm, kind way will be missed by all who knew him.

## — CHURCH CALENDAR —

The following is a list of 1975 events of General Church and regional interest:

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

March 8—General Ladies Uplift Circle in Lake Worth, Florida

March 7, 8, 9—California District Conference in Bell Branch

March 12, 13, 14—Michigan-Ontario District Conference in Branch No. 3

March 8, 9—Ohio District Conference in Youngstown, Ohio

March 8, 9\*—Pennsylvania District Conference in Imperial

March 15, 16—Florida District Conference

March 15, 16—Atlantic Coast District Conference

March 22—General Mission Board Meeting

April 17\*, 18\*, 19\*, 20\*—General Church Conference

May 17—G.M.B.A. in Atlantic Coast

June 27, 28, 29—General Church Gathering in California

August 9-16—G.M.B.A. Campout in Pennsylvania

# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

March, 1975

Volume 31, No. 3

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## THE POWERFUL CHRIST

Once again we commemorate the greatest of all events... the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus, the great Creator, knew exactly what was going to happen to him even from the very beginning. In *Matthew 26:24*, he tells his disciples, "The Son of Man goeth as it is written of Him, but woe unto that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It had been good for that man if he had not been born."

Often we think upon Jesus as a baby still lying in a manger, rather than that great Christ who when he was being taken said, "I could pray to my Father and He would presently give me more than twelve legions of angels to deliver me." But rather, Christ was willing to die for you and me (than have the cup pass from Him.) He desired to go to the cross that He could arise from the dead and defeat the Evil Power.

The powerful Christ demonstrated His great power to save people even 'til the very end of His life, when He told the thief that was hanging with Him, (*Luke 23:24*) "Verily I say unto thee, today shall thou be with me in paradise." After giving salvation to the thief, His work was complete and He commended His soul to His Father.

Oh! How the Devil desired to hold Him in the tomb. Even the soldiers and the people placed a large stone there that sealed His body in the sepulchre.

But then came the moment for which the entire creation awaited: (*Matthew 28:1, 2, 5 & 6*) "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 set upon it. 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."

Had the Evil Power been able to frustrate His rising from the tomb, the sacrifice on Calvary's cross would have been in vain. The Father permitted His only begotten Son to be cruelly treated by mortal man. But when men nailed Him to the tree, their power was then ended, and the powerful Christ was manifested and arose triumphantly over the grave. *Matthew 27:52-53* relates, "And the graves were opened and many bodies of the Saints which slept

arose and came out of the graves after His resurrection and went into the Holy city and appeared unto many."

Surely the thief on the cross arose also to meet his Saviour. Christ rose triumphantly with power and majesty.

*Editor.*



## CONFERENCE NOTICE

The April General Church Conference will convene on Thursday, April 17, 1975 at 2:00 P.M. in our General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

The THURSDAY and FRIDAY sessions will be for the PRIESTHOOD ONLY.

The Saturday sessions and the Sunday meeting will be open to all members.

### NOTE:

1. Meals will be furnished on a pay-as-you-attend basis. The cost will be \$1.00 per meal per person with no charge for children under 12 years of age.
2. Those attending conference must make their own arrangements for lodging.

The SUNDAY meeting will start at 10:00 A.M. ALL ARE WELCOME.

## AN EXPERIENCE

### By Sister Nancy Surace of the Monongahela, Pennsylvania Branch

I went to the prayer meeting on a Wednesday night. While the Brothers and Sisters were expressing themselves and thanking the Lord, I felt a hard pressure come upon my eyes. I closed my eyes tightly for a while . . . little did I know that a blood vessel had burst in my right eye. After the meeting was over, Sister Sara Vancik asked me if I had a cold. I said that I was just a little sleepy. When I got home that night, I went into the bathroom and looked in the mirror. I saw that my eye was puffed and a clot of blood was on the bottom and side of my eye. I went to bed thinking it would be all right.

The next morning when I awoke, I had some pain in the eye. It bothered me all day at work; and by the next day, the pain was getting worse and both eyes were aching. I called the eye doctor and he told me to come in at 3:00 p.m. He examined my eyes and said that the pressure in my eyes was quite high. He told me that I had Glaucoma in both eyes. That hit me very hard. I asked him if he was sure and he said that he was sure. The doctor made an appointment for me on the following Friday and said he would give me a glaucoma test and treatment. It would take forty-five minutes and he wanted me to get someone to bring me to his office. He told me I would not be able to drive or read for twenty-four hours after the test and treatment.

When I got home, I told my sisters what had happened. That evening I was home alone in my living room feeling a little depressed. I started to meditate what my life was going to be like. Will I lose my sight and be a burden to someone? I got down on my knees and prayed. I know we are not to question the Lord, but I did ask Him, "Why, Lord? Not my eyes; anything but my eyes. What will become of me when the day will come when my sight will be taken from me? I won't be able to do the things I want to do. I won't be able to go to church, visit the sick or do the things I want to do. I won't be able to go to church, visit the sick or do the things that are pleasing to You. Have I displeased You in any way, Lord?"

After I finished praying, I went upstairs and put the Church oil on both of my eyes and got down on my knees. I asked the Lord if it was His will that He would heal me from this affliction. I did this nightly before retiring to bed.

The following Friday I went to the doctor. The nurse put the drops in my eyes. I had to wait ten minutes and then the doctor put me under the machine. Then I had drops put in my eyes the second time. The nurse asked me if my sight was blurred and I said it was not, and that I could see her clearly. After ten more minutes I was under the machine again. For the third time drops were put into my eyes. Then they put me in another room to wait for ten minutes. All I could think of was, "Lord, help me." The doctor put me under the machine and he took a little longer than usual. He turned off the machine, looked at me and said, "You DO NOT have glaucoma!" The first words that came out of my mouth were, "Thank God!" The doctor looked at me and had the nicest smile on his face. The Lord had answered my prayers and healed me.

If we have enough faith in the Lord, He will answer our prayers. I surely want to thank and praise the Lord for the remainder of my days.

## AN EXPERIENCE

On November 30, 1974, a Fast and Prayer meeting was held at the request of The General Church in The Edison Branch for the benefit of the Mission in White-river, Arizona. As we were united in prayer, I determined that I would offer my prayer next. My mind was fixed on the prayer being offered which caused me to picture in my mind Brother Ike and Sister Bonnie Smith. As this image traveled across my mind, I heard a voice singing and turned to see who it was and what song was being sung. Although no one in the building was singing, I heard the chorus of the hymn "O Wait and Murmur Not." I was highly comforted and richly blessed by this experience and moreover was assured once again that this is the true and living Gospel of Jesus Christ, restored in power and in glory and replete with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Despite the setbacks which might befall us as a Church, we know that The Gospel will go forth according to God's will if we are faithful and wait and murmur not.

Brother Gary Ensana

## AN EXPERIENCE

It will be three years this February that my father, Brother Julius Sipos, passed away. It had always been his desire that his children would someday become members of The Church of Jesus Christ. It is only a year and a half that my family and I have been called into The Church. I have always asked myself the question, "Does my father know that we are now in The Church?" I have asked the Lord in my prayers if only I can see my father for just a moment, and the Lord blessed me. My father came to me in a dream not too long ago. I was shopping and as the clerk was checking out my merchandise, a man approached me. He looked like my father, but younger. Questioningly I asked, "Pop?" With the same twinkle in his eyes and his usual cheery "hello", I knew it was he. I looked at the clerk and asked her, "Do you see anyone beside me?" She looked on my side and gave me an odd look, and shrugged her shoulders. With that, I threw my arms around my father and embraced him and said, "Oh, Pop, Pop, I've waited so long for you. I've so much to tell you. Come home with me." We left the store and went to my car. I opened the door for him and there on the seat was the holy oil. (This belonged to him when he was alive). I picked up the bottle, hoping he would recognize it and say something, but he didn't say anything. I got into the car beside him. Then I told him, I said, "Pop, do you know that we are now members of The Church?" He said, "Oh yes, I know that." Then I said, "Do you know that Julius and Helen are also in The Church?" He said, "Oh yes, I know that." Then I said, "Julius is now an Elder." Again he said, "Oh yes, I know that." I told him, "You know some of our Brothers and Sisters have passed away." He said, "Yes" and with that he was gone.

I thank God for this blessing He has given me. It has answered my question. Where but in The Church of Jesus Christ can this happen.

Sister Ethel Banyacski  
The Hopelawn Branch

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

*By Joseph Bittinger*

The following are excerpts from a welcoming address by the Atai Otoro Branch:

**TO BROTHERS GORIE CIARAVINO, JOHN ROSS AND JOSEPH BITTINGER—THE PARENT CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES, BY THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, ATAI OTORO BRANCH, ON THEIR VISIT TO THE BRANCH.**

We, the entire members of The Church of Jesus Christ, Atai Otoro Branch, had the pleasure of your presence in Nigeria on the occasion of the Opening Ceremony of The Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School, and particularly for your visit to The Church of Jesus Christ, Atai Otoro Branch. Your interest and love for us is pure, clean and spotless. You left your family, business and other responsibilities behind. You endure the risk and inconveniences in travels and crossing over oceans and seas many thousands of miles to see the vineyard you have planted here in Nigeria. All these cost you a great deal of money, and deny you pleasure, comfort and soundness in health. May our Lord Jesus Christ bless and restore to you seven folds of good reward.

We must not leave behind mentioning some of your good works here in Nigeria, and particularly at Atai Otoro: The building of The Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School which does not only elevate the education of our sons and daughters but adorn our village with beauty. The overseas higher educational background given to our people to uplift our prestige both in society and in material and spiritual status. Aids rendered to The Church and to the people to strengthen them. The pages of this paper cannot contain all your good activities, for which we express our thanks.

Our dear Brother Gorie Ciaravino, we thank you immensely for the approval you have given to everything The Parent Church has done for us. We have enjoyed and benefited from your office as President of The Church of Jesus Christ. You fed and clothed us even when you did not see us face to face until you first came to see and know us in 1971. This has been your second trip to us for the reason of witnessing the opening ceremony of the school upon which you consented to its establishment. We pray the Almighty Father to spare your life so that you may come back to us at some other time.

Brother Joseph Bittinger, we say welcome to you in our midst. We give thanks and glory to God who has spared your life to see the fruit of your labors. As one of the Pioneers, to bring The Church of Jesus Christ to our country, and for the first and second trip you met difficulties, but yet you were not despaired and were not discouraged. You encouraged and fostered the establishment and strengthening of The Church. Your third visit has shown that our Lord was at your side during your endeavors and had given approval to your undertaking. God Bless You.

Brother John Ross, son of Nigeria, "Akpan" Annang. We know that you are a Nigerian and Akpan Annang Atai Otoro in particular, we say welcome to you, the middle-man. Jesus Christ said no man cometh to The Father, but by Me. Therefore, Jesus takes His stand between God and Man and the request of man is granted

through Him. So Brother Ross is between Nigeria Atai Otoro Church and The Parent Church in the United States. You have labored for us and never grew tired and wearisome. By your ability The Parent Church has achieved her aims and purposes in Nigeria, and in Atai Otoro in particular in establishing the Faith and Doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ, wherefore, the social and spiritual aspects of the community are influenced. May God be with you, strengthen you, and sharpen your instrument of war to battle the battle till the Kingdom of our Lord comes.

We congratulate our Parent Church on whose behalf you stand for her symbolic expression of Christianity. We have seen her good practical examples moving along the concept of our doctrine. We pray God to make His Divine Spirit a heritage of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Drawing our minds back home we thank the Priesthood of The Church of Jesus Christ, Atai Otoro Branch for the immediate embracement of the Doctrine of The Church and imparting same into our minds and souls for salvation.

Pastor E. U. A. Arthur, our father and leader of our welfare in the church fold and outside deserves a special mention. He devotes his life to the true spirit of The Church of Jesus Christ. The immediate examples of his practical religion revealed in his devotion to the building of The Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School and in uplifting this building of The Church of Jesus Christ, Atai Otoro Branch, which had thrice fallen to the ground after completion (Headquarters Building). By his wisdom the cause of the breakage has been removed and the building firmly established. His tactics to unite The Church is so obvious to rehearse. We call our Heavenly Father to increase your yours of living on the earth. God be with you Pastor E. U. A. Arthur. . .

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### Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends

We want to thank you all for your prayers, cards, and flowers and visits which were greatly appreciated at the passing away of Theodora Laird Seeley. We pray that God will bless you for your thoughtfulness and concern.

With Love.

The Laird and Seeley Families  
McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania

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### Note of Thanks

I want to thank the Brothers and Sisters for their get well cards and prayers for me. I feel like a new man for God surely answers prayers. God has been very good to me and my family.

God Bless all of you and be with you.

Your Brother in Christ

John Onorato  
North Edgecomb, Maine

## GREETINGS IN CHRIST JESUS

Be still and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. Even so Lord our God be exalted in our life.

By the grace of our living Redeemer I am back visiting the Saints abroad. I left Modesto November 30th by bus at 9:30 A.M. and stopped at Fresno. Upon calling Brother Del Carneval, I heard that Brother and Sister DeChiero's daughter, Violet, is ill with leukemia. This made me sad. I pray for her complete recovery. I continued to Yucaipa arriving there at 9:30 P.M. Brother Frank Genaro and his son, Enos, took me to their home and then to Brother and Sister Spata. Sunday was a blessed day at church, and in visiting with the little group here. Yucaipa has been without a resident minister until Brother Genaro moved here a few months ago. This humble servant of God quit his job and left his home to their two older children, Enos and Josephine. Frank is still without employment, but is very much employed as a humble minister, loves the people here and they love him and his wonderful wife who is part-time employed caring for sick and elderly women.

Tuesday we attended the funeral of Sister Consetta Capone, though she has been ill a long time, the departure is always sad.

Tuesday we spent visiting the Saints of Yucaipa in each home relating experiences and prayer. We had supper at the Bordeaux's home and spent the evening talking of things pertaining to righteousness and reading the word of God. May John Bordeaux find it in his heart to obey the Lord in baptism. He is an air force officer and husband of Sister Eva and father of their three fine children. They're formerly from Youngstown, Ohio.

I am now on my way to Phoenix on the bus. The desert is getting a good soaking by a steady rain, though it is day, darkness is heavy that lights are needed to travel. This part of the desert is plain without a tree for miles on either side. Will this desert bloom some day? The bus riders are very quiet now. Though sitting together we are all strangers to each other. Will it always be this way? Arriving at Phoenix, it is still raining. Brother Berry drove me to his house where I found that the Saints are making much preparation for the conference.

I visited some of the Saints among whom was Brother and Sister Mountain. Brother Mountain has had his portion of suffering; this time he has cancer. He needs our prayers, as God spared him of a heart attack. He may also save him from this evil. Afflictions come that we may have compassion on one another.

Conference was an uplifting type of gathering both to the ministry and to the layman. Our President, Dominic Thomas, was present. We were very happy to see him. He introduced the Sunday morning service by reading of our faith and expectations of our people. Brother Frank Vitto spoke of the duty and obligation of Saints, and Brother Robert Watson followed in the same theme. A blessing prevailed throughout the service. Several asked to be anointed.

After church I had the opportunity to return home by automobile with Brother and Sister Joe Bologna. We stayed at Yucaipa overnight and arrived home the fol-

lowing Monday night, tired but happy. This was good for the Saints, as it was for me.

I am happy to be traveling again after my recent illness. I praise God daily for the opportunity to serve.

Ever humble, Brother Mark Randy

—:—

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### Phoenix Sisters Organize Ladies Circle

It will come as good news to all Lady Circle members that on November 21, 1974, the Sisters of the Phoenix, Arizona Branch met at the church building and organized another branch of the Ladies Circle.

There was an excellent attendance of happy, congenial Sisters and everyone was happy to be a participant in the organizing movement.

Sister Sarah Watson (who along with her husband Brother Bob Watson recently transferred from the Valley Branch in California) chaired the meeting. Sister Sarah has long been active in the Ladies Circle and is currently president of the California district. She has been instrumental in organizing other circles.

The following Sisters were elected as officers: President, Sarah Watson; Vice-President, Sarah Neill; Secretary, Sandra Saczko; Assistant Secretary, Nancy Mazzeo; Treasurer, Anne Damore; Financial Secretary, Connie Ross; Teacher, Ruth Mountain; Word-Giver, Yvonne Saffron; Librarian-Historian, Ella Furnier; Editor, Frances Capone.

The Sisters look forward to many inspiring meetings. Along with all the other Sisters of the Ladies Circle, the Phoenix Sisters are desirous of furthering the cause of Christian endeavors.

Editor - Sister Frances Capone

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## A QUESTION IS ASKED

If your Church believes in the *Book of Mormon*, it must also then believe in polygamy and celestial marriages.

The Church of Jesus Christ has never, nor will ever, believe in adultery in any form. Any one who claims knowledge of the *Book of Mormon* cannot believe in polygamy or celestial marriage. The *Book of Mormon* states— "Wherefore, my brethren, hear me and hearken to the word of the Lord: For there shall not any man among you have save it be ONE WIFE; and concubines he shall have none".

"For I, the Lord God, delight in the chastity of women. And whoredoms are an abomination before me; thus saith the Lord of Hosts." *Jacob 2:27-28*.



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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### THOUGHTS ON THE BOOK OF REVELATION

By Rocco V. Biscotti

Guest Editor

Of late I have become very interested in the Word of God to the Apostle John regarding the seven churches in Asia. However, I do not intend to comment on all seven churches, but particularly the church of Ephesus and the church of Smyrna.

In *Chapter 2, verses 2 and 3*, the Lord acknowledges the good works of the church of Ephesus, "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars. And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted."

However, the Lord also informed them that in one respect He found them wanting, "Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." (*Verse 4*)

The Lord next gave them a warning, "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; ..." (*Verse 5*)

Notice the word of the Lord to the church of Smyrna, "I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) ..." (*Verse 9*)

They were poor as to material wealth, but very rich in the Lord. What a glorious promise was made to them, "... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (*Verse 10*)

Let us also note the words of the Apostle James, "Hearken, my beloved brethren, hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" (*James 2:5*)

I believe that God is very merciful toward His people and that our "first love" is something so very important.

Over 52 years ago, I entered into the service of God. We were very poor and had little material wealth, but we were happy with God's love, and what a oneness we felt.

All through the ages, wealth and prosperity have caused many of God's people to depart from their "first love" or the love of God.

Nephi's brother Jacob was directed by the Lord to warn the people against pride. (*Jacob 2:12, 13, 14*) A similar warning is included in *Helaman 12:1, 2 and 3*. These scriptures in *The Book of Mormon* are good to read prayerfully.

It is my firm belief that God does want His people to prosper. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Job, and many of God's people were blessed with wealth, and they kept humble—they truly possessed the love of God.

If we serve God and are humble, He will not deny us anything that is good for us and our families.

I recall the blessings enjoyed in my youth and the great miracles and manifestations of the power of God we witnessed among our people. God surely is the same and as the people of God, we must guard the "first love."

I like to quote a beautiful experience I often heard from our older Saints and it is also recorded on page 51 of our Church History. As a group of Saints were crossing the river near the Green Oak Church there arose a storm of such magnitude that their lives were in danger. Brother William Cadman, Sr. started to sing that beautiful hymn:

(Continued on next page)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### David And God's House

Dear Girls and Boys,

King David dreamed of the time when he could build a temple for the Lord. The church had been similar to a tent church and was carried from place to place because of the wanderings of the Israelites. David lived in a beautiful palace and he wanted God's house to be beautiful too. But because David had been a man of war, the Lord did not permit him to build the temple.

It was David who planned and prepared the building of the temple but we read of it as Solomon's Temple. Solomon was David's son. He has been called the wisest man who ever lived. He always remembered God in all his plans. Even the Queen of Sheba came to see him. After seeing all the splendor she said, "The half has not been told." Jesus once said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow, they toil not, neither do they spin, and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." So God's glory is greater than all the great temples and beauty of earthly things. Later I will tell you a story about Solomon.

The building of God's House was very interesting. David had a friend, King Hiram of Tyre, who owned large cedar forests. He made plans with Hiram to provide the cedar for the temple. It was the finest cedar wood from the forests of Lebanon. Hiram's men were famous lumbermen. They cut down trees, fastened big logs together and floated them down the coast to Jerusalem. His stone cutters, cut huge stones from the mountains and had them finished there. No sound of hammer, axe or an iron tool was heard in the house while it was being built. Hundreds of men built the Temple.

King Hiram also sent skilled workers in wood, stone, gold, silver, and brass. The walls were carved with figures of angels, palm trees and flowers. The inside of the sanctuary and the altar were covered with pure gold. The bowls, candlesticks and tables were of gold and silver. The temple was a gorgeous place. It took seven years to build it.

The Ark of the Covenant, which had been in the movable church, had a special place in the Temple. It was carried upon the priests' shoulders and placed in the Holy of Holies. Cherubims spread their wings over the ark. They were made of gold. The floor of the house was of gold too. A more beautiful temple had never been built.

When God's House was finished, Solomon declared a Day of Dedication. The singers came, the musicians came, the people came and praised the Lord. Solomon offered a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving to God. God's love filled the Temple and Solomon said, "God is pleased."

Thus King David's dream had been fulfilled. The Temple was to be a great blessing to God's people for many years.

Sincerely,  
Sister Mabel

### EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT — continued

Fear not, brethren, lo, 'tis Jesus  
Holds the helm and guides the ship;  
Spreads the sails that catch the breezes  
Sent to waft us to the deep.

Brother George Barnes, who was standing on the shore, rebuked the wind in the name of The Lord Jesus Christ. The storm was calmed and the Saints landed safely on the shore.

I truly believe that God is the same today as He was in the early days when our dear Brothers and Sisters of Pennsylvania enjoyed the blessings of God and fellowship with one another. Surely, this was the "first love" among the Saints at that time.

May we also continue to enjoy the same love and blessings and be found worthy of our profession. Troublesome days are sure to come because of evil works in our present world, but we are encouraged by the words of the Apostle Paul:

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (*Romans 8:38, 39*)

May God bless us and may we always retain the "first love."

### "IN MEMORY"

In loving memory of my father, Elder Fred Heath, who passed on to his heavenly reward March 2, 1974 at the age of 92, one year ago this month. He was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania on November 20, 1881, and was the son of the late William and Fanny Heath. He was baptized May 1, 1911, in Pennsylvania. He was transferred from the Glassport Branch to Branch No. 1 Detroit in June, 1951. Husband of the late Sister Martha Sloane Heath.

His memory is a keepsake,  
With which we will never part,  
Though God has him in His keeping,  
We still have him in our hearts.

Sadly missed by his family, relatives and friends, as well as the Saints and all who knew him.

Daughter, Gertrude Grover  
Glassport Branch

## FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

By Sister Teresa Pandone  
Youngstown, Ohio

Anthropologist Margaret Mead, who has devoted much of her scholarly life to the study of the family in various cultures, asks this question: "Is there any way of life NOT built upon the family?" The answer is obvious.

It is a funny thing concerning your family — you certainly cannot get along without them, but at times you cannot get along with them either! But beneath your annoyances, you love your family dearly. You would be truly lost without them and you are so much happier when you are getting along well with them.

Your parents and grandparents and on back for generations, have each passed on to their children, an amazing amount of useful knowledge and customs. For example, our parents learned their first words in the language spoken in their home. Our grandparents taught our parents right from wrong, good manners, true courtesy, how to be hospitable to others, how to get along with friends, etc. In fact, parents have been handing down their knowledge, belief and customs to their children for an endless number of generations. There is a tremendous amount of *experience* behind the rules they teach. They are using the experience of their own lives and the wisdom that has been passed on to them by earlier generations, so that you will enjoy a good life and help others to enjoy a good life. Of course, parents are not the only people who teach children and help to form their characters. Your ministers, school teachers, Sunday School teachers, the laws of our country and books of moral and spiritual value have all been influential in forming their characters. All these things which are passed on to you by these different sources are an *inheritance*. They are gifts to you from the past. These treasures of mind and spirit that have come down to you from your ancestors are called your *social heritage*. You get the benefit of it only through what you are willing to learn from it.

The happiest, steadiest families are those in which husband and wife love each other and their children devotedly, while the children love and honor their parents. All family members do their best to help others as they love, grow, play and work together. This is the ideal we work toward.

It is also true that both parents and ancestors on both sides of the family contribute to one's *biological heredity*. They determine many of his bodily traits and perhaps his ability to benefit mentally from his education. The great variety of genes and combinations of genes means that there are great variations even within a family. This makes the human race wonderfully varied and interesting. This is called our *biological heritage*.

Our *home* is the smallest but *most important social unit* in the world. It is a training center for the larger fellowships in the *Family of God*. It is here we receive from our parents, (for the most part) our *Spiritual Heritage*.

Many times we are distracted with things, schedules and methods, and forget that our home is, first of all, a matter of relationships. Every relationship is a two-way street, the *key word* to every successful relationship is *compromise*.

It is not always the amount of time a family spends together that makes the difference, as it is *what happens* when they *are together*. I heard the story of the young son of a soldier, who was playing in the hotel lobby where his family was living at that time. Someone questioned him, "Isn't it a pity you have no home to play in?" The boy answered, "Oh, we have a home. We just don't have a *house* to put it in!" God lays a great responsibility at the door of every parent for the spiritual training of their children. The *Bible* states, "Train up a child in the way he should go . . . nurture him in the chastening and admonition of the Lord." The MOTHER can be the spiritual backbone of a family. The most sacred trust of the home is to train the capacity for LOVE so that every child can come to know, a *relationship* with God as his *Heavenly Father*.

*Real learning* comes in stages. Someone asked a little girl what she had learned on her first day in school. To this she replied, "I learned things I didn't understand — and then — I learned to understand them." Most of our learning about God is like that at *any age*. We *think* we know something, then later a new awareness or illumination comes and we feel that we knew nothing but the *words* before. God comes to *anyone*. All He asks is that we come with a whole heart ready to learn from Him. We each have to grow, and we *can* grow by *sharing* with one another.

*Every child* who comes into the world presents a new possibility for lifting the destiny of the human race. A child is *equipped by God for response*. You have heard it said, "To every action, there is a *re-action*." The nature of one's response is governed by the influence of some adult who is important in his everyday life. Each of us is that *conscious* or *unconscious* influence. Jesus said on one occasion, "If I be lifted up, I will DRAW all men to me." His kind of love *draws*. He never forced Himself on anyone, but they were *drawn* to Him. God gave man the responsibility of *choice*, therefore He waits for each of us to *respond to Him*. As Jesus grew, this *response to God's love* was the most *natural* part of His life. As He entered His ministry, He always watched for the *response* of others to the love of God. His disciples were slow to learn it, but the children He met responded at once! In that day, children were taught to stay in the background, but when they met Jesus — all barriers were broken down. They flocked to Him naturally and gladly. He used this natural response to get His own lessons across to the adults. This natural kind of love, spontaneous and unaffected which forgets "SELF," is what Jesus revealed in His own life. His thoughts were always for others.

*Real religion* is a matter of our *daily relationships* and this foundation for religious teaching must begin in the *home*. The *greatest* teaching method of all — is the *living* of the truth.

My father was a minister of the Gospel, but the greatest sermon he ever preached to me, was the life he lived. How he lived spoke so loudly, I didn't necessarily have to hear all that he said.

God belongs in *every part* of our life. I was reared by Godly parents who learned to respond to God's goodness and mercy. They placed their full confidence and trust in Him and served Him to the best of their ability. Because of their performance, I learned at a very young age to depend upon God. My home atmosphere gave me

a sense of strength and security and I attribute my attitudes to my home environment. Our family relationships were strengthened by the difficulties we met together. This security in my home life, gave me healthy courage. This courage opened my hearts door for *hope*. This hope gave me *faith* and this faith taught me to *respond* to the *God of Love*.

Unfortunately — this is not the experience of everyone, even those from “religious” homes. Although I feel the importance of a good childhood in the home, I must add that at *any age* anyone can start anew, and God can compensate for any lost childhood experiences of Him. We have our hope for the future on the fact that we have seen persons change. Only hopeless despair and a blaming of others can keep anyone from changing and finding a full, abundant life in God.

The family experience is the training center of being a member of the Family of God, which is *The Church*. The Church finishes what the family cannot do and compensates for wherever the family fails. The Church, as Christ, must *DRAW*. The ministers, S. S. teachers, and all other members represent the drawing power of God's love in every relationship. The Church is people who make up the body of Christ. But above all, The Church is a relationship of many people together with their Lord, whom they love and worship. It is only when we have God's understanding concern for *ALL* that The Church can truly be the Family of God. Only love can be concerned for others. And only love draws.

The most important fact of true religion is that we can have personal relationship with God — A relationship of Love. To worship God is more than a form, an attitude, an “atmosphere” — it is an encounter with and an experience of a growing relationship.

Since God never forces His way into any heart, He waits for those of us older in the Family of God, to represent Him truly to the younger ones, that they, in turn, might respond to the God of Love, our Heavenly Father, the head of this Spiritual Family.

## IT ALL COMES BACK TO YOU

Today is just a passing through,  
Tomorrow, you laugh, may never see you.  
But, you'll always have yourself to face,  
No matter where you go or do  
It all comes back to you... in the end.

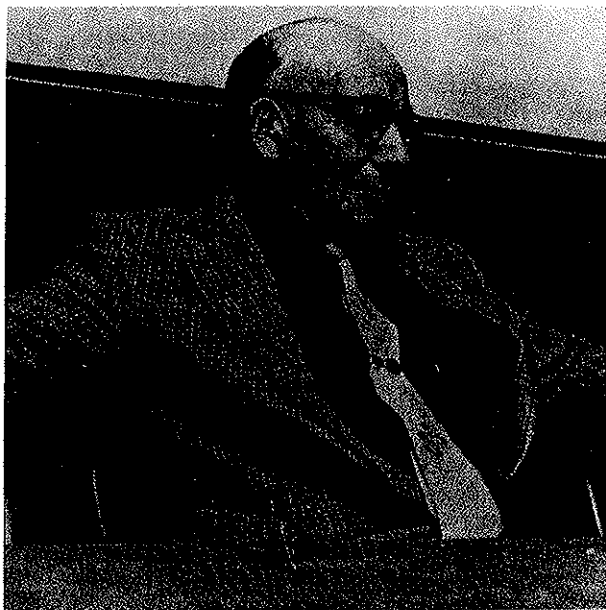
Where you never die, no never.  
Nothing seems to phase you all  
Right now is your judgement day  
You plan to do well after you die?  
Or you think it's all over when you go?

Your excuses tell me nothing  
Just, you're afraid to pay the bill  
That Jesus left, and you know how well.  
He paid it all for you.

So, How do you feel when you know...  
No matter where you go or do  
It all comes back to you... in the end  
Where you never die, no never.

Brother John LaBuda  
Youngstown, Ohio

## OUR BROTHER HONORED



Our dear Brother in Christ, Richard Isaac, who is also the Chief of the Six Nation Reservation, was recently honored in Canada for his many achievements. Brother Isaac received a letter on September, 1974 which stated, that a township in the Algona-Manitoulin Region was named in his honor. He also received a scroll stating:

“We the Government of Ontario have named the geographic township indicated on this scroll for Richard Isaac, in recognition of the valuable contribution to the development of the region.”

“This name will appear on all official maps, records, and documents of the province of Ontario on and after June 27, 1974.”

Some of Brother Isaac's achievements were: bringing running water to the reservation, improving the roads, and bringing about new homes, which are now being built for the betterment of the people.

Although he was pleased with his earthly honors, he made this statement: “The greatest honor I want to accomplish is that my name be written in the Lambs Book of Life”.

Brother Isaac is a very humble and prayerful brother. Thru prayer, during his seven year term in the office of Chief Counsellor, he has been able to overcome all the opposition that has come his way. Anyone who knows Brother Isaac can verify how deeply he is loved by the people on the Six Nation Reservation.

In our Church, Brother Isaac holds the office of Teacher. His wife and help mate, Sister Georgina, is a Deaconess. He and his wife were baptized some 35 years ago. They have both worked hard to further the growth of our Church.

Brother Richard Isaac, born on December 10, 1902, has brought about much good in his 73 years upon this earth. We pray that God will bless Brother Isaac all the rest of his days.

Sister Mary Dichiera and  
Sister Diana Thompson

**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****SPECIAL MEETINGS AT THE  
ROSCOE BRANCH**

A series of special meetings were held at the Roscoe Branch. On November 21, Brother James Moore, Sr. opened the meeting using *Romans, Chapter 12*. Brother Moore was followed by Brothers Sam Kirschner and James Moore, Jr., who encouraged us to give of ourselves to God and put Christ before us in our lives. Many wonderful words were spoken.

On Friday evening, Brother Fred Olexa opened the service followed by Brothers John Manes, Dan Casasanta, and Dick Lawson, teaching us to be faithful to God and showing us the way to travel along the road of life... also the necessity to be included as an heir to receive God's promises of eternal life.

On Saturday evening, four Apostles were present in the meeting (Brothers Rocco Biscotti, Russell Cadman, S. Kirschner and Joseph Bitteringer), and an Evangelist, Brother Joe Calabrese. Brother Biscotti opened the service speaking on repentance and baptism and the power of God. The Spirit of God was surely felt in our midst. There was a large attendance from various Branches in the District.

Sunday morning Brothers Joe Calabrese and James Campbell spoke to us concerning the curious workmanship used in the ball, or director, and the ship used by the Nephites in traveling to the Promised Land, and how the Gospel is indeed a curious workmanship. They also spoke about how we must all join together in working to build Zion. Brother Calabrese read from *Alma*.

We cannot take the space to write of all the beautiful words spoken by our Brothers to us, nor can we express fully the love and the Spirit of God we felt during these meetings. We only pray they will remain within our hearts always. May God bless our Brothers who came so far to deliver God's message, and for their efforts in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We love them all so much.

The Roscoe Branch

**FORT PIERCE HAS BAPTISMS**

On Sunday morning, January 12, 1975, we all rejoiced to learn that a baptism was to take place. The service was opened by singing several hymns to the honor and glory of God.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo opened the meeting using the scripture from *Isaiah 53:1, 3*; the theme being **WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT** and also referring to *Isaiah 52:1, 5*... **THE RIGHTEOUSNESS, SALVATION, and the JUDGMENT OF THE PEOPLE**. Brother Lovalvo expressed himself very eloquently on both subjects bringing forth how Jesus was despised and rejected by all and they did not believe His report or that of His disciples. He also commented on many passages of scriptures dealing with Jesus' ministry.

At this point Donna Jean Micale of Hollywood, Florida asked for her baptism along with Marion Biferari who had asked for her baptism earlier in the week. This

made the day very joyful for all as we went to the water of Lake Ann in Lakewood Park. Brother Lovalvo baptized Sister Donna Jean Micale while Brother Giovannone baptized Sister Marion Biferari.

The day was ideal for a baptism — sunny and bright. We had many visitors from various places: Brother and Sister Micale and family from Hollywood, Florida; Brother Victor and Sister Dorothy Pastorelli of Detroit, Michigan; Sister Helen Smith of Pinetop, Arizona; and in our midst for the first time was Rose Pandone, cousin of Brother Lou Pandone of Youngstown, Ohio. Sister Rose bore her testimony as to the goodness of God and said that she had never enjoyed herself so much and was very impressed with the sermon and also of the mode of baptism.

In the afternoon service the new candidates were confirmed into The Church. Sister Donna Jean Micale was confirmed by Brother Charles Smith and Sister Marion Biferari by Brother Frank Rogolino.

After a few remarks from the priesthood the balance of the service was devoted to testimony. Many were anointed for illness and spiritual strength and we all went home with our CUPS FILLED.

Brother Lou Pandone

**LORAIN, OHIO BRANCH NEWS**

The Lorain Branch started out the New Year with visiting Sisters from Detroit Branch No. 3. They were given the opportunity to express themselves in song and testimony, and this brought a blessing to all. On this first Sunday, we also held our feet washing service. This is what Christ had done; this is the example He set for us to follow. The words to this song come to my mind:

Each step I take I know that He will guide me;  
To higher ground He ever leads me on.  
Until some day the last step will be taken,  
Each step I take just leads me closer home.

On January 12, we held an evening service and we invited the Perry Branch to meet with us. We enjoyed their beautiful singing of "praises to God." Many Brothers and Sisters who testified "Thanked God" for allowing us to have so much talent throughout His church: a way that we can better serve Him in our own special way.

Our hearts were saddened by the loss of our dear Sister Carmella Alessio who passed on to her eternal reward on January 27, 1975. She was a very faithful member of the Church and set a wonderful example for the Brothers and Sisters to follow. Those of the family who came from distant branches were Sister Jeanette and Brother Jim Velardi and Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. and Brother Joseph Perri from Florida. Also Sister Rose Lombardo and Brother Ken Surdock and Sister Adeline Ciccatti from California. It was good to see them after such a long time, though it was under these sorrowful conditions for the family. We know that the Lord did comfort each of them.

I will continue to pray for you as God enables me to, and we as God's People can continue to pray for you another throughout His church. May God Bless you.

Sister Leona Nardozzi  
Lorain Branch Editor

## Baptism At Chattahoochee, Florida

We are glad to report that Brother Cleveland Baldwin has baptized and confirmed Brother Charleston Hester on January 5, 1975 at Chattahoochee, Florida.

Brother Baldwin has recently moved to Chattahoochee from New Jersey. We pray that God will continue to bless our Brothers labors. The work in Chattahoochee is under the Ft. Pierce, Florida Branch.

## YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO NEWS

On December 29, 1974, we were pleased to have visiting us in Youngstown, Ohio, Brother John Manes, President of the Pennsylvania District and his family. Brother John gave us a very inspiring sermon on the subject of unity which is so essential for spiritual progress, coupled with faith in God. He used for his text *Mark* 4, 37-41. Without faith, it is impossible to please God.

On January 5, 1975, we enjoyed the visit of Brother Bob Ciarrochi and his family along with others from Niles, Ohio. Brother Bob introduced our morning service stressing the unworthiness of mankind as recipients of God's blessings. Using for his text *Leviticus* 19, he expounded on holiness — to be holy is to be acceptable and pleasing in God's sight.

We extend the invitation to all our Brothers, Sisters and friends to come visit us in Youngstown, Ohio where we might worship together and share the blessings of God.

Sister Minnie DePiero,  
Assistant Editor

## CALIFORNIA DISTRICT SPIRITUAL GATHERING

On December 7 and 8, 1974, our people gathered in Phoenix, Arizona from all over the West Coast for a Spiritual Conference of the California District of The Church of Jesus Christ. Capacity audiences filled the rented school auditorium nearly every meeting. Included in the congregation were some brothers and sisters from Mexico, the two Apache reservations and the Navajo reservation. We were honored to have Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the Church, and Brother Frank Vitto, Evangelist, visiting us from Detroit, Michigan.

In my estimation, this was one of the most outstanding conferences I have ever attended. Those in attendance were hungry to hear the Word of God, many having diligently fasted and prayed in advance for God's blessings in these meetings. The announced theme of the conference was Indian Missionary Work. Pursuant to this theme, on Saturday morning the Elders met for a seminar and the laity went to tour a museum of Native American exhibits and relics.

The Saturday afternoon and evening meetings were open to all. The Ministry departed from some of the pre-planned activities in order to follow the inspiration of God. The result? Inspired preaching, spirited singing, some wonderful testimonies.

During the service, Sister Carmen Luna saw a vision of a heavenly personage standing behind Brother Bob

Watson as he related an experience of an act of love by one of the Brothers in the Church.

The only regret I had of the Sunday service was that there were so few present to appreciate it (even though there were close to 300 people there.) Is it not ironic that we have a message of such great importance to tell all the nations of the world and yet we are only reaching a few who will even listen to it? The attendance at our conference, which only numbers in the hundreds, should number in the hundreds of thousands. It would be wonderful if the conferences could be broadcasted on radio or even telecasted on T.V.

Brother Dominic Thomas was our opening speaker. He began by reviewing the history and future expectations of our Church. He then stirred up the congregation to an honest appraisal of how well we as a church, and as individuals, have fulfilled these expectations. He spoke of the need for more fasting and prayer on the Branch, District, and General Church level for a greater outpouring of the Spirit and Power of God. He also spoke of the following three primary objectives in the work amongst the Seed of Joseph:

1. Have them "accept the Gospel and be accountable to it."
2. "Assist them to develop meaningful and productive lives."
3. "Developing their (spiritual and natural) talents and resources, and assume a full partnership in the work."

Brother Frank Vitto followed. He spoke of the nature of our relationship with God. He said if we are not receiving the full measure of His spirit, someone has moved, and it must be us.

Brother Bob Watson got up to make a few closing remarks when the Holy Spirit rested upon him and he spoke with power and authority concerning the destiny of the Church and God's people. None wanted the meeting to end and several asked for prayer, expressing their desires for renewed dedication. Brother Paul Liberto extended an invitation to all the "young men who love God" to come to the front and sing "Lovest Thou Me" in unison.

A beautiful conclusion to a memorable weekend.

Brother Larry Watson  
District Editor

## "LORD, HELP MY UNBELIEF"

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Yesterday morning I opened the *Book of Mormon* to *Mormon* 9th chapter, and read the wonderful words of Moroni, speaking of the power of God and how He is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. A *God of Miracles*. Surely Moroni's words were inspired as he said, "Behold, I say unto you whoso believeth in Christ, doubting nothing, whatsoever he shall ask the Father in the name of Christ it shall be granted him; and this promise is unto all, even unto the ends of the earth."

Once before I wrote an article of a wonderful experience we had two years ago with our little girl, but failed to send it in. After reading the above scripture, I felt prompted again to write the article, remembering my

need at the time for additional faith and the belief of Dana who was five years old at the time. I am so thankful that we do serve an unchanging God and for the faith my little girl had when a problem came into her life which I would like to relate.

Two years ago Dana developed an acute condition in her kidneys. We had her anointed, but the next day there was no difference in her condition. We took her to the hospital where she was admitted. When I told her she was going to have to stay, she cried with a broken heart and said, "I've been anointed, I don't know why you are putting me in the hospital, Jesus is going to make me better." She remained in the hospital for a week and after being discharged, continued to see the doctor twice a week.

After several visits he said he did not like her progress and was considering sending her to another hospital if she did not improve with medication. We called upon our brothers and sisters in The Church to pray for her and Dana could not understand our concern as she knew God was going to heal her. I wished I could have had this belief, doubting nothing as Moroni encourages us to do in his writings. Then one morning early, Dana came into my room and told me she had had a dream. With tears in her eyes she said it was so real she felt like crying. She told me a man had stood by her bed and patted her on the face and said, "Wake up, Dana, I want to anoint you." She related he did anoint her. She said, "Mommy it was so real." I felt the spirit of God when she told me this. From that time on her condition fastly improved. She was soon completely well and the next report from the doctor was very encouraging. Thank God, Brothers and Sisters for answering our prayers and the faith portrayed by a child, which has helped to strengthen my faith each time I think of this experience.

While looking through the *Book of Mormon* as I sat down to write this article, I came across these words which my mother had underlined in *Moroni 7th chapter, 47th verse*, "But charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him."

May we all continue to grow in faith in the Love of God who is waiting to bless us always. How many times has He answered your prayers?

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky

## IN LOVING MEMORY

On November 29, 1974, Sister Concetta Capone passed on to her eternal reward. She was a member of the Bell, California Branch.

She was baptized in The Church in the fall of 1937 and remained a faithful member until the end.

A stroke victim, she spent the last fifteen months of her life in a nursing home.

As the poet has penned: "They also serve who only stand and wait". Sister Concetta gave of her strength and loving service until she was no longer able to do so — and then she waited and served until the Lord called her home.

As I looked at her in her coffin (the beauty of her features intact), my thoughts spanned the many years that I had known her. I was twenty years old when I married into the Capone family. She immediately took me under her wing and loved me like a younger sister. Can I possibly recall ALL the times that those beautiful folded hands helped me in so many different ways? No, I cannot. The love and affection that she extended to me were immeasurable. Of a surety, many who read this article will recall the loving service and kindness that she extended to them in times of need and in times of joy.

I personally mourn her loss and it saddened me very much when I learned of her passing. We shared many years of a wonderful relationship. As long as I live, I shall treasure these memories. However, the Saints who have ended their earthly journey are all rejoicing, for today she has joined their throng. She will not return to us but it is our hope and prayer that some day we shall all meet her in that beautiful place where there is no more sorrow, tears or pain.

Sister Concetta Capone's Sister-in-law  
and Sister in Christ,  
Frances J. Capone  
Phoenix, Arizona Branch

NOTE: Sister Concetta was ordained Deaconess of the Church.

## PSALM XV

Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?

Who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness,

And speaketh the truth in his heart;

He that slandereth not with his tongue,

Nor doeth evil to his friend, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor;

In whose eyes a reprobate is despised,

But who honoreth them that fear the Lord;

He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not;

He that putteth not out his money to usury,

Nor taketh reward against the innocent.

He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Carla Joann to Carl and Joann Romana of Ft. Pierce, Florida

Brad Thomas to Thomas and Earleen Hunt of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### WINDHAM - HATCH

Lawrence Windham and Kenah Hatch were united in holy wedlock on November 29, 1974 at the Lake Worth, Florida Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Michael Radd officiated at the ceremony. A reception was held at the Hatch home. May God Bless the newlyweds.

**SCHROEDER - ROBINSON**

Mr. Roger Dean Schroeder and Sister Marietta Jean Robinson were united in marriage by the bride's father, Elder A. J. Robinson, on December 28, 1974. The ceremony was conducted at the Mennonite Brethren Church in Buhler, Kansas.

The newlyweds will reside at Sterling, Kansas where they are both students at Sterling College.

● **OBITUARIES** ●**FRANCES DAGROMA**

Sister Frances Dagroma of Youngstown, Ohio passed on to her heavenly reward on December 21, 1974. She was a member of the Youngstown Branch for many years until recently when she moved to San Jose, California. She attended the Church in California for the last two years.

She was born on December 24, 1887 and baptized on October 1, 1939.

Left to mourn her passing are three sons, two daughters, ten grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, one stepson, three stepdaughters, and two sisters in Italy.

The funeral services were officiated by Brother A. A. Corrado at The Church of Jesus Christ.

She was a very faithful Sister and will be missed by all who knew her.

**MARY ELIZABETH COTELLESSE**

The infant daughter Mary Elizabeth Cotellessee died on December 18, 1974, two days after birth.

Her parents are Brother Joseph and Sister Joann Cotellesse.

Brother Paul Francione officiated at the funeral services.

**CARMELLA ALESSIO**

Sister Carmella Alessio passed on to her heavenly reward on January 27, 1975. She was a member of the Lorain, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on February 5, 1889 and was baptized on January 15, 1922.

The funeral services were officiated by Brothers Rocco Biscotti and Joseph Calabrese. Left to mourn her loss are two sons, three daughters, ten grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and two brothers.

She was a charter member of the Lorain Branch. Meetings were first held in hers and Brother Leonard's (who preceeded her in death) home. She was an ordained Deaconess and faithfully lived up to her calling. She was a pillar and a good example to all who knew her.

**WILLIAM MICHAEL JOHNSON**

Infant son William M. Johnson died shortly after birth on January 26, 1975. He was born on January 21, 1975.

The memorial service was held on January 28, 1975 for the immediate family by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

**SALVATORE PRESUTTO**

Brother Salvatore Presutto of Lorain, Ohio passed on to his eternal reward on December 22, 1974. He was born on February 19, 1890 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 27, 1920 at Arensburg, Pennsylvania.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Frank Calabrese. He leaves to mourn his loss, four sons, one daughter, ten grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one brother.

Brother Presutto had been failing in health the past couple of years. He was very determined to attend church whenever possible. The Sunday morning he passed away he was preparing himself for church. While doing so, he began to sing "How Great Thou Art". After which he knelt down and prayed and passed away.

**— CHURCH CALENDAR —**

The following is a list of 1975 events of General Church and regional interest:

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

March 8—General Ladies Uplift Circle in Lake Worth, Florida

March 7, 8, 9—California District Conference in Bell Branch

March 12, 13, 14—Michigan-Ontario District Conference in Branch No. 3

March 8, 9—Ohio District Conference in Youngstown, Ohio

March 8, 9\*—Pennsylvania District Conference in Imperial

March 15, 16—Florida District Conference

March 15, 16—Atlantic Coast District Conference

March 22—General Mission Board Meeting

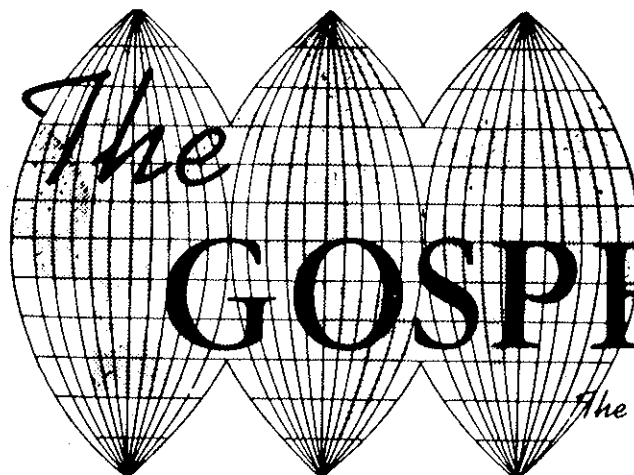
April 17\*, 18\*, 19\*, 20\*—General Church Conference

May 17—G.M.B.A. in Atlantic Coast

June 27, 28, 29—General Church Gathering in California

August 9-16—G.M.B.A. Campout in Pennsylvania





# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

April, 1975

Volume 31, No. 4

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## WHO WILL GO

Greetings in Christ Jesus:

Thus said the high and lofty one that inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite.

I create the fruit of the lips; peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, said the Lord; and I will heal him. *Isaiah 57:15-19.*

These are promises of living hope. If the Lord's eyes are on the sparrow that falls from the nest, how much more does He care for His children.

Then be of good cheer my Brothers, no matter how grievous the task. By the grace of God we shall overcome.

The angel of the Lord brought the Everlasting Gospel to earth again to be preached, to every nation, kindred and people. Who is going to do this? Who will go? Will it be you, I or the next generation?

Paul did not have the money for the trip to Rome, so the Lord sent him there as a prisoner. Had he gone with money and had a pleasant trip he would not have been a blessing to the Island of Malta, to the prisoners, and the poor of Rome. Had Paul not been cast into jail the jailer would not have heard of the Gospel.

Why should it be different today? This Gospel has to go on to the humble, and the contrite of heart. Are you ready my Brother? Are you willing? Think on these things; this little Church which seems so small and of little action, is as little David and his father's few sheep. But God created the occasion at the right time and then what a surprise even to his own family who would that he go after his father's sheep; but, no, David was fired by a heavenly fire. His people and his God were being challenged; and, if no one else would meet this challenge, he would and did.

Let us make ourselves ready, by living righteous lives; and, offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.

Do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves for they watch

for your souls, as they must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you.

For nearly six (6) years I have entertained a dream to go to Guatamela, and though I have had a few bouts with death, I am now ready to go and perhaps by the time you read this letter I may be there, if the Lord wills.

He has given me weaknesses that I may learn humility, and not glory above measure. He has given me infirmities that I may have compassion on my fellow Brothers, and by this means know the grace of God and your abiding love for such as I.

I ask your prayers more than bread and water. Sister Randy abides near to my heart more than ever; for this I am humbly grateful. And though she will not go with me at this time, because I do not know what I find there or if I succeed, the Lord knows. A Mexican will drive me all the way some 3500 miles.

I do this so that I may visit our Brothers at Sinaloa, and Mexico City, also this exposes me fully to the Spanish language which I must do better.

If Paul could go to Macedonia over a dream, so can I by the grace and love of the same God. If he suffered for the cause, so will I if the need so demand. I will leave February 28th. May the name of our living most glorious Lord be glorified in my body.

May some of God's children be gathered because of this trip. Pray for Brother Marco.

I love you dearly in Christ,  
Marco Randy

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## GMBA CONFERENCE

The G.M.B.A. Conference will be held on Saturday, May 17, 1975, at 10:00 a.m. in New Jersey.

Check with your local M.B.A. for exact location. Plan to attend. We will discuss "Campout" in August, 1975 and Kansas in 1976.

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## FACES

by Donald Ross

All alone, however faithful and humble, a prophet, the last one so called of God during his time wrote: "Whether the Lord will that I be translated, or that I suffer the will of the Lord in the flesh, it mattereth not, if it so be that I am saved in the kingdom of God." His name—Ether.

Ether hid in a cave for a year, concerned for his life, coming out only at night to observe the continuing destruction of the Jaredite people because of wickedness.

The word of the Lord came to Ether. He was instructed to go to the king, Coriantumr, and prophesy that unless he repented—he and his entire household—he and all his people would be destroyed. The spirit of prophecy on Ether promised Coriantumr that should he repent, the Lord would grant him a kingdom and spare all the people. If he would not, Coriantumr would live to witness the total destruction of the Jaredites and another group of inhabitants take possession of the "promised land."

But Coriantumr was no different than many men before him. He would not repent, neither would his people. They went beyond the mark and attempted to slay Ether. Again, Ether hid in a cave and within a few years saw the complete fulfillment of the Lord's word.

Ether was the last prophet of the Jaredites—an excellent historian—to whom we are indebted for the Jaredite record. It was abridged by Moroni and is known as the *Book of Ether* in *The Book of Mormon*. Ether was a descendant of Jared. Highly favored of the Lord, Ether saw what few, if any saw—a vision of the full history of the earth, from Adam to the end of time.

The Jaredite nation was foolish and did not listen to Ether's appeals for righteousness—any more than they heeded the words of previous prophets. Finally, the Jaredites wearied of Ether's preaching and expelled him from their midst. He hid himself in "the cavity of a rock" and came out only at night to view the course of events he prophesied would inevitably transpire.

While hiding, he wrote the history of his time, year by year, and watched and no doubt lamented as the people gradually destroyed each other in gruesome and unrelenting warfare. The bloodshed was so great that the evil Coriantumr pleaded for mercy from his enemies that the fighting might stop.

When the annihilation was over, the Lord "spake unto Ether, and said unto him: go forth, and he went forth and beheld that the words of the Lord had all been fulfilled, and he finished the record." As he abridged the record which was written on twenty-four golden plates, Moroni wrote: "and the hundredth part I have not written." Ether hid the record "in a manner that the people of Limhi did find them" while searching for the land of Zarahemla. Was Ether translated or taken according to the flesh? We will discover this if we endure to the end.

## THOT!

"Set your affections above. Remember, if Heaven is your home it's worth your investment."

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

By Joseph Bittinger

In September, 1974 my wife received a letter from Sister Rachael Arthur, President of the Ladies Uplift Circle of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. In writing, she gave thanks and praise to God for sparing her life to that day.

My wife was very glad and thankful to hear from Sister Arthur, as were all other members of The Circle. They heard the letter read in their meetings. The Sisters in America are always glad and thankful to receive correspondence from the Sisters in Nigeria, or from any of The Church's foreign Mission Fields. Communicating with each other can be very inspiring and spiritually uplifting to those availing themselves of this wonderful media.

Sister Arthur said their Ladies Uplift Circle has over three hundred members. Every Branch of The Church in Nigeria has a Ladies Circle. They all usually meet together once a year before the Nigerian General Church Conference convenes. Sister Arthur writes, "We have planned our work, every meeting has a set work to do. During our last meeting, we talked about the life of little Samuel. We derive inspiration from the way Hannah cared for the small boy and finally returned him to Eli, the Elder. How many of us Circle members would have done as much? Samuel lived up to the expectations of the mother. Many mothers really felt the duty of a mother both at home and in The Church". (1st Samuel Chapter 1).

Our Sisters in Nigeria are conducting their meetings very similar to those of our sisters in The Parent Church Circle. They are to be commended for their efforts in trying to follow the guidelines of The Parent Body.

I (Brother J. Bittinger) am very happy and indeed thankful to see the progress that has been made by the Sisters in that part of God's vineyard, both numerically and spiritually. I remember very distinctly on our first visit to Nigeria we informed the people if The Church of Jesus Christ would be established there, it accords women certain rights and privileges that must be recognized.

First: The Church does not believe in or condone polygamy in any form.

Second: We do not ordain women into the Ministry nor permit them to act in this capacity. Women can be ordained as Deaconesses. This office we consider as a help and not of the Priesthood.

Third: All women baptized into The Church have the right to express themselves, to bear their testimony to the blessing and goodness of God bestowed upon them in their daily service to Him. That certain meetings are for the laity to express themselves, especially the Sunday afternoon fellowship service. Often the midweek service is used for testimony.

Fourth: In The Church, the sisters have an auxiliary organization known as "The Ladies Uplift Circle." Their function is to assist The Church in its missionary work; to read and study the Scriptures for their edification; to visit the sick or those who may be in sorrow or need. (The Circle has been one of the main spokes in the wheel of all missionary work being sponsored by The Church today.)

We soon discovered that we were in contact with a people who were very eager to learn skills and trades, as well as scriptural knowledge and understanding. We held several question and answer meetings, giving everyone in the audience the privilege of asking questions, encouraging them to take an active part in all Church and Circle activities. As a result, they would gain knowledge and understanding of The Church and the things of God.

Twenty years later, I am happy and very thankful unto the Lord for His blessing that little Gospel Seed that was planted in the Abak Area. It was planted in good ground by the river of Living Water. It sprang forth and began to bear good fruit for a short season, then the opposition began to corrupt it. The Lord called other servants to go and labor in His vineyard, to nourish and prune it, that it may bring forth good fruit again. The servants looked and behold, some trees had become corrupt and were bringing forth evil, bitter fruit in the Lord's vineyard. The servants began immediately to cut down and remove the corrupt trees. They planted other trees in their stead, which they cultivated and nourished. The servants of the Lord did labor with all their strength and ability and the Lord of the vineyard did labor with them also. Then the vineyard again brought forth much good fruit to the Honor and Glory of God.

May God continue to bless the Brothers and Sisters in The Church and Ladies Circle in Nigeria. May they continually grow in wisdom and understanding and become a great spiritual mountain in Nigeria, that is to develop in the latter-days.

## AN ADDRESS

A brief address given by Evangelist T. D. Bucci to Indian campers at Anadarko, Oklahoma on August 17, 1971.

"American Indian my name is Evangelist T. D. Bucci. I'm from the state of Ohio. This is my sixth mission trip to Oklahoma Indian Territory. I attended the American Indian Exposition in 1961 and 1969 and was given the privilege to speak on the P.A. system to campers.

The church I'm associated with, has a very important message to bring to you. We firmly believe and preach that there are great things in store for you in the near future. This was given to us by the revelation of God.

An Indian Moses will come out of the Indian nation in the near future. He will be a great and mighty instrument in the hands of God. He will bring unity, peace, salvation and a restoration to your land "America".

I urge you to unite as a people indivisible under God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Ask the great spirit in the name of Christ, with faith, sincerity and real intent if this is not true. He will manifest the truth of it unto you by the power of the Holy Ghost. I thank you." A brief prayer was then uttered. Amen.

Brother Bucci is hoping with prayer that his book "American Indian Moses" will be completed and on sale sometime during this summer.

## MY THOUGHTS

While lying down to rest, my thoughts turned to God as I felt a strong desire to read a little from the *Book of Mormon*. I let the book open randomly and began to read from *III Nephi* 1:1 & 2. While reading, it caused me to think about the signs and wonders to which we are often deaf and blind.

I began thinking about the beautiful piece of land on the reservation that God has given to my husband and I. We had discussed earlier how some parents become angry at each other regarding their children's problems. Then, at times, the children become reconciled while the parents continue to have hard feelings. Parents are not able to forgive as readily as do the little ones, but Jesus said we MUST learn to forgive.

My husband and I further discussed the need of discipline in Church for all children. Yet, there are times, we as adults are not always good examples—are we?

As I lay in bed, thinking, the hymn No. 304, "Open My Eyes That I May See", came to me strongly. I thought of the first grade children in my class, particularly one small boy who is always dirty. He is one of the eight children in my mixed group of boys and girls. I usually seat them alternately, boy, girl, boy, girl, etc. Unwittingly I placed this dirty boy between two very clean little girls which resulted in a small drama unfolding before me. Both little girls sat on the edge of their chairs, withdrawing themselves from the boy. In return, he became reserved and warily looked at them out of the corner of his eyes. The girls are innocent of the fact that he comes from a very poor home where others are responsible for his clothes being clean and personal grooming.

But I know from his actions that his heart is clean and good. He willingly helps me stack the chairs after class each night and helps in the morning in taking the chairs down. If he accidentally steps on my foot he says, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Tenijieth." These small things reveal a clean and innocent heart in the small boy. Perhaps, if I were a child, I, too, would look at his dirty clothes and shy away from him. But where I thought as a child, I am now grown to maturity. There are simple truths I want illumined in me as I listen and wait on the Spirit of God.

Here in Whiteriver,, Arizona we have had many blessings. Recently the entire Church had a fasting and prayer meeting on a Saturday morning in behalf of our Mission. It was uplifting to know all The Church was in fasting and prayer for our welfare. Many Saints came to worship with us, from Redlake, San Carlos and Phoenix. Brother Ike Smith exhorted us to be united, not discouraged and not to underestimate the power of opposition. The *Book of Mormon* teaches us that someday the Choice Seer will come and convince the Indian of the truth which has been preached to them by our Church. Thus we need your constant prayers for our Mission. Let us be ready as the hymn states, "Open my heart and let me prepare, Love with thy children thus to share." God bless you all.

Sister June Tenijieth

## EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS

On January 12, 1975 the evangelists of the Michigan-Ontario District held their annual meeting at the Melvindale High School, Melvindale, Michigan.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Anthony Loyalvo. Brother Dominic Moraco spoke using for his text *John 6:47-68*. Brother Dominic's theme was, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."

Brother Dominic asked the following questions:

Do we have trouble believing?

What do we want more than everlasting life?

He admonished that we test our belief in Christ in difficult and dire times. The words of Christ must be eaten and digested because they are words that give life, for Christ is the bread that came down from heaven; not as the children of Israel received in the desert and died. But he that eateth the flesh (bread) of Christ shall live forever.

Our responsibility is to believe on God no matter what comes our way. Can we say with all our heart and soul that I believe in the Son of God and feel as Peter, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." In Brother Dominic's closing remarks he urged everyone to take a look at their belief in the Son of God and in closing said, "Only Believe."

Brother Spencer Everett followed in speaking and read *Roman 10:9-11*. He stressed that man must believe in Christ with his heart and confess Him with his mouth unto salvation. If you believe that you will obtain everlasting life you must talk (confess) about it.

Brother Dominic Thomas made some concluding remarks. Our service to God does not go unnoticed. He does bless us, help us, see us and know our heart. He admonished that we be active in proclaiming the Gospel and be dedicated to doing God's will.

Our Brothers were certainly blessed with the Holy Spirit and I feel that it has been a difficult task to capture the words and the mood of this service. Certainly, all who attended felt extremely edified.

Following the meeting all were invited to eat their lunches in the school cafeteria where we enjoyed a season of fellowship.

Nephi DeMercurio  
District Gospel News Editor

## The Jesus Bubble

Last week as I was tucking my daughter into bed, she said, "Mama, please don't leave me, I'm afraid."

So I sat down on her bed, gave her a hug and told her all she had to do was climb inside the "Jesus Bubble". I then explained that when I'm afraid, I pretend Jesus has His arms about me and I pray for His protection about me. This is my "Jesus Bubble". He is there for everyone. If you are walking alone on a dark city street or in a far off land or feeling frightened and alone in your home — just call for the "Jesus Bubble". He waits for your call with His arms outstretched waiting to enfold you with His love, comfort and protection. I looked at my daughter who was sleeping quietly.

Sister Darlene Large

## AN EXPERIENCE

By Brother Cleveland Baldwin

Sometime during the year of 1967 I purchased a new car from the local Chevrolet dealer. The car came from the factory with a defect. They tried several times to correct this defect, but were not successful. The evening Brother James Heaps was leaving for England, I took the car back to the dealer to have it serviced under the warranty. That evening I was to take Brother Heaps to the airport. As they serviced the car that afternoon, the oil filter was not placed on properly. This was unknown to me. As we approached the area of Kennedy Airport, the oil light came on. Most of the oil ran out and some damage was done to the engine. With the help of God, we managed to get the car back home that night.

The next morning I stopped in at the dealers office and spoke to the manager of the service department. He admitted it was an error on their part, but I didn't get too much consideration from him. This somewhat disturbed me. I didn't know exactly what to do. First, the car came with a defect that they did not correct, and now the engine was damaged. All this was the company's fault. I was not willing to pay for a car in such a condition as this. I spoke to some of the Brothers about my problem. I also spoke with an attorney. Their advice and feelings were the same. Both felt that I should contact General Motors Company. If I received no consideration, then I should file suit against the company. I prayed hard about this matter. In a very despondent condition I laid across my bed and opened the *Bible*. It fell to the *12th Chapter of Romans*. I began to read. I felt so good. I knew that something was working for me, but what, I did not know. When I reached the *17th* verse through the *21st* verse, I knew, I could not file a suit. This was my answer. I returned to the dealer and spoke to the owner of the company. He was an elderly man who had been in business many years. He was kind, gentle and very understanding. He said, "I see that you're not satisfied with this car, and my customers must be satisfied." He gave me a new car. The next years model for a small adjustment. I thank God for this.

Here of late this scripture has been on my mind very strongly: "Recompense no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

The *20th* and *21st* verses have been pressing upon me very strongly. I believe this is a noble text in any situation, as well as in all ages of time. If I would select a subject or a theme from this text, it would be, "Kill the Devil".

## Correction

In the article, The Gospel in Georgia published in the February issue of the *Gospel News*, a correction should be noted that also in attendance was "Brother Anthony Arcouri and wife." Editor

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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### THE POWER OF THE WRITTEN WORD

by Robert A. Watson, Guest Editorialist

When we think of reaching people through communication, we have basically two methods at our disposal. The method of communicating vocally and the method of communicating through the written word. Let us consider the merits of each.

The spoken word is powerful and effective, yet it has an inherent weakness. It is dependent upon biological and pathological limitations. These limitations manifest themselves at the time of death. The vocal word is destined to a place of permanence only in the memories of those whose ears responded to the vibrations of sound. The vibrations of which found themselves clothed with meaningful and purposeful stimuli through the magic of language. The word spoken today, though moving and all encompassing, might appear to be fainter and fainter with the passing of time and people.

#### *Impact of the Written Word*

We shall now consider the written word, and its impact. Jesus emphasized the importance of this when He reprimanded the disciples on this land for not writing the testimony of Samuel the Lamanite regarding the resurrection of many of the Saints, and He concludes by saying in *III Nephi* 23:11-13, "How be it that you have not written this thing, that many Saints did arise and appear unto many and did minister unto them. And it came to pass that Nephi remembered that this thing had not been written. And it came to pass that Jesus commanded that it should be written; therefore it was written according as He commanded. And now it came to pass that when Jesus had expounded all the Scriptures in one, which they had written, He commanded them that they should teach the things which He had expounded unto them."

I believe we are suffering today with unresolved and unanswered questions on the works of Christ because the pen failed to record many incidents that were resplendent with divine truth. This is verified by John when he states in *John* 21:25, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written."

The written word can be read and re-read innumerable times; it also allows for meditation and study. In *II Timothy* 2:15, Paul admonishes us, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

There is today a deluge of written verbiage directed at obscenity, immorality and civil disobedience; pornographic literature is big business and continues to flood the American homes with this diabolical evil. I read not too long ago the amount of literature (and the figures were staggering) that the communists were distributing to nations and people all over the world. The written word is, I believe, one of the mightiest weapons used to great effectiveness among people of underprivileged nations. The forces of evil are riding upon the wings of the written word and are effectively reaching people with their message of false hope and camouflaged security.

#### *Mission of Penetration*

I therefore respectfully suggest that we who have the hope of the world and the medium through which peace, both national and international, as well

(Continued on next page)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### David's Last Days

Dear Girls and Boys,

This finishes our stories about David. I hope you have enjoyed them.

The love which King David had for God helped him in his dealings with people. There were occasions of triumph, slaughter and times of cruelty. Defeat in war meant slavery or death. David's victories were great achievements but through it all he remembered God. His reign had been a time of unity, power, strength and prosperity. For forty years he had been on the throne of the united kingdom. Through all these years, God had helped him be a good king. In many Psalms David sang of his gratitude.

Everyone in Palestine felt very sad when King David died. They could never forget him. They would sing some of the songs he wrote, and remember how brave he was as a shepherd boy when he killed a lion and a bear. They could never forget how he killed the great giant when all the soldiers were afraid of him. His love for Jonathan could not be forgotten either and his kindness to the lame prince. Many beautiful memories were had of their dear king.

Some writers think David was about seventy years old when he died. His strength was failing and now some plans must be made for a successor to the throne. Any ambitious member of the royal family could strive to become king. David, although old, was aware of this. Some of his sons were plotting for the throne. Adonijah, one of the sons, was so anxious to be the next king that he could hardly wait for David to die. He took matters in his own hands and proclaimed himself king. Absalom also wanted to be king, but he died a tragic death and this left Adonijah, who was now the eldest living son. This was another reason he thought he should be king. Like Absalom, he too was handsome and popular.

Bathsheba, the mother of another son, Solomon, and Nathan, the prophet had plans too. They both wanted Solomon to be the next king. They had great influence with David. David wanted Solomon to be the new king and was persuaded to give his support to him. He ordered the priest Zadok and Nathan to go with Solomon to Gihon. Here at a sacred spring east of Jerusalem, Nathan anointed Solomon king. They returned to the people, Solomon riding on a mule, and by this all the people knew a choice had been made. So the kingdom was passed to Solomon, a very wise man, a man Jesus compared with the lilies of the field.

David urged Solomon to be obedient to God and his laws. God had made a promise to David that if his sons

would walk faithfully in God's ways, they could remain on the throne of Israel. So it came to pass that for four hundred years the family of David ruled over Israel.

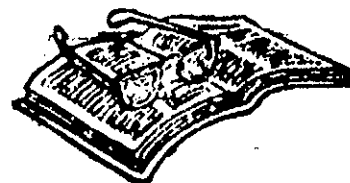
David never forgot he had been chosen by God. He stood as a symbol of divine calling to his people. He was buried somewhere in Jerusalem. A far greater One than David came many, many years later. He was greeted by those who believed in him as Jesus, "Of the house of David". The Apostle Paul writes of David, the son of Jesse, reminding us that God said, "I have found David, the son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, which shall fulfill all my will".

Sincerely,  
Sister Mabel

### EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT — continued

as individual can be attained, embark upon a mission of penetration, and the *Gospel News* (though infinitesimal in size) is yet immeasurable in potential effectiveness in providing for its readers a wealth of knowledge and experience. The paper can reveal man's relationship to God, and the relationship of man to man. We should heed the words of Nephi with great diligence, *II Nephi* 29:11-12, "For I command all men both in the east and in the west, and in the north, and in the south, and in the islands of the sea, that they shall write the words which I speak unto them; for out of the books which shall be written I will judge the world, every man according to their works, according to that which is written. For behold, I shall speak unto the Jews and they shall write it; and I shall also speak unto the Nephites and they shall write it; and I shall also speak unto the other tribes of the house of Israel, which I have led away, and they shall write it; and I shall also speak unto all nations of the earth, and they shall write it."

I believe you will all agree we as Gentiles come under the last admonition of all nations. I leave you with this soul searching question, "Are we leaving in written form the many experiences, revelations and other ways that God is manifesting Himself to us today?" Write it, so that others might share in your joy.



## A VISIT TO THE MUNCEY RESERVE

By Bill Hufnagle

Wednesday evening Brother Russel and Sister Lena Martorana and family arrived in Cleveland, Ohio for our trip to Muncey, Ontario. As soon as the meeting was over we loaded our van and asked the Lord to give us safe passage to our destination.

We left Cleveland about 9:30 p.m., one stop in Detroit for gas and we continued our journey. About 50 miles from Muncey the roads began to get wet and we were concerned about icy roads. Thank the Lord we arrived safely about 4:30 a.m. At this point we had no key for the church building and had to wake up one of our Sisters. She never once said that it was an inconvenience for her but welcomed us with love and joy. Thank God for this love in the hearts of men and women.

Thursday after breakfast we began to visit the Brothers and Sisters. We went to the home of Brother and Sister Clauss. Brother Jesse was glad to see us. He told us that his sister-in-law had been healed of cancer after much prayer on her behalf. A wonderful spirit was felt in the home of our Brother. We were all in tears of joy as he related how the Lord has blessed him, his companion, and grandson since we last saw them. We left thanking God, and feeling a peace as we each prayed unto the Living God of Israel.

That evening Brother Norman Seneca and Sister Arletta Silver paid us a visit. Sister Arletta has been ill and it was good to hear her thank the Lord for all that He has seen her through. This past September she was rushed to the hospital after she was found unconscious at home. She said, "I don't know where I would be today without the Lord." A group of us stood around the piano and sang hymns until after 12:00 p.m., but no one was tired, we just enjoyed a real good fellowship.

The next day as we visited more Brothers and Sisters, Brother Russ and I learned that a member had been hospitalized. Before visiting him we prayed that the Lord would go before us. We arrived at the hospital only to find that he had been released the day before. The Lord is truly merciful. That night we had a meeting that was just filled with God's Holy Spirit.

One of our Sisters asked for the laying on of hands for spiritual strength and she was glad that Brother Russ was there to help her.

Saturday morning we met in fasting and prayer and we felt a real good spirit. The voice of the Lord spoke to me while a Brother was praying, "Fear not my little flock for I am with you." After the meeting I related what I heard to the others because a Sister was concerned about the mission in Muncey. That evening her daughter related a dream she had about being afraid. Then Brother Russ mentioned what had happened that morning, adding that we need not fear when the Lord is with us.

We left Muncey with a great feeling of joy and remorse. Joy, because we gave up a few pleasures in life to spend some time with a wonderful people; remorse, because we see the plight of our Brothers and Sisters here on the reserve, and our hearts go out to them.

May God bless all who have labored so long that our stay at Muncey was a success.

I remain sincerely your  
Brother in Christ,  
Bill Hufnagle

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Some people are saying that Christ never set up a tangible organized church. Is there any truth to that statement?

Not according to *The Bible* and *Book of Mormon*. There are several pieces of scripture in both books, to verify that Christ did set up a real and tangible organization. For lack of space I will quote only two. The first from *The Bible*, "And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to The Church". *Ephesians* 1:22

The *Book of Mormon* is more explicit. "And how be it my church save it be called in my name? For if a church is called in Moses' name then it be Moses' church; or if it be called in the name of a man then it be the church of a man; but if it be called in my name then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel." *III Nephi* 27:8

From these two references alone you can see that Christ did not only set up a church, but was also concerned as to the naming of His Church.

There is one final point to be made. In *Ephesians* 4:11 it says, "And he gave some, apostles, and some, prophets; and some evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers;"

In other words, Christ established specific offices within His Church. Each office having its own duties and importance.

Let's briefly recap what we have learned. Christ set up a church, called it in His name, established specific offices, and gave to each of those offices individual duties.

Sister Diana Thompson

## NEWS FROM WHITERIVER, ARIZ.

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

We at the Whiteriver Apache Mission of The Church wish to thank you all very much for your expressed concerns through cards and letters, and also those concerns expressed to God in our behalf. You can't know how much it has helped to know there are those who have responded to our trial with such dedication.

We know that any strides to work with the Chosen people of God, will meet with great opposition, and that, many times this is our only continuing source of upliftment. We continue to be determined as a congregation of Saints to overcome any opposition, with God's help.

At this writing we still have obstacles to face, and would ask for your continued prayers in our behalf. May God bless you each in your endeavors to serve Him.

Brother Ike and Sister Bonnie Smith



**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****Monongahela Branch News**

The Pennsylvania District Evangelists held two spiritual meetings in Monongahela on Thursday and Friday evenings, February 6 and 7. Brother Fred Olexa, the first speaker, read the words of Paul to the Hebrews concerning their calling in the Gospel. Paul told his brethren to run the race with patience and endure to the end. They must not become weary and faint. The words of Nephi were also read as a warning to those who are at ease in Zion. God has given us His Gospel and the understanding that Israel must be restored. We need to become more righteous and not place the natural things of life before our spiritual duties. Satan tells us that all is well, and will lead us away into Hell with his flattery and deceit if we are not close to God. As the Bride of Christ, The Church must be ready for the Bridegroom. To do this, we must rid our garments of sin and stand in the perfect righteousness of God's Spirit. We were reminded that God will chastise His people because He loves us, even as an earthly father chastises His children.

Brother George Johnson spoke of the parable of the ten virgins, and said their condition of unreadiness describes The Church in our day. God does not look for quantity, but rather quality of people. We must not let the Devil diminish the urgency of the work we should be doing. We have to keep The Church alive until Christ comes and always be at our post of duty.

Brother James Campbell led a question-and-answer session and offered closing remarks on the words spoken throughout the evening.

The Friday meeting was opened by Brother Dan Casasanta, who read from the *22nd Chapter of Genesis*. God tempted Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Abraham was willing to do anything the Lord asked, and was obedient to God's words. Through obedience came God's blessing and Abraham was called the friend of God. Our faith should be as Abraham's, and we should believe that God will also provide for us in our time of need.

Brother Paul Palmieri was the next speaker and he said we may never be required to do what Abraham had to do, but we must make our own sacrifices in our lives. We have to develop our faith, step by step, until we reach the pinnacle that Abraham did. We need a working faith and we must build upon it, day by day, to get closer to God.

Brother James Campbell said that faith is the foundation upon which we can build our relationship to God. He referred to men like Moses and Lehi who exhibited faith in the commandments of God. Both were called to lead their people to a new land and were blessed for their faith. Those around us will be affected by the faith we exhibit. An interesting question-and-answer session followed.

We wish to thank our visiting Brothers for their words of exhortation and encouragement, and all who attended these meetings.

\* \* \*

In the April, 1974 issue of *The Gospel News* an article was headed "Aunt Dee Now 102." It is our wonderful privilege to now say "Aunt Dee Now 103." Sister Elizabeth Davidson, known to many as "Aunt Dee," celebrated her 103rd birthday on Sunday, February 16. She was present in our meetings and gave her testimony thanking God for her long life. Sister Davidson reminded us that she was baptized into The Church when she was 15 years old. This means that she has spent 88 years in the Gospel and has been faithful and active in every one of those years. Our Sister said that she never expected to live this long and that she owes God the thanks for a healthy life. She exhorted our young people to love their parents, as she did, and to serve God with enthusiasm. It may be interesting to note that Sister Davidson was one of the first presidents (if not the first) of the G.M.B.A. We thank the Lord and rejoice with our Sister, for it gives us a blessing to see her still attending as many meetings as she can. Although her eyesight is dim, her mind is very clear as she recollects events in her life over the past 90 or so years. Our Sister, for those who don't know her, is the sister of the late Brothers William H. and Alma Cadman.

An article that was read and dedicated to Sister Davidson beautifully expresses the feelings of all who know and love her. "Youth is not a time of life; it is a state of mind. Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear, and despair—these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the stars and the starlike things and thoughts, the undaunted challenge of events, the unflinching childlike appetite for what next, and the joy of the game of life. You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubts; as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hopes, as old as your despair."

On Sunday, February 23, Brother Jim and Sister Jean Moore and their family from Imperial were visitors in our Branch. Brother Jim opened the morning preaching service by reading from the *3rd Chapter of St. John*. Nicodemus came to Jesus for the message of salvation and was told that he had to be born again. Brother Jim spoke of our second birth, which is spiritual, and how it prepares us to meet our Creator. We must exercise our faith in the coming of Christ and be prepared as the five wise virgins were. They had their lamps trimmed and ready, as we must do. Our Brother spoke of the narrow road that leads to eternal life. This is the goal of all the Saints. Brother Jim told of God's goodness in sparing his father through the prayers and faith of the Saints.

Brother Donald Curry, our Presiding Elder, continued on the theme of the spiritual birth. This was the one requirement laid down by Jesus for us. Unless we are born again, we can in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven. Through this new birth we receive the Spirit of Christ in our lives and we become a new creature.

Brother Moore opened our afternoon fellowship meeting by speaking of the straight and narrow way as explained in the *31st. Chapter of II Nephi*. Nephi gloried in the plainness of the word. Brother Jim spoke of the plainness of the plan of God. Christ was baptized by John



to fulfill the plan of God and to set the example for us. We have the true Gospel and we must give it to others.

As Brother Jim was speaking, Sister Iola Kershaw saw a glow around his body. A voice spoke to her and said, "This is how My Spirit protects My people." We thank the Lord for the words of life we hear from our Brethren as they preach this Restored Gospel of Truth and Salvation.

Our blessings were to continue the following week as we were privileged to have Brother Joe, Sister Vicki and Joel Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio with us. Our Brother spent Friday and Saturday evenings speaking on "The Divine Continuity of The Church of Jesus Christ." Our faith in this Gospel was renewed and strengthened as Brother Joe traced the Divine Authority of God down to our present day.

Brother Calabrese stayed for our Sunday services and used Paul's words in the 5th chapter of Romans to open our preaching service. By faith we obtain grace and then we can rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Faith in Christ will give us the things we stand in need of. We also glory in tribulations because it works patience. This is where the test of our faith comes in. Patience, in turn, brings us experience. Our Brother said that we must have the experience that The Church of Jesus Christ has been restored with the Divine Authority. Then we must tell others of the Gospel and be strong enough to withstand the opposition. The experience, says Paul, gives us a hope for the future. Our hope includes a Zionite condition, the coming of the Choice Seer and the restoring of Israel. No other people has a greater hope and knowledge of these things. We must now make our hope become reality and work to bring these things about.

May God bless our Brother as he endeavors to teach these precious elements of the Restored Gospel.

## News From Sterling Heights, Michigan

So many blessings we've received this week! On Wednesday we held a meeting to vote about purchasing a church building that we have been considering. The results were in favor of the purchase. So, you can see that this is reason for the Sterling Heights Branch to be happy. We will now have our own building to meet in. Today the Brothers and Sisters shared in their testimonies, how wonderful and encouraged they had felt since Wednesday's meeting. The blessings continued. Our meeting, today, was so beautiful.

For many, many weeks, we have been praying for the sick. We felt so blessed to have Brother Anthony Gerace and Sister Serra back with us. Our prayers have truly been answered. Brother Tony opened our meeting, and shared with us, his experiences of coming into the Gospel. As we listened, I'm sure that many remembered that wonderful day that they were baptized. I'm very thankful for every time that I can remember that beautiful day. The Spirit of God was truly among us today as so many testimonies conveyed!

We thank all who have remembered our Branch in prayer, at one time or another. Our prayers go with you all, and we hope that the Brothers and Sisters and friends from all over can come and visit us soon! Thank you again for your prayers.

Brother Jerry Chambers

## Two Weekends At Rochester, New York

Brother Paul D'Amico of Lockport, New York Branch came to Rochester on January 18 and 19, 1975. His visit was enjoyed by all.

The Sunday morning service began with community singing. We were then led in prayer by Brother Patsy Marinetti. We continued by singing the hymn, "When Mothers in Salem" as Daniell Chiles was brought forward to be blessed by Brother Ansel D'Amico.

Brother Paul opened the meeting and chose the 20th chapter of St. Matthew for his text. He emphasized that "the first shall be last and the last first." God is no respecter of persons although many are called and few chosen.

We then sang "There is a Fountain" followed by Brother Ansel D'Amico's exhortation on the same subject in Italian. It was then open for testimony. A good spirit prevailed throughout the meeting. We were dismissed in prayer by Brother Melvin Mountain, Jr.

Later on in the month on January 25 and 26, we had Brother Reno Bologna of Detroit with us. On Saturday evening we had a Singspiration meeting along with testimony. Following the service refreshments were served and enjoyed by all.

On Sunday morning, the Lockport Branch joined us in a day of joy and blessing. Brother Paul D'Amico opened the meeting in prayer. The hymn, "Make Me a Blessing" was then sung. Brother Reno opened the meeting and chose the 24th Chapter of Alma as his text. He spoke on how God used Ammon to bring the Gospel to the Lamanites and then extended it by saying that we could all evangelize the Gospel at some time or another. Brothers Paul Benyola and Paul D'Amico were the next speakers. They both spoke encouraging words on the same subject brought forth by Brother Reno. Brother Perry Simone then gave his testimony.

Sacrament was then administered. Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke a few concluding remarks and then we were dismissed by singing, "Going Home" and, "God Bless you Everyone". The closing prayer was said by Brother Henry Berardi.

We had two wonderful week-ends in which God's spirit and blessings were felt by all.

Sister Carmella D'Amico

## Phoenix, Arizona

We are happy to welcome to the Phoenix Branch Brother Bob and Sister Sarah Watson formerly of the San Fernando Valley Branch, Brother Pete, Sister Francis and Brother David Capone formerly of the Detroit No. 4 Branch, Sister Ann Collis and her daughter Leslie formerly of the Detroit No. 4 Branch. Also, we are glad to welcome back to our branch Brother Steve, Sister Yvonne Saffron and their two lovely children. They are all a wonderful addition to our branch and a blessing to us all.

Brother Barry Mazzeo  
Branch Editor

## Youngstown, Ohio

### An Evening Of Songs Of Praise

On February 15 the Branch of Youngstown, Ohio hosted an evening of special music provided by the Youngstown Quartet and our special guests from Detroit, Michigan, namely — Brothers Spencer and Tom Everett and Eugene Amormino and Sisters Donna Amormino and Barbara Chambers.

The service was opened with some community singing with opening remarks offered by Brother Donald Pandone. Our Ohio District President, Brother Rocco Biscotti, from Cleveland, Ohio, offered the opening prayer. In fellowship with us were Brothers and Sisters from Detroit, Lorain, Niles, Warren, Kinsman, Cleveland, Erie, and many of our friends and relatives.

The Detroit Quintet graced our sanctuary with their songs that conveyed the message and love of Jesus Christ. They have shared with us their God-given talents bringing joy to our hearts. Words cannot sufficiently convey our enjoyment or our gratitude as our hearts were filled to overflowing. As each was inspired, they offered testimony of God's goodness and mercy extended toward them and gave praise to our heavenly Father for His personal manifestations in their lives. They related how they felt the evidence of Satan trying to frustrate their plans to come to Youngstown. Brother and Sister Amormino's car keys, then their car had been stolen on Tuesday, February 12; however, they did not allow this to alter their plans. They placed their complete faith and trust in God and were resigned to accept the outcome as His will. They, as well as the Saints here, had been praying for a blessing. These offerings were truly rewarded in so many ways. God's name was truly glorified this particular evening in word and in song. God had shown His approval by the touch of His hand — the evidence of His Holy Spirit. Two weeks previous one of our Deaconesses was given a dream from the Lord showing He would be with us, as in reality He was. We are unable to sufficiently thank Him or praise Him.

Our evening was sadly concluded as the Detroit Quintet and Youngstown Quartet combined their voices in singing "Let's Just Praise the Lord" and "Because He Lives". Brother Joseph Calabrese from Lorain offered the benediction.

The following day (Sunday) we had a continuance of God's Spirit as we worshipped together. Six different Branches were represented at our service. It was like a mini-conference. Brothers Spencer Everett, Rocco Biscotti, Joe and Ron Genaro were the visiting Elders.

The Detroit Quintet sang "Something Beautiful" and Brother Everett introduced the service using for his ext *II Timothy* 1, 6-9 where the Apostle Paul is exhorting Timothy: "I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." The message was thought-provoking. Brother Rocco Biscotti followed, further elaborating on the subject. A beautiful spirit of simple humility accompanied the delivery of God's Holy Word. We dismissed and a lunch was served in the basement for our visitors.

In the afternoon service, we enjoyed the fellowship of Brother Paul and Sister Eleanor Palmieri, Sister Ross and several young men from Aliquippa, Pa. This was a pleasant surprise. A solo was sung by Sister Amormino entitled, "I Asked the Lord". Brother Palmieri introduced our afternoon service, testifying to the goodness of God, relating how God changed his life. Many offered their gifts of praise to the Lord and a beautiful sweet spirit was in evidence. Brother Eugene Amormino felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to sing his personal testimony. As he sang, our hearts were touched and we could feel the Spirit of God and see its evidence as it moved from vessel to vessel. Before the passing of the Lord's Supper, the Detroit Quintet sang, so beautifully, "Worthy the Lamb".

So ended another spirit-filled day (week-end) in God's House. Our parting caused us inward pain but we face our tomorrows with renewed strength in the Lord.

Teresa Pandone,  
Youngstown, Ohio

\* \* \*

On Sunday, February 23, 1975, the Saints of Youngstown welcomed the visit of Brother Dominic Thomas, our General Church President, along with Brother Nick Pietrangelo, and Brother Gorie and Sister Antoinette Ciarravino.

Brother Thomas opened the service by giving a brief testimony of his introduction to the Church at an early age. He then read from the *5th Chapter of Alma*, and spoke on experiencing a change of heart, and how we should cherish the privilege of being selected by our living God. "We are called to have a glorious experience in The Church, and to feel the power of God. Our Church is bound together to love and serve God, and keep His commandments, and it will someday become the Kingdom of God on earth." These words were so abundantly filled with God's Holy Spirit, and the beautiful blessing that we felt cannot be described.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo followed on the same subject, stating that "Serving God and knowing Him is the greatest thing of our lives."

A baby, Bradley Allen Root, was then blessed by Brother A. A. Corrado. He is the son of Marlin and Sister Regina Root.

We thank God for another blessed Sabbath spent in His service.

## Wisdom

After being unable to simply write an account of what transpired on January 5, 1975, I will take this opportunity to pay homage to the wisdom of God.

I never cease to be amazed by the wisdom of God. We at Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan were visited by two very inspiring speakers. As I sat and listened to both Brothers I was reminded of how all-knowing God really is. Both Brothers' speaking styles were entirely different. Yet through those very differences we were edified.

Brother Julius Kovacs from Hopelawn, New Jersey was our first speaker. His words were direct and firm. Brother Julius began by telling us about his search for peace of mind, and how he found it only after his hap-

tism into The Church. He referred to it as a "blessing more valuable than gold".

Brother Julius spoke to us from the *Book of Ezekiel, 17th Chapter*. In the 24th verse it says, "And all the trees of the field shall know that I the Lord have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish; I the Lord have spoken and have done it".

Brother Julius reminded us how we as a branch, could become as that green tree, that God did dry up.

Brother Frank Morle from Branch No. 2 was our second speaker. Brother Julius had given us the warning and the work. Now, Brother Frank was here to add the zest to this work. His energy and enthusiasm stirred up the fire in all who were present that day.

As I left the service that Sunday afternoon, I could not help but think what a great team they had made. How God in His wisdom, had brought together two completely different men, to bring forth one individual message. Could we ever praise God enough, for our wonderful Brothers in Christ? God hath chosen them to feed and direct us.

### Cleveland, Ohio Branch No. 1

The Cleveland Branch No. 1, held two special meetings on January 25 and February 1, 1975. Brother Joseph Calabrese, of Lorain, Ohio spoke on the topic, "Why We Believe in *The Book of Mormon*." He gave the following references in *The Bible*, as proof of *The Book of Mormon*: *Ezekiel, Chapter 37:15-17; Psalms, Chapter 85:10-13; Isaiah, Chapter 29:11-18*.

Preceding the talk of Brother Calabrese, we enjoyed community singing, as well as group singing by the youth of our Branch and visiting Branches and a solo by Sister Roberta Hufnagle, "Hallelujah, The Gospel is Restored."

We had in our midst three high school teachers of the Euclid and East Lake School systems. If more teachers became interested, I believe the question, "Where did the Indians come from?" would be answered. As a child I was led to believe the Indians were always here, but, no one really answered my question, "where did they come from?"

The Cleveland Branch No. 1 M.B.A. planned these meetings and we wish to thank Brother Joseph Calabrese and our visitors for making it possible. We wish to have more meetings such as the ones we have just enjoyed, in the future, with the help of the Lord. God bless you all is our prayer.

Sister Margaret Abbott  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Branch No. 1 Editor

### Atlanta, Georgia

#### Another Soul Comes To Jesus

We concluded a series of meetings starting December 1, 1974 and ending January 26, 1975. We were teaching the wonderful Everlasting Gospel to friends, family and strangers.

On January 25, 1975 Brother Jimmy Moore and his wife Sister Jean flew down by plane and we had two days of great rejoicing with a very nice attendance. Sandra Nester asked for her baptism and while she was coming forth out of the waters she was shouting and praising God. Brother Jim and I sang our favorite theme song, "Now, I have everything, I have Jesus to show me the way."

Sandra was our third baptism. We had afternoon services of confirmation for Sister Sandra. We had sacrament and feet-washing service with God's blessings coming down upon us and testimonies given to the honor and glory of God. Brother Bob Morris of Fort Pierce, Florida has been attending our meetings. We received a telephone call that my mother passed away so we started for home that afternoon and arrived in time to attend the funeral. For God's blessings we thank Him.

Sister Eva Moore  
Imperial Editor,

### God Is The Good Times

Brother Frank Vitto and family have transferred from Windsor, Canada Branch to Branch No. 3, Detroit Michigan.

During the last 10 to 12 years Brother Frank, his wife, Sister Kay and family have travelled from Michigan to Windsor, Canada. Brother Frank presided at Windsor all through these years and during this course of time his wife Sister Kay was ordained a Deaconess. Brother Frank was blessed with good discernment and was used by the Spirit of God in edifying The Church here.

We do not make this write-up to raise one man above another, but to thank God for the good times we enjoyed under the presiding of Brother Frank and the leadership of the God of Israel. So that in everything we do, we will give God all the honour, all the glory and all the praise. May we end up by saying, to all Presiding Elders throughout The Church, may the Lord bless thee and keep thee and the Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Brother Bob Stanek,  
Windsor Branch  
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

### The Gift

On Sunday morning, February 9, 1975 we welcomed Brother Anthony Corrado into our midst. Brother Anthony spoke to us on how we must make our work acceptable before the sight of God, the importance of fasting and prayer, and being ready at all times. He told us that prayer is the best communication we have with God. We were privileged not only to enjoy our Brother's wonderful sermon, but also his many beautiful experiences.

Before the afternoon service started, while still at my parents home the spirit spoke to me saying, "Take your purse with you, you will have more notes to take on Brother Corrado".

I questioned the spirit by asking, "What more could I write, I doubt that he will speak again this afternoon".

But nevertheless I did listen to the spirit and took my purse, which contained my note-book.

Brother Mike LaSalle opened the afternoon service by bringing out some of the important points of Brother Anthony Corrado's sermon, and adding to it some of his own thoughts. At one point Brother Corrado stood upon his feet and spoke in the gift of tongues. Brother Nick Pietrangelo then rose to his feet stating the spirit told him that Brother Corrado would speak the tongues. Then Sister Francis Palposi stood, giving the interpretation of the tongues. She said she didn't realize that Brother Anthony had spoken in the tongues, because she heard it in plain English. She proceeded then to give us the interpretation, "I will be with you, Hallelujah".

Sister Jean DePerno then stated she had been praying that she might see the gift of tongues. She said when she awoke Sunday morning, the Lord had told her, "Today you will hear the tongues".

To those who are non-believers or doubters of these written words, I can only say that all I have written is true and accurate to the very best of my ability. I have felt the joy and gentle peace of that day, and my heart cries out that all mankind might one day see and believe.

Sister Diana Thompson  
Branch No. 1  
Detroit, Michigan

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

James William to Elijah James and Gloria Minnie of Monongahela, Pennsylvania,

Jackie Lynn to Larry and Jeanette DiBattista Craig of Glassport, Pennsylvania,

Christy Lee to Edward and Susan Colleen Hale of Glassport, Pennsylvania,

Bradley Allen to Martin and Regina Root of Youngstown, Ohio,

Paul Edward to Jerry and Sue Patton of Phoenix, Arizona,

Francis Magdalina to Ernesto and Eva Figueroa of Phoenix, Arizona,

Daniel Philip to Philip and Carmen Buffa of Branch No. 2, Michigan,

Daniel Benjamin to George and Diane Seighman of Monongahela, Pennsylvania,

Angela Jean to Daniel and Bessie Genaro of Niles, Ohio.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### CARMELA VALVONA

Sister Carmela Valvona passed on to her heavenly reward on October 6, 1974 in Detroit, Michigan. She was a member of Branch No. 3 of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on October 22, 1890 and was baptized December 30, 1934 by Brother Pasquale DiBattista.

She leaves to mourn three sons, three daughters, 17 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Peter H. Capone. Sister Valvona was a very faithful Sister and will be missed by all who knew her.

### FLORENCE BARBETTA

Sister Florence Barbetta, a member of the Glassport Branch passed away from this life on December 20, 1974. She was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on September 27, 1970.

Brother John Ali officiated the funeral services. She is survived by three sons, one daughter, 12 grandchildren and one sister.

All those that knew Sister Florence will greatly miss her.

### MARIA THERESA ERCOLINA

Sister Maria Theresa Ercolina passed on to her heavenly reward on February 23, 1975. A member of the Bell, California Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ, Sister Ercolina was baptized on May 7, 1950. She would have been 84 years old on April 27.

Left to mourn her loss are one son, one daughter, three brothers, one sister, six grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

Brothers Joseph Capone and Vincent Scalise officiated at the funeral services.



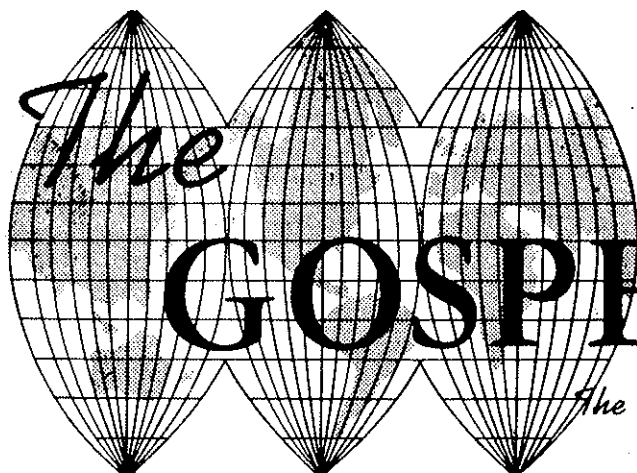
## — CHURCH CALENDAR —

The following is a list of 1975 events of General Church and regional interest:

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

April 17\*, 18\*, 19\*, 20\*—General Church Conference  
May 17—G.M.B.A. in Atlantic Coast

June 27, 28, 29—General Church Gathering in California  
August 9-16—G.M.B.A. Campout in Pennsylvania



# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

May, 1975

Volume 31, No. 5

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## NEWS FROM MEXICO

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus whose name we publish. It is our pleasure to announce that the Mexican work has two new Ministers and a new Deaconess.

The Church was filled up long before it was time for the meeting. The children were taken out of the building, but extra benches and chairs still had to be brought in. Some people had to stand and some didn't get in at all. There were about 175 adults there. Each Branch in California was represented and two families from Arizona came. It was good to have them with us.

About 12 years ago Brother Ramon Anaya and some others were baptized in Sinaloa by a Brother who did not stay in that area very long. The seed that was planted was a good one, as these Brothers and Sisters have been living by faith all these years. Brother Ramon was made a Deacon and told to gather all the people he could and give his testimony to them. Whenever possible he and another Brother or two would come up to Tijuana and stay a week or two and study with the Elders and enjoy the fellowship of the Saints. Then they would take it back to their people. May God bless him with every gift of the Ministry. Ordaining Brother Ramon means that the Gospel has gone to another state in Mexico about 1000 miles from Tijuana. Sister Anaya was ordained a Deaconess in this meeting also.

Brother Chuy Estrada is no stranger to the Tijuana Mission. He and his wife (whose name is Chuy also) have been pillars in the Church for years. He is a very quiet Brother not given to bragging or useless talk. He is always at the meetings and can be counted on when you need him. Throughout the years he and his wife have taken many homeless children in and either raised them or nursed them back to health. Brother Chuy will be an asset to Tijuana and a credit to the Church.

God verified these ordinations not only with His Spirit but with experiences. While the Brothers were having their feet washed, Sister Mavis Hayward was praying. It came to her like a picture. She saw one Brother with a group of people around him and more people kept coming and joining the group. She saw people all along the ocean front and the Brother was in the middle. It was very bright and the ocean was coming up in big waves and covering all these people. Before the people got into the group

there was a darkness about them but they became white when they reached the ocean front.

The second vision was had during the feet-washing also. A young woman saw the Lord. He had a crown on His head, and He was praying for them.

A third vision was had by Sister Celia Flores. She said that she was quite far back and could not see what was happening. She felt a forceful power lifting her up and she saw the faces of the Ministry as they were ordaining the Brothers. Their faces were illuminated and bright white. She couldn't stop crying.

Brother Joe Lovalvo also had a beautiful experience while praying for the sick after the meeting.

The Mexican Sisters had food prepared for everyone. It was the Mission's first attempt at feeding a group Conference style. They did such a good job with so much love that we were very proud of them. The Mexican Sisters insisted on making the food. They said, "When we go to Conferences in the States they always feed us and treat us so nice. Now we want to do something for them." Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves both naturally and spiritually for which we say, "Praise the Lord". This is written for the honor and glory of God. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Brother and Sister Perdue

P.S. We now have 13 baptized members in Mexico City. As many as 40 or 50 people attend the services there.

\* \* \*

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is the experience we had.

After we had a wonderful service and also had finished the meal that was served by our Mexican Sisters, several members of The Church asked to be anointed because of their afflictions.

I asked Brothers Mark Randy and Joe Ciarolla to assist me. We knelt in prayer before God asking for His Power of healing to rest upon us as Ministers of Christ, so that those that were afflicted would be recipients of this great Power.

As we laid our hands upon their heads, after anointing their heads with the blessed oil, we cried out mightily  
(Continued on page 3)

## GREETINGS IN JESUS CHRIST

But unto you that fear my name shall the Son of Righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

By the grace of our heavenly Father I am in Mexico. I have a pick-up with a camper sleeper. Juan Becerra, a Mexican, who resides in the Modesto area, volunteered to drive me all the way to Guatemala. To this date we have driven four thousand miles. Our first stop was Yucaipa. A meeting was held there. I was indeed happy to meet with the Saints here; a good fellowship prevailed. It was here that I first received the desire to go to Guatemala.

Our second stop was at San Carlos. I was glad to see Joe and Rose Milantoni, their two girls and Ronnie Dyer, who resides there. He has a desire to help along the mission. We spent two days here. After our Sunday service, departed for Tucson; visited at the Brutzes, where we found Paul Francione and wife, Duane Marinetti and wife and father-in-law, formerly of Rochester, New York. After a short visit, we went to Brother and Sister Jacob Christman's; here we also met Richard Christman and family, and the Kocuba family.

Monday morning we departed for Guatemala, by way of Nogales. Mexico is undergoing some kind of problem as there are armed soldiers and police everywhere. We have been stopped and questioned over fifty times. At one time, I was asked my former nationality. I replied, "Italian." He said "OH", thanked me smiling and told the other soldiers to let me alone. I guess the Romans are not completely forgotten here.

We visited the mission of Sinaloa; stayed two days and instructed our new Elder, Ramon Anaya. I found that he is a Maya Indian. Please pray for him. He has a small mission; needs all the prayers and help he can get since he is far apart from the rest of The Church.

We arrived at Los Reyes where Juan has relatives. This is a beautiful valley; much sugar cane and mango fruit is being raised here. There are two sugar refineries. It is part of the Michoacan State. We came to Mexico, and in a marvelous way we met Brothers Moras, all three in one house. Their mother was ill and for this cause they were together. We stayed three days at the home of Brother Adilon Mora. Eugenio also lives here. We were not much of a problem to them since we were able to sleep in the camper. However, they would not permit me to stay in the camper. We held three great meetings, especially Sunday. It was a Hallmark of a blessing! They asked me to administer sacrament to them. They have fourteen baptized. Their small room held 32. They need a meeting place badly. I visited a lot nearby; if purchased it would be a good location.

Monday, the 10th, we left for the long ride for our destination. Since Brother Mora is willing, we took him with us, hopefully of establishing some line of interest, and since my Spanish is very limited, he would be a great help.

There is an uneasy feeling between Guatemala and Mexico at this time; therefore, we have been stranded two days at the frontier. They will not let him pass. This morning we will try again. He is a very humble man, full of the Spirit of God. He looks sad and subdued because

of the problem we encountered here. He felt such a blessing when he heard of Guatemala that he composed a poem about it. An officer of Mexico finally permitted him to go.

Guatemala is one of the most beautiful lands I have ever visited. It is an unspoiled land; much of it yet unexplored and many of her people still speak the Maya tongue. We visited a family, Manfredo Hernandez, and left some of our literature with them. We were treated very kindly. Next we visited the city of Palin; again another school teacher, Augusto Urizar. We had lunch with them; then we visited a small church and a few gathered. Brother Eugenio read the twenty-third Psalm and spoke. I also spoke; my Spanish is improving. We had prayer with them and left some literature there. Mr. Urizar asked and we gave a *Book of Mormon*.

Our next stop was Tiquisate, Ecuintla. Mrs. Martha Beasley of Modesto, California, gave us two boxes of clothing to deliver here so we thought of being faithful since it was by the means of Mr. and Mrs. Beasley that we were given these addresses. Not knowing the road that we should turn and the roads of Mexico are poor and unmarked, we asked a man and he offered to guide us since he lived nearby the area. Eugenio spoke to him about the Restored Gospel, and to our surprise he was interested and asked for some literature on arrival at Tiquisate; the destination as a church. Its minister asked me to stay with him; seemed most friendly. They held a meeting that night and asked me to speak. Mrs. Beasley wrote a letter of introduction in my behalf and among the nice things she wrote about me was, he is a humble minister of God and seeks no pay or personal reward. This seemed to disturb the minister some, but still permitted me to speak. But when he read the letter openly to the small congregation, and when the poor heard, he is a very humble minister and seeks no pay or reward, they clapped their hands and praised the Lord. The minister seemed startled and did not know whether he should let me speak; but the people were most happy to hear me so he allowed me. I found no difficulty in my Spanish and the people praised the Lord most holy. But this worked against us because while the minister, Daniele Guzman, had said we have supper after church gave us no supper and spoke long and loud after I did. I did not know whether to feel sorry for him or his people. After the service the people came around me and spoke most graciously. We went to sleep without supper. I was very thirsty, but decided not to ask for a drink.

We left at 4:00 A.M. Juan was very anxious to leave and so were we. We arrived at Mexico two days later. We held a meeting on Sunday, the 16th. At our departure after sacrament, it was most heart breaking. I remembered my departure from Italy. They sang the new hymn of Guatemala; it is most beautiful. They brought all their children forward and asked me to bless them. I do not know how to express this feeling. I taught them to say: I love you. They each kissed me, as their mothers and fathers cried. We fell on one another's neck as we embraced.

One young Brother Mora offered to lead us out of the mammoth city of over eight million people. Then he took the bus back several miles away. The Lord most surely will bless them. I arrived home in time to go to Lorain for the Missionary meeting, March 22nd. May God bless the readers.

Mark Randy

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

*By Brother Joseph Bittinger*

My wife and I decided to visit the Saints in Florida and spend a little time with them. We had several things in mind that we wanted to do the Lord willing. We started from home February 18, 1975.

We would use the occasion of our trip to stop in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and visit with our Nigerian Brothers and Sisters living in that city. We arrived in the city early in the afternoon and located the apartment of Brother and Sister A. I. Etukudo and waited for them to come home as both of them are attending college. After a while we saw Brother Augustine coming and as he saw us waiting in front of his house, his face lit up with a beaming smile as he greeted us, and we greeted each other in the spirit and love of Christ. We were thrilled with joy and gladness that only the Saints of God can experience or understand. He graciously welcomed us into his home where we waited for the arrival of his wife Sister Nse. When she arrived, our introduction to her brought a very warm and welcome expression of Christian love and fellowship as though we had been acquainted for years.

Brother and Sister George Ekpo came in to greet us and we very glad and delighted to meet and visit with them briefly, although they were unable to spend the evening with us because of a work schedule.

Sister Nse prepared a nice dinner and we enjoyed eating with them. As we were sitting at the table Brother Joseph Arthur came in to visit with us. We were very happy to meet him in the U.S.A. I had first met him in Nigeria at the formal opening of the Technical Secondary School. He is the son of Brother E. U. A. Arthur, President of The Church in Nigeria.

As our time was limited and we wished to also visit with Brother and Sister Moses Akpan and family, the five of us drove to their home a few blocks away. They gave us a hearty welcome to their home. My wife and I were delighted and happy to see them again and have the opportunity to visit with them in their home, as it had been several years since we last saw them and we had not corresponded during this time.

Brother Moses has been very interested in the progress and development of the Technical Secondary School in Nigeria. This soon became our principal topic of conversation during our brief visit. It is very evident that in conversing with all of the Brothers and Sisters living presently in Orangeburg, their hopes and desires are to see the Comprehensive Technical Secondary School fully developed into a successful institution where the students will major in various skills and trades. And equally as important to be tutored in learning and understanding the Scriptures as taught by The Church of Jesus Christ. An institution that will continue to be an honor and credit to Atai Otoro Community.

It was now time for us to move along. We bowed our heads in prayer and thankfulness to God for His blessings, and for granting us this opportunity to visit with our Brothers and Sisters in the Gospel of Christ for this brief period of time.

We wish to thank them all for the reception they accorded us and for their expression of love and hospi-

talities shown to us. For my wife and I it was an evening enjoyed very much.

As we were leaving, Brother and Sister Etukudo took us to the home of a Nigerian friend and his wife living near by. Sorry I do not remember their names, they were two very pleasant people to meet and we were delighted to make their acquaintance. We pray God will bless them and their family abundantly.

We showed the Nigerian slides at Fort Pierce, Miami and Lake Worth. There was a nice attendance at each location with many questions being asked concerning the Church and School.

The Brothers and Sisters exhibited a sincere interest in the progress of the Nigerian Church and School.

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all our beloved Brothers and Sisters in Florida, for the love and hospitality accorded us while in your midst. May God richly reward each of you is our prayer in Jesus' Holy name.

## NEWS FROM MEXICO . . .

(Continued from page 1)

to God in prayer, asking Him to have mercy upon His chosen people, the seed of Joseph, I had a beautiful vision.

In this vision, I saw a personage sitting upon a throne, and I saw Jesus Christ kneeling before Him and saying, "Father, hear the prayers of thy servants in behalf of thy sons and daughters." Christ had tears flowing down his cheeks as He was talking to His Father.

Praise God, we all felt God's mighty power and those who were anointed went on their way rejoicing. God is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Love to all,

Brother Joseph Lovalvo

## "THE GENTLE LIGHT"

Mother of mine, light of my soul,  
Ever inspiring me to higher goal —  
You who are so dear to me.  
When I look at You what do I see?  
I see a woman, yes but more by far,  
Sunshine and moonlight and a star.  
I see humane feelings, joy, pain and fear,  
A gentle smile and a hidden tear.  
I see strength too, and the courage to be meek,  
a helping hand, to those who are weak;  
A kindly word, a spring shower,  
the song of a bird and a dewy flower.  
I see a soul shining there, that can only be  
true and fair;  
The soft music of a dear old hymn,  
A heart full of love, blest by Him.  
I see sacrifices made for me,  
and dreams imprisoned, that mine might be free,  
A Mother whose motto o'er life's stormy sea  
is "Jesus, Savior, Pilot me."

Sister Eva Moore  
Imperial Branch

## OUR TOUR OF THE CHURCH

by Brother Joseph Calabrese

It is with gratitude and thanks to God that I am able to report to you that the itinerary and tour with Dr. Livingston has been completed. The report of our tour of the Church follows.

Dr. Livingston arrived in the U.S.A. on December 5, 1974 ahead of a telegram he sent to inform us of his arrival. Brother John Manes went to the Pittsburgh Airport to pick him up. He and Brother Dan Casasanta cared for him until we could meet in Monongahela on Saturday, December 7, 1974.

On December 7 a meeting was held in Monongahela. Brother M. R. Griffith and myself, all Elders that were available and Dr. Livingston were present. Dr. Livingston was asked for an opening statement, and he gladly expressed his thanks to the Church for their invitation and to the Brother who made it possible for him to travel throughout the Church. We found him immediately a very warm and humble man. We learned that he did not belong to the group with which we were corresponding. He informed me of a letter which he had carried to be read to the Church. A few lines of this letter were scratched out. He asked me to omit reading these lines because the group with which we were corresponding suggested he be baptized before he returned to India. He said this was an important matter to him and that he did not want to be baptized on that basis. He stated he wished to feel God's calling through revelation. We finished our discussions and returned to Brother Griffith's home. Once there he gave me the letter and from it we learned that he had to borrow all his fare to come on his own.

I called and set a meeting in Lorain, Ohio for Tuesday evening, December 10, 1974. On the way home to Lorain we stopped in North Canton, Ohio to visit an aunt of Dr. Livingston who is 102 years old. She was the sister of the missionary that adopted him in India 50 years ago when his mother died. This was a beautiful reunion for them. They had not seen each other for 30 years. We promised her that he could come back for a few days visit before his return to India. We arrived in Lorain, Ohio on Monday evening.

On Thursday, December 12, 1974, a meeting was scheduled in Detroit with Brothers Thomas, Ciaravino, Pietrangelo and the District Officers. We invited the doctor to express himself again. Many questions were asked. He continued to answer all the questions honestly and with sincerity. The Brothers were all surprised that he had to pay his own way and that he had borrowed the money to do it.

On Monday, December 16, 1974 I went to Brother Reno Bologna's home to pick up Dr. Livingston. It was time to say goodbye there and continue our tour. It was hard for the doctor to say goodbye to Brother Reno and Sister Isabel as they cared for him while he was in Michigan. The doctor was moved with tears as we parted. We left for Lorain. Arriving there we visited with Dr. Lee Griffith (Brother) who is the son of Brother M. R. Griffith. It was a nice visit—doctors always have much in common. I made reservations for travel and accommodations in the West.

On Saturday, December 21, 1974 we were at the home of my son, Dennis, in Ft. Defiance, Arizona. We had a good spiritual discussion. We had several opportunities to go into the real hope and expectations with Dr. Livingston. He listened and absorbed very carefully our every move. He began to feel the kindred spirit of the Restored Gospel as I pointed out to him Scripture after Scripture. He began to understand now that the Bible and Book of Mormon were one in the hand of God. He fell in love with The Book of Mormon carrying it with him everywhere he went. As we closed the day at Dennis and Judy Calabrese's home we all knelt down and prayed including Dr. Livingston. We prayed that God would move upon His people everywhere and prayed that he would watch over the doctor's family while he was gone. We then had some refreshments. It was my grandson Cameron's 2nd birthday. We retired to bed for the Sabbath Day.

Tuesday, December 24, 1974 we took Dr. Livingston on a tour of the Apache Reservation. We visited some of the Indian families. He was acquainted with how the Church operated on the Reservation. Once again there was poverty, need and distress. He had a great deal of compassion for them and said that he would always remember the seed of Joseph. The work that the Church is involved in with the Seed of Joseph was making a deeper impression on the doctor every day. I called ahead to Phoenix as we were scheduled for a meeting there on the 27th.

On Saturday, December 28, 1974 we prepared to leave for San Francisco by plane and then by bus to Modesto. We arrived in Modesto tired. The trip began to take its toll on me, and the doctor's feet were sore. However, when we saw Brother Joe Lovalvo and Brother Mark Randy we forgot our aches and pains for a while and we were taken to Brother Joe's home. That evening after staying up talking a while the doctor asked Brother Joe to anoint his foot which was badly swollen by now. Brother Joe and I both prayed for him. We had prayer together and retired for the Sabbath.

(Continued next issue)

## Another Baptism At Youngstown, Ohio Branch

Sunday, March 16, 1975 turned out to be a day of blessing and rejoicing for the Youngstown Saints.

Brother A. A. Corrado opened the service, reading from *Acts, Chapter 10*. He enlarged upon the account of the conversion of Cornelius and how the Holy Ghost fell upon them and they were baptized.

Brother T. D. Bucci followed him, stating that God is our only protection.

A special blessing was experienced in the baptism of Sandra Murray. Brother Donald Pandone baptized Sister Murray and Brother Corrado confirmed her.

The Branch also was happy to welcome back Sister Monnie Ray after an absence of about two years.

It was a wonderful day.



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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### HONORING MOTHERS

May is the month in which the second Sunday is set aside for our annual observance of honoring mothers. Thus it is a duty as well as a privilege to pause and pay tribute in honor of living mothers and in memory of mothers who have gone to their eternal rewards.

*How can we ever sufficiently honor mothers?*

Though we might employ the written word and the spoken word with the utmost skill and eloquence we would still be found wanting in sufficiently honoring mothers to the degree they so richly and worthily deserve.

Who can measure a mother's love, tenderness, warmth, trust, strength, dedication, tenacity, labor, and self-sacrifice?

Who can count the sleepless hours and nights of a mother's vigil and concern for the recovery of an ailing or injured loved one?

Who can know a mother's heart-ache and bitter pain over a wandering and wayward loved one?

Who can understand a mother's deepest grief in the passing of a loved one?

Who can discern a mother's heartfelt desire for the well-being of a loved one?

A mother's love and affection are manifested in many other ways, far beyond our keenest insight and discernment.

A mother's love begins to operate early and to an immeasurable degree when a mother's first ministration for her infant is to enter, as it were, the valley of the shadow of death, and win its life at the peril of her own.

### A BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE

Let us note the beautiful tribute to motherhood as voiced by our Lord Jesus Christ and so wisely recorded by the beloved Apostle John:

*A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow,  
because her hour is come: but as soon as  
she is delivered of the child, she remembereth  
no more the anguish, for joy that a man is  
born into the world.* —John 16:21

The Book of Mormon also contains a wonderful tribute to mothers in the testimony of the two thousand stripling soldiers who marched under the leadership of Helaman. Before going into battle they assured him, "Father, behold our God is with us, and he will not suffer that we should fall." They also told Helaman that they had been taught by their mothers, that if they did not doubt, God would deliver them, and they concluded by saying, "We do not doubt our mothers knew it." *Alma 56:46, 47, and 48.*

After the battle, Helaman anxiously counted his two thousand young soldiers, "fearing lest there were many of them slain. But behold, to my great joy, there had not one soul of them fallen to the earth." *Alma 56:55 and 56.*

The highest tribute of honor we can bestow upon mothers, more than flowers and gifts, is to follow their good examples, wise counsels, and goodly instructions.

GOD BLESS THEM!



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### The Woman at the Well

Dear Girls and Boys,

Since we have finished our stories about King David, I want to tell you some stories about women in the scriptures. Our first one is found in the New Testament and is a favorite of many. It takes place in a hot desert land, the city of Samaria. Samaria is between Jerusalem and Galilee.

One day Jesus was passing through Samaria and stopped to rest at Jacob's Well. His disciples had gone into the city to buy food. As Jesus sat at the well, a Samaritan woman came to the well to fill her water pot. As she drew the water Jesus said, "Give me to drink." The woman was very surprised because the Jews did not speak to the Samaritans. She asked, "How is it that thou being a Jew, askest drink of me, a woman of Samaria For the Jews have no dealings with us."

Jesus began to tell her about living water, something he wanted to give her. Surprised the woman said, "Sir, the well is deep and you have nothing to draw with, from whence then hast thou that living water?" She continued speaking, "Art thou greater than our father Jacob who gave us his well and drank here and also his children and cattle?" Jesus' reply was, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." What strange words! The woman did not understand. She said, "Sir give me this water that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." Jesus said, "Go call your husband." She replied, "I have no husband." He knew her thoughts and little by little he told her all about her life. She thought he must be a prophet and said, "Sir I perceive that thou art a prophet." Jesus said he was indeed the Christ, the Son of God. This is one of the few times Jesus told anyone who he was.

Jesus continued to tell the woman that this beautiful truth, this living water would be like a well of water springing up within her and it would last forever. Forgetting her water pot, the woman hurried back to the city, telling all she met, "Come see a man who told me everything I did. Is not this the Christ?" Many believed on Jesus because of what the woman had seen and heard. Just as this woman received the Living Water, we too can be refreshed because His promise is, "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink."

In my recent tour of the Holy Land, I visited Jacob's Well and drank of the water. The well is deep and water is still drawn by a bucket let down into the well. How precious this story is to me now and how wonderful to me that I too have the promise of this Living Water.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## THE KEY

The word, key, is such an important one. Literally, it is something which opens a door. The key word — the key to a solution. You can probably think of hundreds of ways that the word key can be used.

Now I would like to relate an actual experience in which a key played the major role.

During the month of January, 1975, we (Brother Peter Capone and Sister Frances Capone, formerly from Branch No. 4 at Detroit, Michigan and currently members of the Phoenix, Arizona Branch) left our home and drove to the home of our daughter, her husband and family (Brother Stephen Saffron and Sister Yvonne Saffron) so that we could all attend the Wednesday night church service in one car.

As the Saffrons slammed the front door shut and hurried to the car with their little ones and the necessary paraphernalia that goes with babies, they realized that they had left their keys in the house. Nevertheless, we proceeded to drive to church.

While I was sitting in the service, I turned my heart to God and I prayed that Steve and Yvonne would be able to gain entrance into their home with the minimum of trouble and confusion. The thought came to me while I prayed: "Use your own house key." I then dismissed the incident from my mind and concentrated on the service.

When we returned to the Saffron home, the thought returned to me and I said to my son-in-law, "Steve, use my house key."

Steve took my house key, but first he went and got a saw, etc. to help him gain entrance into his home. More to satisfy me, he inserted the key and turned it in the lock. The door flew open!

We stood there in amazement and then I laughed and commented on the discovery that our keys apparently opened each other's door! Steve decided to experiment. He closed the door and inserted my key, but the door would not open! Pete tried, Yvonne tried. All three failed to open the door with my key.

Then we all knelt and Steve offered a beautiful prayer in thanksgiving to God.

This may sound like a simple experience, but to us it illustrated that God has the key to every door, the key to every problem, no matter how small the problem may be or how great. We must trust HIM in all things for He is the Master Builder and He holds the key in the palm of His hand.

Sister Frances J. Capone  
Phoenix, Arizona

## Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Marwell J. Carr recently celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary on March 10, 1975 at the home of their son, Mr. Jesse Carr. They wish to thank all the brothers and sisters, friends and relatives through the *Gospel News* for the cards, gifts and flowers sent to them.

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### CONFERENCE IN FLORIDA

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Lake Worth, Florida. Sisters were present from the Florida area, Michigan, New Orleans, and a bus load from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The Sisters from the Lake Worth Circle presented a program titled, "MAN OF GALILEE". They sang many beautiful songs and read the Scripture from *Proverbs Chapter 3*. Sister Mabel Bickerton was reminded of the trip she took to the Holy Land during the program. She encouraged the Sisters to work together with the branch, search the Scriptures and leave the every day trifles behind when attending Circle meetings.

Two new Circles were organized namely: Phoenix and Fort Defiance, Arizona.

The roll call of officers began the business conference. The minutes of the last meeting held at Detroit, Michigan, the delegates and treasurer's reports were given. From the delegates reports we learned that layettes were sent to South Dakota, San Carlos and Oklahoma. Color books and crayons were sent to Muncey and Sarnia Reservations. Money was sent for the Secondary School in Africa. The answer to the question, "In the gift of His Son what has God prepared and by what has it been fulfilled?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Ether 12:11*.

Three new questions were assigned: "By what is iniquity purged and by what do men depart from evil?" "What happens to old things?", and "What family teaching did the 2000 young men have who fought so valiantly under Helaman's command?"

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in Memory of: Brothers Ed Dreer, Paul Vancik, Lawrence Ambrose Sr., Curt Tiedke, Gregory Vitto, and Sisters Maria Rossi, Mary D'Donato, Valriona, Clara Tucker, Florence Barbetto, Sue Ceranko, and Catherine Ridosh. Balance in this fund is \$4,171.86.

Brother John Ross reported that a generator was purchased for the Secondary School in Africa from the special donations sent to him.

Monies were donated from the General Fund to Italy, Argentina, Africa Relief and Secondary School. From the Indian Missionary Fund monies was sent to San Carlos, Arizona; White River, Arizona; Muncey, and Six Nations Reservations. Total given to the General Church was \$2,000.00.

Sisters that wish to organize a Circle should notify the Secretary of the General Circle and the necessary arrangements will be made.

A standing vote of thanks was given to the Florida Area for their hospitality and to the Brothers that served lunch.

The next General Circle and Fifty-fifth anniversary combined conference will be held on July 12, in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## BUS TRIP TO FLORIDA

On March 4 the Pennsylvania and Ohio Sisters, five Brothers and a boy (Brian Gibson) boarded a chartered bus to Lake Worth, Florida, to attend the General Ladies' Uplift Circle. There were ten Circles represented. Six days were spent in traveling and four days were spent with the Brothers and Sisters who very graciously took us in their homes and showed that they had the love of hospitality. On the bus many songs were sung and testimonies were heard. Brother George Johnson of Monongahela, Pennsylvania took charge of the spiritual part by asking and answering questions and reminding the Brothers and Sisters of their duties. Of the several bus drivers we had, one led in singing and another was very much interested in the Gospel. He heard our testimonies and he gave his. He said that he felt he was surrounded by angels. Thank God that the environment of the Saints has an effect on sincere hearts. Brother James and Sister Joan Gibson took care of the bus arrangements with much success and was appreciated by all that boarded the bus.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA

The Lake Worth Branch served as host to a history making General Ladies' Uplift Circle Meeting on March 8-9. We can thank God for His many blessings throughout the meetings and also in our homes. Many enjoyed fellowship in speaking experiences, singing or just seeing old friends.

We were so thankful for the effort put forth from all our Brothers and Sisters to make this possible.

As I sat in the audience of Saturday's meeting and looked upon the entire busload of Brothers and Sisters from the Pennsylvania Area, my heart overflowed with joy and love. They sang so beautiful, they seemed like Angels. I thought of how the love of God has bound us together that no one was a stranger even though some may have never met.

Our Brothers, who so graciously volunteered to serve lunch are to be commended for their fine job. They consisted not only of Brothers from Lake Worth but even many visiting Brothers. Thank you Brothers for helping to make our day an enjoyable one.

May God bless all of us that we may strive to strengthen this wonderful gift of love.

## A TRIP TO OMAHA

We want to thank God for His many blessings and the opportunity to preach the Gospel to those who have not heard it and to those who are separated by many miles from the main body of The Church.

On December 20, 1974, Brother Rocco Biscotti and I made a trip to Omaha, Nebraska. We held two services with our Sisters in Omaha and two services at the Nebraska State Reformatory for Women. We can truly say the Lord blessed us in our services. It was a blessing to have Brother Biscotti with me. In one of the services, while speaking on the 23rd Psalm, he spoke in a powerful Gift of Tongues that was refreshing to all.

We had a very dangerous trip to York, Nebraska, as the highways were very treacherous. It took us over four hours to travel 106 miles. The Lord was with us and we were blessed for our efforts. The Sisters from Omaha came with us. Their singing and encouragement was a helping hand. The girls were waiting for us at the prison and we received such a blessing. You can't imagine how beautiful it is to be able to tell others of Jesus who never felt the joy and peace that we have felt. They are so grateful and thankful that someone cares enough to be concerned, and bring to them the real beauty of knowing that there is a better way. They truly need our prayers. Many of the girls have expressed their gratitude for our visits. I am sending some of the letters in hopes that excerpts can be put in *The Gospel News*. Then our Brothers and Sisters can know that the girls are truly grateful and ask our prayers. May the Lord bless and keep the Saints ever faithful.

Brother Frank Calabrese

### Imperial Branch Had A Beautiful Sabbath Day, March 16, 1975

Brother Paul Palmieri opened our meeting with prayer and hymn number 92 "When Mothers in Salem Brought Their Children to Jesus". Two couples brought their little ones forth to be blessed. Baby Daniel Yoder was presented to God by Brother James T. Moore and Baby Christie Buffington was presented to God by Brother Bob Buffington. Then Brother Paul proceeded to tell what a wonderful blessing comes upon our children, as we ask God for his help and counsel in bringing up a child in the ways of the Lord. He also read from the *fifth chapter of Matthew* the beautiful words of Jesus. Brother Paul stressed mercy for all, to be pure in heart, to abstain from all evil, and love for our fellow man. Then Brother Joseph Ross picked up the word love and carried out the subject comparing the great love God has for us with the love we have for our children. We then sang hymn number 98:

"One there is above all others,  
Oh how he loves,  
His is love beyond a brothers,  
Oh how he loves"

Brother Bob Buffington then read the duties of a Teacher and Deaconess. Sister Eva Moore washed the feet of Sister Margaret Roscart and Brother James T. Moore ordained her into the office of Deaconess. Brother George Ondrasik washed the feet of Brother Jack Rosemeir and Brother Bob Buffington ordained him into the office of Teacher.

We then took an hour off for lunch and fellowship, and concluded our meeting with hymns of praise by Sister Nina Diczno and Brother Bob singing "Until Then" and "He Touch'd Me". We had testimony and sacrament. We say "it was good to be there". *Psalms* 133 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity".

NOTICE... The Tampa mission will hold services in the Fellowship room of the Tampa Savings and Loan Building every Sunday throughout 1975 instead of the first and third Sunday of the month as in the past. Those who wish to attend services, the meeting place is located on South Mabray and Bay Vista across from Britton Plaza.

## DISTRICT CONFERENCES

### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO SEMI-ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Michigan-Ontario Semi-Annual District Conference was held on March 1 and 13 at Detroit Branch No. 3.

Election of officers:

Recommendation for

District President: Nicholas Pietrangelo (recommended)

First Counselor: Paul Vitto

Second Counselor: Anthony R. Lovalvo

Recording Secretary: Leonard A. Lovalvo

Assistant Secretary: Nephi DeMercurio

Financial Secretary: Paul Vitto

Treasurer: Norman Campitelle

Librarian: Gerald Benyola

Assistant Librarian: Concetto Alessandro

Editor: Nephi DeMercurio

Historian: Frank Morle

Auditors: Silverio Coppa, Paul Whitton

At the conclusion of the business session a motion was passed that the District Elders give Brother Reno Bologna, outgoing president and his counselors Brother Dominic Moraco and Brother Carl Framolino a standing vote of thanks for their service to the District for the past four years.

On Sunday, March 16, 1975, the service was held at South Lake High School, St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Brother Dominic Moraco opened the meeting with prayer.

Brother Reno Bologna spoke and reflected on the past four years he served as president of the District. He pointed out the successes and frustrations that he encountered as District President.

Brother Reno felt frustrated because, as a District, we were not able to make a break through in the way of getting more souls interested, involved and saved in the Kingdom of God.

Brother Reno then read from *John* 14:35, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Brother Reno pointed out this scripture in offering a solution or pointing out why as a District we did not experience growth.

If we love one another on the basis of the Law of Moses and on the basis of the Sermon on the Mount then all men will know that we are Christ's disciples. Apparently we have not made a dent in this direction.

If all men would know that we are God's undisputed disciples then all men would break the doors down because we would be like a mighty banner for all the world to see.

Brother Reno also read *Matthew* 5:8: "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God." When we seek God and become pure of heart then we can approach that point where we love one another. We must tear out the things that hinder us from achieving the love that Jesus expects of us.

Brother Dominic Thomas then followed: When he came into the Church at eighteen years of age he remem-

bered the thing that brought him into the Church. It was no the preaching or teaching but the "Love of God" that he had experienced as a young man.

If you want to see more love in the Church let us be a more righteous people.

We have no business in the world, we have been called out of the world to be a people set apart, to be a peculiar people, a choice people and a righteous people. A humble and meek people willing to do His service and willing not to forget Him.

Our attitude toward one another is important; we should not look at one another's faults.

The subject brought forth by our Brothers causes us to be mindful of the words of Christ, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you." *John 15:12.*

## PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania District Conference was held at the Imperial Branch on Saturday, March 8, 1975.

Presiding over the conference was District President, Brother John Manes, and his counsellors, Brother Russell Cadman, and Brother Fred O'Lexa.

The day's business session was highlighted by the manifestation of God's Holy Spirit, when Brother Russell Cadman while sitting on the pulpit stated that he didn't feel well and felt very faint.

Immediately Brothers Art Gehley and Dan Cassasanta anointed Brother Russell. As they laid their hands on Brother Russell's head he apparently went into an unconscious state. While Brother Dan was completing his prayer, Brother Russell was revived and immediately rose from his chair stating what had happened and gave honor and glory to God. Surely as the prayer was being offered we felt the presence of God's Holy Spirit.

Brother John Manes was recommended for District President, and also Brother Russell Cadman as first counsellor. Brother James Grazan was elected as second counsellor, replacing Brother Fred O'Lexa who wished to be removed from office. Our thanks to those who have served in the past year and praying that God might bless those who will serve the coming year; with the knowledge, wisdom, and ability to fulfill their offices.

The Sunday Service was held in the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg with a very good attendance. The word of God came through various speakers, with a theme, as Brother Paul Palmieri stated in his opening remarks "How indebted we are to the Lord." And that no one, friends, relations, or business associates can give us what the Lord has.

Again we thank God for his Son Jesus Christ and for what He has done for us.

Brother Bob Nicklow  
Area Editor

## OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Ohio District conference convened on Saturday, March 8, 1975. The business was expedited in an orderly

manner, which is befitting the Saints of God. The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President: Brother Rocco Biscotti (recommended); First Counsellor: Brother Frank Calabrese; Second Counsellor: Brother A. A. Corrado; Recording Secretary: Brother Elmer Santilli; Assistant Secretary: Brother Russell Martorana; Financial Secretary: Brother Donald Pandone; Treasurer: Brother Frank Giovannone; Librarian: Brother Richard Santilli; Assistant Librarian: Brother Sam Costarella; Historian: Brother Wm. Genaro, Jr.; Assistant Historian: Brother Mitchell Edwards; Editor: Brother James Alessio; Auditors: Brother Richard Pandone and Brother Ron Genaro.

Also District trustees, appeals committee and land committee were elected.

The Sunday service was well attended by many brothers and sisters from all parts of the district as well as visitors from other districts of the church. Prior to the opening of the service, we were favored with musical selections. The Saints from Erie, Pa., favored us with a restoration hymn written by Sister Esther Dyer, entitled "The Greatest Story," and this set the theme for the brothers who addressed us. Brother Mitchell Edwards, of the Warren, Ohio branch, offered the opening prayer.

Brother Paul D'Amico of Lockport, N. Y. was the first speaker and he dwelt on the Apostasy. He used *Psalms* 85:11 and *Moroni* 10:4 as part of his text. He likened the day of creation when God said "Let there be light" to the day when, through Joseph Smith, restored the light of the gospel upon the earth once again after 1260 years of darkness. Brother Paul pointed out that many prophets died for the cause of Christ, before His coming. The 1260 years of Apostasy came to an end, when in 1820, Joseph Smith first approached God in his quest for knowledge and in 1827 truth was to spring out of the earth in the bringing forth of the plates from which Joseph translated "The Book of Mormon." I am always impressed with the warning and lament of Christ as He stood on the walls of Jerusalem and cried "Oh Jerusalem..." Although that warning was issued almost 2000 years ago, it is still very relevant to our land today.

Hymn No. 11, "An Angel Came Down", was sung and while we were singing, Brother Frank Altomare, an elder of the Lorain, Ohio branch arose and spoke with the Spirit of God. Brother Frank Calabrese, in his preaching, pleaded with us, "Don't lose sight of the beauty of the gospel and the promise that God has given." He further stated that we are enjoying the blessings that God has prepared for Israel. Brother Frank dwelt on the return of Israel and the latter day work of the Lord. He encouraged the youth to be like the 2000 young striplings in The Book of Mormon.

Brother Frank Giovannone arose reciting the hymn "Blessed Assurance" and then stressed in his brief talk that The Church of Jesus Christ is the light of the world and that we should try with all our might to not let our light go out; also, how the love of God is measured by the humility of the people and not the size of the church.

Our concluding speaker Brother Travis Perry of Youngstown left us with these thoughts: Every house that serves God is blessed of God and becomes a house of Renown. "The world" he said, "is able to make observations of us and in the time of trouble will be able to look at us and see that we are God's people. Brother Travis

noted that in the old testament days it was customary to offer sacrifices and when Christ came, he was an offering, correspondingly our lives today should be an offering to God. His concluding, but very important statement was, "Ye are the temple of the living God."

District President Brother Rocco Biscotti concluded our day of worship with some appropriate remarks exhorting all, both members and visitors to serve God and leaving us with the question, "How much do we value The Church?" Our conference was closed in prayer by Brother A. A. Corrado.

## ARIZONA ELDERS CONFERENCE — SCENE FOR A BAPTISM

Ministers and Teachers representing the four missions of Red Lake, San Carlos, Tucson, and Whiteriver, and, of course, from the Phoenix Branch, met at San Carlos for a Statewide elders meeting on February 1st and 2nd. Upon our arrival, we were pleasantly surprised to see Brothers Reno Bologna, Paul Francione, and Bob Ciarocchi visiting us from Michigan and Ohio. Fifteen of the eighteen Arizona Elders were in attendance for these meetings. The purpose of the conference, as outlined by the Phoenix Branch, was to set aside a day for fasting and prayer and an exchange of ideas for the enriching of our ministry, and the advancement of the gospel in our communities.

The wisdom and experience of age blended with the enthusiasm and energy of youth for a very inspiring day. High priority was given to intensifying our efforts in restoring the gospel to the Seed of Joseph. The Phoenix Branch has since implemented a plan to send out two elders every month to one of the four Arizona Missions on a rotational basis.

Brother Reno Bologna gave a truly inspirational sermon on Saturday evening as the meeting was opened up to the entire congregation. He gave some wonderful counsel on how to attain a condition of spiritual health.

Much to our delight, the Lord had even more blessings in store for us, as we soon discovered Sunday morning. Our opening speaker, Brother Bob Watson, introduced the theme that was to prevail for the day, baptism. He related how he became converted through his experiences in the Indian mission field. He was followed on the same theme by Brothers Dick Christman, Phil Damore, and Bob Ciarocchi. Each one contributing their inspired thoughts to deliver one complete message.

Then something beautiful happened. While Brother Tony Brutz was breaking bread the Spirit of God rested upon him and he turned to the congregation and said: Look, I keep breaking this bread and there's no end to it. There's room at the cross for all who will come. After prayer, while the brothers were administering communion, Brother Virgil Link rose to his feet and declared his desire to make his covenant with the Lord. He was baptized by Brother Dwayne Jordan and confirmed by Brother Larry Watson. Sister Inez Caldwell had a dream the night before where she saw Dwayne baptizing our new brother. Brother Virgil lives in Fort Defiance and is the first fruits for this new mission located on the Navajo Reservation. Needless to say, this was cause for great rejoicing.

Larry Watson

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Visitors And Baptism At Branch No. 2, Michigan

On February 9, 1975 Branches 2 and 4 of The Michigan-Ontario Area had the pleasure of accommodating six of the quorum of twelve: Brothers Rocco Biscotti, Russell Cadman, Dominic Thomas, Frank Calabrese, Gorie Ciaravino and Jim Lovalvo. Brother Russell Cadman opened the service by making use of the hymn "Ye Must Be Born Again", and spoke on repentance and baptism. Brother Rocco Biscotti followed on the same topic. He told us how the Lord worked with him before he met The Church and how he became acquainted with The Church. Brother Dominic expressed his love for The Church and his fellow apostles. He exhorted us to give our all to God and His Church.

The children of the branch had been studying the meaning of the apostles and their duties in The Church and Brother Frank Morle felt a desire for the children to meet the apostles. Brother Frank had the children come to the front and the Apostles came down and greeted the children individually. The Spirit of God was felt among us. Sister Joyce Murray stood up and asked for her baptism.

After the meeting, we went to Edison Lake, where after approximately eight inches of ice was cut through. Brother Alex Gentile baptized Sister Joyce Murray. After returning to Church, Sister Joyce was confirmed by Brother Frank Morle. Sister Joyce has been a blessing to us and we pray that the Lord will bless her throughout her life.

Brother Joseph Cotellesse

### 50th Anniversary

On February 22, 1975, the Warren branch hosted a dinner for Sister Rose Dreer, as on this date fifty years ago, Sister Rose was baptized by Brother Dominic Giovannone and confirmed by Brother Joseph Corrado.

With much respect for Sister Rose, the branch planned the dinner unknowingly to her. So upon her arrival, she was completely surprised. The branch presented her with a gift showing our sincere love for her.

Sister Rose's four grandchildren, Brothers Dan, Jim and John Gennaro, and Sister Barbara Gennaro Nuzzi, sang several songs for this occasion.

We all pray that God will be with Sister Rose the remainder of her days.

Warren Branch Editor,  
Sister Carol McCracken

### Baptism At McKees Rocks, Pa.

March 16th was a glorious day in the Lord's service for the Brothers and Sisters of McKees Rocks Branch. It thrilled our souls to see one more soul render obedience to His glorious Gospel. Brother Roy Barlett was taken into the waters and baptized by Brother Richard Lawson and confirmed by Brother Dan Casasanta.

During the afternoon service, Brother Roy's sister, Carol Ann Heibert, had three of her children blessed, Valeria, James and Carla.

Even as we sing, "Fill My Cup Lord", we praise God that our hearts were truly filled to overflowing, as we spent another blessed day in His service.

### News From Lorain

On Sunday evening, March 16, we had with us the Youngstown quartet and their families and Brother Rocco and Sister Angeline Biscotti. We were blessed with a meeting of preaching, singing and testimony. There were some anointings which took place, and while Brother Rocco was anointing a Sister, he spoke in the Gift of Tongues. Brother Frank Altomare had the interpretation which was "Lean upon God and He will take care of you in these the last days."

Saturday, March 22, the Lorain Branch hosted the General Church Mission Board meetings. Those brothers who stayed over for Sunday were Brothers Rusty Heaps, Joe Genaro, Rocco Biscotti, Tony Ensana, Spencer Everett, Tony Corrado, James Campbell, Meredith and John Griffith.

Brother Rusty Heaps opened by reading from the *Book of Ruth*. Not only did we enjoy our different brothers who preached, but we were blessed in song too.

On Easter Sunday we witnessed another child being blessed, Philip Kay Salvatore Dore. His parents are Brother Philip and Kay Lynn Dore. We pray that the Lord would keep him under the Shadow of His wing all the days of his life, that he would grow to know and understand the Lord! God bless you.

Sister Leona Nardozi  
Lorain Branch Editor

### Brooklyn, New York Branch

Dear readers of the Gospel News:

We are always happy to be visited by the Saints from other parts of the vineyard. Sunday, February 16, 1975 was a day of rejoicing for the Brooklyn Branch; we were visited by the Freehold Branch of Freehold, New Jersey.

We heard words of love and humbleness from our speakers, Brothers Willie Brown, James Howard and Matthew Rogolino. We also enjoyed all the testimonies of the Brothers and Sisters. A wonderful spirit was felt by all the congregation. Brother Matthew Rogolino brought to mind, how, when the brothers from New Jersey came to Brooklyn to help Brother Joseph Benyola in building the church; while they were putting the rafters up and laboring very hard, at the completion when everyone got down Brother Matthew realized his pant leg was nailed to the rafter and could not get down. The brothers had to open the rafters to free him and nail them back on again.

After the meeting was over we went down to the church basement for lunch and fellowship. Everyone had the opportunity to sit and talk of many wonderful experiences which the Lord gives us.

We felt very encouraged in this beautiful gesture, that a Branch of The Church Of Jesus Christ would close

the branch and visit with another branch to get to know each other better. The great love of God which directs His children to do the unexpected truly lifts our spirit and fills our hearts to overflowing.

We pray the Lord will continue to bless us. May He convert and touch the hearts of those looking for the Gospel, so all may know and share this spiritual food which the Lord offers through our obedience and humbleness to Him. We must open the door of our hearts and the Lord comes in and makes everything peaceful.

God bless all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Amelia Saccardi

### Blessing At Greensburg

Greensburg received a wonderful blessing and uplift on Sunday, March 23, when Dawn Luffy was taken into the waters of baptism by Brother George Johnson, then brought back to the house of God to be confirmed by Brother Russel Cadman, our Presiding Elder.

May God be with our new Sister in Christ.

Sister Ruth Carr  
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:

Philip Kay Salvatore to Philip and Kay Lyn Nickollette of Lorain, Ohio,

Angela Marie to Anthony and Patti Scarcella of Youngstown, Ohio.

### ● OBITUARIES ●

#### COSIMO DICHIERA

Brother Cosimo Dichiera was born on July 17, 1900 in the town of Callatrea, Reggio Calabria, Italy.

He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 17, 1942 in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania. He moved to California in 1945 and came to Lindsay in 1958. On December 18, 1974 after a long period of illness, he was called unto the Lord to come Home to rest.

He is survived by two sons, two daughters and six grandchildren.

Brother Cosimo was an inspiration to each member of our newly formed Branch of Lindsay. Till the very end, he stood on his feet and in his testimony, told of the love he had for our Lord and each of us. He thanked the Lord for each day that He gave him. Brother Cosimo will be missed by all of us.

Brother Anthony Picciuto officiated at the funeral and was assisted by Brother Delio Carneval and Brother Alex Cavallero, Jr.

**ROCCO THOMAS MICALE**

Brother Rocco Micale passed away from this life on February 20, 1975. He was a member of the Fort Pierce, Florida Branch. Brother Micale was born in San Pierre Nicono, Italy on February 9, 1905.

He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ at Perth Amboy, New Jersey on May 26, 1963 by Brother Joseph DeFede and confirmed by Brother Joseph Perri, Sr.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, Louise, one son, one daughter, six grandchildren, three brothers, and two sisters. His brother, Anthony, passed away on the same day just a week previous.

Brother Rocco came to Florida a year ago with the desire to convert his mother-in-law, Sister Emma Wittack, and his brother-in-law, Brother William Wittack; and he was also instrumental in converting his wife, Louise, into The Church of Jesus Christ. This was his greatest desire—to bring souls unto GOD. His maintenance around the Church building from time to time will be greatly missed. He enjoyed the fellowship of the Brothers, Sisters and friends.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Anthony Ensana and Charles Smith.

May God bless those who were left to mourn the loss.

**ROBERT G. ABBOTT**

Mr. Robert G. Abbott passed away from this life on March 19, 1975 at the age of 20. He was from Cleveland, Ohio.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Mario Milano and Vincent Gibson. He was buried at the Highland Park Cemetery.

We pray that God will comfort his parents, Brother Raymond and Sister Margaret Abbott.

**OTTAVIO ROSATI**

On March 21, 1975 it pleased the Lord to call our dearly beloved Brother Ottavio Rosati home to rest at the age of 43. He was a faithful member of the Lockport, New York Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Surviving are his wife and five children. Brother Paul D'Amico officiated at the funeral services.

Brother Ottavio was faithful to his promise he made at the river shore and has now gone to a better place. May the Lord comfort his family in the loss of their loved one.

**KATHERINE RIDOSH**

Sister Katherine Ridosh, a member of the San Fernando Valley Branch, passed on to her heavenly reward on January 25, 1975. She was born on May 15, 1882 and was baptized on November 16, 1941.

Left to mourn her loss are three sons, six daughters, 31 grandchildren, 73 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Brothers John Azzinaro and Charles Curry officiated at an evening service at J. T. Oswald Mortuary in Reseda, California. Funeral services were held at R. D. Copeland Funeral Home with interment in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. Officiating Elders were Brothers Robert Buffington and Dan Casasanta.

**"MY MOTHER"**

I saw faith in my mother, as a small child. She was Katherine Ridosh, 93 years old, mother of ten children, nine of whom are still living. She had thirty-four grandchildren, fifty-two great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She lived to see five generations. My mother was the first to obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ on November 16, 1941. Through her obedience, there have been thirty-three baptisms either directly or indirectly which have taken place through the past 33 years. The most recent being, Karen Kunkel Watford, her great-granddaughter, who lives in College Park, Georgia. No wonder the angels rejoice over one sinner that repents and comes to the Lord because the angels know, through one faithful soul, many can come unto Christ and be saved. Then we look to the off-spring who have not yet obeyed the Gospel. Apostle Paul said "It is impossible to please God without faith, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

My mother gave her testimony to many. She lived in the San Fernando Valley many years where the Saints met in her home before there was a church in that area.

Brother Rocco Meo, at that time was their Elder. Katherine Ridosh witnessed the growth of The Church of Jesus Christ in the Valley Branch and she referred to The Church as "the beautiful, beautiful, Gospel." She passed away January 25, 1975. After services were concluded by the San Fernando Elders, she was flown to Pennsylvania and services were conducted by Brother Dan Casasanta, who baptized her. He was assisted by Brother Bob Buffington. She was laid to rest beside my father who had also been baptized in 1942.

Sister Eva Moore  
Imperial Branch

**Joy In Metuchen**

At the Metuchen Branch of New Jersey were gathered together on February 16, 1975, glad news was proclaimed as Brother Sam Risola, Jr. was welcomed back into the fold of God.

Joy was felt by all the Brothers and Sisters, and even the young felt happy. His son had tears in his eyes for he knew in his heart that his family, once again, would be united in the service of God.

May the Lord continue to bless our Brother and his family and may they as well as we hold fast to the end. May God bless you all is our prayer.

Paul Risola



# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

June, 1975

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## OFF TO ITALY

Approximately 125 persons from the Pennsylvania Area attended a "Going Away Gathering" at the McKees Rocks Branch on Sunday evening, May 4, 1975, at 7:00 p.m., for Brother Dan and Sister Fannie Casasanta. They, along with Sister Rose Nalevanko of Greensburg, Pa., left for Italy on May 6, 1974 from the Greater Pittsburgh Airport.

We met in community singing, followed by Brother Dan, Sister Fannie and Sister Rose singing in Italian. Brother Fred Olexa spoke on the work of spreading the Gospel, and made some personal remarks on the three leaving.

A gift from the McKees Rocks Branch was presented to Brother Dan and Sister Fannie. We had a special prayer offered up in their behalf by Brother John Ross.

We spent the balance of the evening socializing with our missionaries, as the Branch served refreshments in the basement.

Brother Dan, his wife Sister Fannie, and Sister Rose will be gone for three months to visit the different Branches throughout Italy. We pray that God will bless their efforts. We will miss them, but our short loss will be a blessing to the Saints elsewhere. Also, we are grateful for the visitors that have attended our Sunday services recently; we have enjoyed their messages.

We ask that you remember our Branch to God, that He will continue to bless us.

Sister Ruth Rogalla



Rose Nalevanko, Dan and Fannie Casasanta

## PEOPLE ARE INQUIRING

The Church of Jesus Christ  
6th and Lincoln Street  
Monongahela, Pennsylvania 15063  
United States of America

Dear Sir:

I want to order a *Book of Mormon* in English and Cadman History of The Church, please to tell me the prices. The Gospel News is yet \$3.00 for a year?

I want in the next year to immigrate to Canada or the USA; London, Ontario or Windsor, Ontario, or Charlotte, North Carolina.

In the next year in March, I will be 65 years old and I shall receive pension from Holland. (Will like to know where have you Church or Branch in Canada? And in North Carolina or around Virginia or South Carolina? In Europe have you Church only in Italy? Have you Church in Pacific Ocean; in Tahiti also?) Note: In the past time a voice had me say, "Go you to The Church of Jesus Christ in Monongahela; this Church is little but strong!"

I will in the future be member of The Church.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. L. Illes

Math Wijndands-Straat 18  
Maastricht, Holland

—:—

## 55th GENERAL CIRCLE ANNIVERSARY

The 55th General Circle Anniversary meeting will be held at Monongahela, Pennsylvania, on July 12, 1975.

In the morning session there will be a short business meeting and a Memorial Service for all Circle Sisters who have deceased from July 1970 to July 1975. The Erie Circle will be in charge of the Memorial Service. In the afternoon, the Monongahela Circle will present a program commemorating the 55th anniversary. The free-will offering taken that day will be given to help print *The Book of Mormon Concordance*.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle 7ditor

## NIGERIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL BIKE-A-THON

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We wish to bring to your attention the results of the Bike-A-Thon held by the Michigan-Ontario Area MBA for our school in Nigeria. It has been a long awaited desire to see the fruits of our endeavors materialize. We thank the Lord for the good report we are about to give.

The project began at a June, 1974 Area MBA Business and Organization Meeting with a request from our Nigerian Brothers and Sisters. They were in desperate need of a new electrical generator for the new school. It appeared that the generator they had was no longer of any use and would be unable to support the needed capacity of the future. At the first Activities Committee meeting following that Business and Organization meeting, an idea was presented as to how the money could be raised. Following a similar event held by the San Diego, California Branch several years earlier, we decided to hold a Bike-A-Thon on the district level. We then began with a fervor, hoping to raise enough money to meet the cost of the needed generator.

Within a month, all the needed forms and event accommodations were taken care of. The people of the area then began to circulate among our members, their friends and families, getting pledges for the event.

The event took place on Belle Isle, an island park in the Detroit River, on September 7, 1974. The island has a perimeter of roughly six miles, but for simplicity, we mapped out a five mile course. Each rider was issued a number and at the completion of the five miles, an official was present to give them a tally. To insure safety, Louie Colver toured the course every half hour in a van, giving aid to mechanically distressed riders and Sister Kathleen Furitano, a nurse, was present to administer medical aid if needed. At 4:00 P.M., after seven hours of riding, the Bike-A-Thon came to an end, with the sixty riders totaling over 2,800 miles. Randy Snay from Detroit Branch No. 2 rode the farthest by completing 100 miles. We thank the Lord that the entire day was without mishaps.

With the event completed, the riders began to collect the amounts pledged to them. This part of the event seemed to be the hardest feat to accomplish. As of April, 1975, a total of \$3,412.71 has been collected, with more funds trickling in. With this money and \$1,000 donated by the Ladies Circle, Brother Alex Gentile was commissioned to purchase an electrical generator with the capacity to meet any future needs. Brother Alex purchased a generator valued at \$6,500 for \$2,500 and a metal cutting saw with accessories costing \$385. These two items were sent to Nigeria and received by our Brothers and Sisters there on March 31, 1975. The cost of the air freight, insurance, and crating materials came to \$2,145. Other items are being considered by Brother Alex for future shipments. We thank the Lord for His help in making this project a success.

The Michigan-Ontario Area MBA wishes to express its appreciation to all those who worked so hard in this endeavor, and to all who so graciously gave in this worthy effort. The mission of the Church is to bring the Gospel to all those who will hear, and the mission of the Saints is to support all efforts 100%; be it among the House of

Israel or the Gentiles. If we do these things, The Lord will surely bless and use us.

The Welfare Committee  
Michigan-Ontario Area MBA

## ERIE REMODELING REDEDICATION

The Erie Mission would like the Saints to be informed about our remodeling and rededication of our little building.

The first dedication was in May, 1953. It was a time of much rejoicing for our small group—highlighted by the baptism of Brother Joseph Manes.

Since that time, we have had some disappointments and sadness, but the Lord has been good to us, helping us to continue on. As of the past years we have increased in number, but most important, a closeness in love and unity. We have put the past behind and are looking forward to a bright future.

In the past few months the building has been going through the stage of remodeling. All that are able have been working very hard, especially Brother Bob Dyer. Our prayers are that we continue in this love and unity; and, as Brother Ike Smith said at Conference, to keep the coals in the fire together to burn brightly, helping each other.

Our rededication date is June 8. All are welcome. May the Lord bless our Missions and Branches everywhere and a special blessing to our missionaries everywhere.

Sister D. Kovacic

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Your Church speaks of "The Apostasy". What is it and when did it happen?

The Apostasy means literally the "falling away". In the manner which it is applied to The Church it means, the falling away from the True Church, which Christ established upon the face of the earth.

A short time after Christ's death there began small changes in His Church. One by one Christ's teachings and doctrine were being changed. By the year 560 A.D., The Apostasy (falling away) in The Church was complete. The Spirit of God and the Authority of the Priesthood were removed (by God) from the face of the earth.

The truth, Authority, and Spirit were not again on this earth until a "Restoration" occurred. It took place in 1827, with the bringing forth of a record, known as the *Book of Mormon*.

Warnings of the Apostasy were given throughout the *Bible*. Christ, himself speaks of it. His words of warning can be found in the *Gospels of St. Matthew and St. John*.

## OUR TOUR OF THE CHURCH

By Brother Joseph Calabrese

(Continued from Last Issue)

On Thursday, January 2, 1975 we boarded the plane in San Diego for the flight to Florida. I was so tired I slept all the way. We landed in sunny Florida (Miami) and were met by Brother Alvin and Sister Vi. Swanson.

Brother Bill Genaro of Youngstown, Ohio met Dr. Livingston and they hit it right off immediately. The two have a lot in common. Brother Bill is a chemist. He thought he could possibly help the doctor with some surgical tools and lab equipment which he badly needs; we pray that he can. In the evening we went to M.B.A. where I introduced the doctor. After he spoke to them, they were all quite impressed. He answered their questions gladly. Here he met the Brother that made his trip around the Church possible. He thanked him, however, the Brother did not feel he had to do that. And that he was only too glad to help him. The Lord already has blessed him in bringing his wife and two daughters into the Church.

On Sunday, January 5, 1975, we went to the meeting in Fort Pierce. Our schedule was still to expose the doctor to as many Branches, Missions and Brothers and Sisters as possible. It was a good service. Brother Alvin Swanson opened the meeting speaking on how God has operated on the children of men all through the ages, beginning with Adam and Eve. Several others spoke. Some testimonies were given. The doctor also spoke here in the afternoon service. During the service the gift and interpretations of tongues were manifested. One of the interpretations was that God would provide a man in each nation of the world to receive the Gospel. Tongues again were spoken while there was a feeling by Brother Jim Lovalvo to lay hands on the doctor that he may receive the Gospel before he goes home and to be with him when he returned. The interpretation of tongues while he was telling the congregation this was that in meekness and humility God would be with him. Dr. Livingston stated that he would return home to tell his people about *The Book of Mormon* and the Restored Gospel. We had prayer and everyone went their separate ways home. The doctor and I stayed at Brother Jim and Sister Mary Lovalvo's home. Many here asked what they could do to help the doctor. I again explained that our first responsibility is to our obligations then let their conscience be their guide.

On Monday, January 6, 1975 Brothers Tony Ensana and Chuck Smith came to pick us up. We went to Brother Tony's home for the day and had supper there. Later some of the Saints came to visit us and spend the evening for the last time in Florida. We had a good scriptural discussion which we all enjoyed, especially the doctor. He said he learned a little more about our wonderful Church. After a word of prayer we said goodnight and goodbye to some. Brother Tony, Sister Elsie, and Brother Gary Ensana took us to the airport in the morning for our flight to Cleveland. Bidding the Ensanas good-bye, we boarded our flight, arriving in Cleveland on time. We then drove Dr. Livingston to North Canton to visit Emma Baer, a sister to his foster mother.

On Friday, January 10, 1975, Brother August D'Orazio met us at the Newark Airport. We returned to his home where Sister Betty already was ready for us with a special dish she made for me—"Chicken Pastore". The

doctor and I both enjoyed it very much. In the evening some young people came over and we spent time again talking to the doctor. Later they surprised me with a birthday cake. I was away from my family, but I was with the family of God. We enjoyed it very much.

On Sunday, January 12, 1975, we went to Sunday School and morning service in Edison. We opened the service and I spoke on *Moroni 10:4*. This was the last day the doctor and I would be together. I had been, of course, taking part in other services everywhere, but I was more anxious for him to be exposed to other Brethren to feel for himself, that the Spirit of God works the same everywhere in this Church. He was quick to notice this. After I spoke, he too spoke briefly, which everyone enjoyed. We went to the New Brunswick Branch in the afternoon. Again we spoke. I spoke on *Luke 4:18*. The doctor spoke again and many testimonies were given. A Sister told of a vision she had had that day. She said as she was driving to Church, it was as if the car stopped and she had never met Dr. Livingston before, but because she works with a few Indian people she knew the features. She saw Dr. Livingston walking down Easton Avenue (N.B.) and a man all dressed in white was following him. A voice said to her that the Brothers and Sisters of this Church everywhere should pray for him, because he has a strong belief and sincerity and that he will be guided to take the Word and Gospel of Jesus Christ back to his people. In the evening the doctor's friends came and picked him up at Brother D'Orazio's. We said goodbye to him and tears filled our eyes as he left.

On Monday, January 13, 1975 our tour with Baer David Livingston was over. It was truly an experience I shall always be grateful for. (The Brethren asking me to be his guide) I shall be looking forward for a notice of the doctor's safe arrival back home and anxious to see how they will accept his report. To the Members of the Mission Board, Apostles, District Presidents, Presiding Elders, India Sub-Committee and Program Development Committee, I say thank you one and all.

Brother Joseph Calabrese

## A LETTER FROM LISA SLUYS

Dear Brother Frank and members of Christ's Church,

Brother Frank and family, I'm sure now that it is best for me to continue studying my Bible and my loved book that you gave me, "The Book of Mormon". I would like more information on The Church and to have persons from The Church to write me. I still have questions but I'm sure in my studies of the scriptures I'll get answers.

Brother Frank, I'd be very grateful to everyone if they would help me here during the next few weeks while I'll be undergoing a lot of changes—not only personal changes but also changes which I do not like that has—as of tomorrow—ended our noon time Bible study group. That has hurt me deeply for I looked forward everyday for our scripture study, but now we shall be having an hour long group therapy session on every floor during our noon-hour time; and that was the only time we had for it here.

I pray that God will somehow make another time for us to get together for our group study again. I also pray  
(Continued on page 4)

## DO MIRACLES STILL HAPPEN?

by Brother Virgil Link — Red Lake, Arizona Mission

Three years ago, I was twenty-five years old, and I lay speechless and bewildered in the Public Health Service hospital on the Navajo Reservation in Fort Defiance, Arizona. I had given up on life as a whole. I was still alive but I didn't know why. My once young and healthy body that used to run miles at a time lay limp on a hospital bed. My body had become a shell. I had let this happen. Why had this become my fate? "Why me, Lord?", I pleaded.

It was then that I had come to grips with just what I had actually done to myself over the last several months. It all didn't happen over night. I couldn't pinpoint the day or month when it all started. What causes a person to forsake everything including himself? What was it that grabbed hold of me, and brought me so far down into such a physical, mental and spiritual degradation? I never did find the answer for myself. But lying there I couldn't do anything but a tremendous amount of thinking on the subject. I did come to this conclusion. I found for myself what it is that makes me want to live now. One night as I lay there I turned my heart and soul to God and begged Him to take me and make me all over again. Tears trickled down my cheeks as I prayed that someday, somehow, I would be of some service to Him, if He would only take me for His own. I even prayed that He would provide me with a place to worship Him. After I had whispered these words, I felt a blessing come over me, which has never left me to this day. Whenever I become a little discouraged or helpless, all I have to do is call on His Son's name and all is well again. My strength is miraculously renewed. This new spiritual power has only increased since that first time I did call on His name.

Do miracles still happen in this day and time? Believe me there are many who think they don't. People don't change much I suppose. Even in the day and time of Jesus Christ there were those who did not believe. Why was He crucified if this were not the case? Many believe we are beyond the age of miracles. We are all creators of our own fate, they boast. Do you suppose it's because there are now fewer and fewer of us who still remember how to call on the name of the Lord, our God? God is alive today and is still answering us with His miracles just as He promised us years ago. He has not changed. Only we have changed. We have become too sophisticated for the God that created us. In our own eyes, we have become so mighty that we have turned Him into a figment of our own fairy tale. We have forgotten what the word humble means. We have become so strong that we can't bend at the knees, or bend with our backs to bow down before Him anymore. When I prayed that He would make me over again, and that someday, somehow, He would use me, I never thought that He listened. Now that's how unbelieving I had become. But I testify now that He did hear my contrite spirit.

Sometime after I left the hospital, I met some people who have been most inspirational to me. They have also restored the Love of God in mankind to me. At one time, I was a member of a radical group that is probably one of the forerunners of the American Indian Movement. Through observing them, I have watched God's love working through them, and have even witnessed His Hand

working through my own life. There is no doubt in my mind that God eventually led me to them and this is The Church of Jesus Christ. You shall know them by their fruits, it is written. At last I have found a place where I can worship Him. Not only have I found a place to worship Him but have found a place to be of service to Him. There is a non-profit organization called Side by Side that I consider is truly the Hand of God working among the Navajos. It's composed of a group of people who are dedicated to the self-sufficiency of the American Indian. For the past couple of years almost, we have been working with the Red Lake Chapter near Navajo, New Mexico in a joint agricultural venture. It is an experimental farm and we have planted various vegetables in an effort to discover what will grow well in relation to the altitude, soil composition, and climate in the area. I'm happy to report that with the help of God, we have had great success with our experimental farm.

The real miracle in my life didn't really begin to happen until I was with The Church awhile. At first I was a real skeptic. People talked about dreams, visions, and gifts of tongues. I thought, man, what is with these people? But it didn't take long until I was talking about dreams also. Now that I believe, I'm awaiting other blessings of God. I have yet to experience a vision, or witness a healing, but I'm awaiting that time. I know that it will come to pass for me.

Last month I attended a conference in San Carlos. This is my home reservation. Boy, was there a strong Spirit of God there! Even I was surprised at what materialized. It was at this conference that I stood up and declared my covenant with the Lord. There was no premeditation on my part for my baptism. I knew that someday I would eventually be baptized into The Church, but I must say that it took me by surprise. Anyway, that Sunday afternoon, February 2, 1975, I was washed in the blood of the Lamb in the San Carlos River, and received the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands from the Priesthood. A dream was had by one of the Sisters of the San Carlos Mission concerning my baptism that weekend as well. For me this was a glorious confirmation. The night before, she was blessed by a dream that Brother Dwayne Jordan would baptize me, and that we would help each other out of the San Carlos River. This is just exactly the way it happened.

We look forward to great things here at the Red Lake Mission. God has been working with us every day. I wish I could relate each and every small and large blessing to you all. I only pity the soul who still doesn't believe in miracles. There are many who might explain my experiences just as fulfillment of my own great expectations and it was only the power of my sub-conscious that brought it to pass. Did I really fulfill my own anticipations through the power of my own imagination? I think not.

## A LETTER FROM LISA SLUYS . . .

(Continued from page 3)

that I can soon be free of all my problems and will be able to be baptized before I am released from here to go home.

I'm going to also ask for the prayers of all the family of The Church of Jesus Christ for I know it is through prayers that all problems and doubts are solved.

## THE GOSPEL NEWS

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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### HONORING FATHERS

Last month it was a privilege to devote this column to honoring Mothers. It is also a privilege in this month of June to occupy this column with a tribute in honor of living fathers, and in memory of fathers who have gone to their eternal rewards.

*How can we ever sufficiently honor fathers?*

The annual observance of Father's Day does not seem to evoke the same widespread and intense feeling as that surrounding the observance of Mother's Day. However, fathers merit and deserve the honor and esteem of their children to an immeasurable degree, perhaps far more than is usually accorded them.

The role of fathers in the family circle differs in various ways from that of mothers, but it also involves a vital and important part in the proper rearing of children.

### HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY

For example, may we note the heavy responsibility that is involved in a father's daily pursuits, in whatever field of occupation, in order to provide sufficient income to satisfy the normal everyday requirements of a household.

Additionally, some fathers, in the pursuit of a given occupation, are exposed daily to physical dangers and hazards, while others may endure exposure to extremes of weather or conditions.

In spite of all this, fathers endeavor to fulfill with devotion, self-sacrifice and tenacity their special and important role as the breadwinner in the family circle.

The love and affection of fathers for their children at any age level is also manifested in many other ways too numerous and varied to single out or point up.

Who can measure the time that fathers devote to their children, beginning early in childhood on up to adulthood?

Who can count a father's many tender acts of service, courtesy and encouragement?

Who can discern a father's innermost thoughts and heartfelt desires for the welfare, safety and goodly counseling of his children?

Who would dare underestimate the importance and gravity of a father's role in the proper rearing of his children?

Who can deny that fatherhood is not only the most important duty, but also a most sacred duty in the proper and wholesome raising of children?

### APPROPRIATE AND FITTING

While endeavoring to pen an appropriate and fitting tribute to fathers, there comes the realization of a lack of consideration at times for fathers among busy, adult children, the neglect of home ties and the absence of thoughtful consideration brought on by the pressures of everyday living.

The annual observance of Father's Day serves as a timely reminder of fathers, whether living or dead.

It is also a time of reflections from many mirrors of the love, devotion, trust, happiness and experiences to be discovered in the unique feelings between fathers and their children.

May we follow their good examples.

**GOD BLESS THEM!**



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### The Story of Sarai

Dear Girls and Boys,

Since our stories about David have ended, I would like to tell you about the women of the *Bible*. The first story is about a very interesting woman named Sarai. She was a beautiful woman, the wife of Abram, who lived about four thousand years ago.

The Lord spoke to Abram and told him to leave his country, his relatives and his father's house and go to a land the Lord would show him. Abram was to be made a great nation. Abram obeyed the Lord and they left their home and began their wandering life. Wherever Abram went, Sarai was satisfied to follow.

They journeyed into Canaan, then on to Egypt and back again to Canaan. Sarai must have been very beautiful to attract the kings. She was taken into a harem but later released when it was discovered she was the wife of Abram. Sarai was very sad in spite of their riches, because she was childless. For a woman in that day, riches were the number of children she had.

Sarai knew the Lord had told Abram He would make of him a great nation but still they had no child. How could this be, she thought? Finally she became impatient and very unhappy. She arranged to have a child whose father would be Abram, and whose mother would be her Egyptian maid, Hagar. This was common in those days. In due time a son was born and was named Ishmael. He was not the child of the promise. The Lord continued to renew His promise that Sarai would have a son. Since Sarai was growing older this seemed ridiculous and it made her laugh.

True to God's promise, when Sarai was ninety years old and Abram was one hundred, a son was born. Abram's name was changed to Abraham, which meant, "great father" and Sarai's name was changed to Sarah, meaning, "a princess". Their son was named Isaac, the child of promise.

For several years they all lived together happily, especially Sarah. Trouble arose over the two boys, Isaac and Ishmael. Sarah had Abraham order Hagar and Ishmael away from their home, but God sent His angel to care for them.

The Lord had been careful in choosing the parents of many nations and also the progenitors of His own Beloved Son. Many times the Lord tests the faith of His servants. So Abraham too, was tried. His dearest possession was Isaac. He was a wealthy man with great possessions of gold, silver and cattle. One day the Lord told Abraham to take Isaac and go to the land of Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. The Lord had asked for Abra-

ham's only son, could he obey? He loved his son dearly. How could the great promise be fulfilled?

With heavy heart Abraham took Isaac to Mt. Moriah. As they went along, Isaac asked his father about the sacrifice since they had no lamb. Abraham replied, "The Lord will provide." Abraham built an altar and with Isaac's help laid the wood on it. Then he bound his son, and laid him on the altar. As he lifted the knife to slay Isaac the Lord's message came, "Abraham, lay not thine hand upon the lad. I know that thou fearest God." Joy filled Abraham's soul. He had met the test. Looking up he saw a ram in the thicket, the Lord had sent His blessing. God's promise came true, Sarah was to be the "Mother of Nations" and Abraham is known as the "Father of the Faithful".

Next month I will tell you about Rebekah, the wife of Isaac.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## HAPPENINGS IN MEXICO

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Just a few lines to let you know of the happenings in Mexico.

On February 16, there were six baptisms in Mexico City. Our Brother Eugenio Mora (minister in Tijuana) and his wife are still in Mexico City as of this date. As far as we know at this time they will be returning in May. There are now thirteen baptized members and quite a few visitors. The Lord is blessing them much.

Our Brother Vicente Arce (minister) will be making a trip to our Mission in Sinaloa to see how the work is progressing there. He had been making trips from time to time out there overseeing the work.

Yesterday, April 2, 1975, we had ten baptisms in Tijuana. We now have four more waiting to be baptized which we will take on our next trip to the waters.

A Sister had a vision which I will relate. I, Sister Perdue, was standing next to a Sister when we were at the waters. I noticed she was looking up at the sky and was weeping. I asked her what she was seeing but all she could say was "look". I looked but saw nothing. Then for a few moments, she didn't speak. After that she told me she saw a great light and she knew it was the Lord and a voice spoke saying, "My children".

So much for now. Expect to have some news of interest to our Brothers and Sisters sometime in May. Pray for us. We feel so unworthy that the Lord would allow us to see such great things come to pass as we are seeing. We send you our love.

Yours in Christ,

Brother and Sister Perdue

If you want to find your way through life, take the road that leads to Church.

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

*"And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel; for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed."*—

Genesis 32:38

Let us reason together. . .

The Scriptures (both the *Holy Bible* as well as *The Book of Mormon*) contain hundreds of names of places, persons and things, many of which may appear to be foreign or even completely unknown to those who do not bother to look them up.

The origins of much of these ancient names are of particular interest, and to know their meanings is to understand a passage of Scripture better, wouldn't you say?

For instance, Adam, our first Earthly parent, is derived from the Hebrew. The name means "man" as well as "red"! How many of you knew that?

Moses is both Hebrew as well as Egyptian in origin. In the Hebrew the name means "reed"; in the Egyptian it becomes "son of". Many of the Egyptian Pharaohs bore the name "moses" at the end of their names, such as Thut-moses III.

Sodom and Gomorrah were two wicked cities mentioned in the *Old Testament* which were destroyed by God because of their unspeakable filth. Sodom means "salt" and Gomorrah means "submersion". Both cities were constructed on a plain of salt, and, according to most scientists, they are presently at the bottom of the Dead Sea! How prophetic are their names.

The *Bible* derives its name from the Greek. The name means "books" and was named for the Phoenician city state of Byblos, which held the largest known library in the ancient world!

Manna was a mysterious food mentioned in the *Old Testament*. The word is not actually the name of the product itself, but is, rather, a question which asks, "What is it?"

The word baptize is Greek and means immersion. When one is baptized he goes completely under the water before rising to the surface again. But how many churches do you know of perform their baptisms in such a manner?

As you can see, the origins of names is interesting to study. If one would only take the time out to look up the origin of either the name of a person, place or thing mentioned in the Scriptures that he (or she) is not sure of, then the Word of God will become plainer and less confusing to the reader. Doesn't that make sense?

We are the Light of the world! But unless we understand the Scriptures completely, then we cannot give others that Light we should be bearing.

May God bless the Saints.

In Christ's name,

Brother Gary S. Foster

## AN EXPERIENCE

*By Julius Kovacs*

Brother Carmen Sgro was rushed shortly after the Atlantic Coast Conference to the hospital with a heart attack. As if called into oneness by God, Brother August D'Orazio and I met outside the cardiac care unit. The family of Brother Carmen requested that we go in to anoint our Brother. I felt the Spirit of the Lord with me and my Brothers as I anointed Brother Carmen. He was in much pain and was being administered oxygen; yet he tried to talk. I used these words of encouragement, "Brother Carmen, you can't stay this way. You and Sister Elizabeth promised me a spaghetti dinner." Brother August said, "Yes, and I intend to go, too." A broad smile came upon our afflicted Brother's face and he started to chuckle.

It seemed that strength and healing was coming back and after a few weeks he came home. Yet, on April 2, he died in his sleep, called home now by the Good Shepherd. At the viewing on April 4 Brother Salvatore Sgro sat down beside me and said, "One of the things that concerned Carmen, was that he wanted to invite you to a spaghetti dinner." This humbled me to tears that evening.

On Saturday morning as I was preparing to go to the funeral, I started to shave and then, out of the right hand side of the mirror I saw a figure seated on a chair and he called, "Brother Julius." It was Brother Carmen, radiant, smiling, his left hand on his knee. He leaned forward in his chair, and repeated emphatically, "Brother Julius, we shall feast together at the table of the Lord." With that his vivid image vanished and I stood staring at myself in a mirror, holding a razor in the air totally motionless.

Sunday, I went to his Branch, the church he loved, in New Brunswick and told the Brothers and Sisters of this experience.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." *John 6:35*.

Pray for me, Brothers and Sisters, so that in humility and contrition I can strive to follow the path of Jesus and Brother Carmen, and I shall pray for you that we all can feast of the living water and living bread with Brother Carmen and others of our loved ones called home by Him who says, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me."

Sister Helen Kovacs

Hopelawn Branch Editor

## Ordination In Youngstown, Ohio

A good spirit prevailed throughout the day on April 13, 1975, as Brother Mario Santilli was ordained a Deacon. Brother Philip Damore, of Phoenix, Arizona, visiting here with his wife, shared the blessing as he opened our morning services. He spoke on Philip and Nathaniel and their personal relationship with God.

Brother Mario was ordained a Deacon in the afternoon service as Brother Philip Damore washed his feet. Brother Richard Santilli then ordained him a Deacon.

May God bless our Brother in this holy office.



## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Vanderbilt, Pa. Blessed With Baptisms

April 27, 1975 was truly a beautiful Sunday in the Vanderbilt Branch, as the Saints rejoiced to see two of their young people enter into a covenant to serve God.

Brother Randy Ray Beeman was baptized by Brother Milford W. Eutsey, and confirmed into the Church by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

Brother Dewayne Keith Eutsey was baptized by his father, Brother Milford W. Eutsey. He was then confirmed by Brother Joseph Shazer.

The sweet spirit of God flowed from person to person as many rose to thank God for the wonderful day and the two new servants. May God bless our new Brothers to work for the Lord.

### Blessings At The Hopelawn Branch

On March 23, 1975, the Hopelawn Branch was blessed with the baptism of Eduardo Pereira, formerly of Montevideo, Uruguay. We were doubly blessed to learn that Janice Thickett, of the Edison Branch, was to be baptized also. Brother James Benyola, Presiding Elder of the Hopelawn Branch, performed the baptisms. Prayer for the bestowal of the Holy Ghost was offered by Brother Julius Kovacs. Brother Eduardo had been in this country since September, 1974 and saw in this church and its people something beautiful and precious, something he thought he would never see in his life. He feels that there is a purpose for his coming to this country and meeting this Gospel. The spirit of the Lord was felt by Saints in the Hopelawn Branch. We were blessed with a new Saint, Brother Eduardo.

On Thursday evening, March 27, during the meeting of the "Thursday Nighters", Ruth Ellen Kovacs, daughter of Brother Julius Kovacs, asked for her baptism. She is the granddaughter of the late Brother Julius Sipos. Since the passing away of Brother Julius, an Elder devoted to the service of God and Jesus Christ, his granddaughter represents the sixth of his family to ask for her baptism.

Ruth Ellen was baptized on March 30 by her father. We had a beautiful, large gathering at the river, representing all the local churches.

Sister Ruth was confirmed by Brother Nick Persico. The words spoken in prayer were of great inspiration, touching many hearts.

Sister Ruth, in her testimony, stated that she felt a blessing and peace previously unknown. Sister Ethel Banyacsky, her aunt, gave testimony that she dreamed her father, the late Brother Julius, appeared to her in a dream. And when she told him that his granddaughter, Ruth, was now attending The Church of Jesus Christ regularly, he smiled and said that she is on the right path and everything is going to be all right. One week before she was baptized, Ruth said she felt as though her grandfather was telling her the exact words, that she is on the right path and that everything was going to be all right. This day was a day of rejoicing and the blessings of our Lord were felt.

May He always be the constant companion of each of

our new Sisters and Brother, and give them inward peace and calm whatever the trials of this temporal life, however the storm rages.

May they fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life (*1 Timothy 6:12*.)

On April 13, 1975, we had another baptism as Sister Nancy Lee Fantazier was baptized by Brother Julius Kovacs. She was then confirmed by Brother James Benyola.

We feel blessed in that this is the fifth baptism in four weeks. If we, as the branches, abide in the vine (our Redeemer), we shall bear much fruit.

Sister Helen Kovacs  
Hopelawn Branch Editor

## TO BE LOST

I am always somewhat saddened after an especially inspiring meeting, because I know in the transition from spoken to written word, much of the beauty is lost.

On February 17, 1975, Brother Gorie Ciaravino opened our Sunday service. He gave one of the best sermons I myself have ever heard him preach. The Spirit of God was with Brother Gorie as he asked the question, "How many of us know what it's like to be lost?" He said, "not spiritually, but naturally."

When first coming to Detroit and working here in 1934, he was confused by the street cars (trolleys). He had gone shopping after work, gotten lost, and began trying to find the right street car that would take him home. Finally, somebody walked up to him, turned him around, and pointed him to the direction in which he had to go. Brother Gorie said it's just the same spiritually. Someone has to turn us around and point us in the right direction.

He warned us that our lives on earth are just a probationary state. The preparing is now and not in the life that is to come. When we pass from this life we must report to God on how good we were and what we have done.

Brother Gorie told us of how his parents had been lost and then found the way. He explained that his parents were at one time atheists. One day his father literally talked to a disciple of the Devil. He said his father reasoned if there was a Devil there had to be a God. His father was finally turned around, and found the road that would take him to heaven.

Brother Gorie said there is a road map which leads to heaven. The key is the *Holy Bible* and *Book of Mormon*. Put together they provide you with the way.

Brother Dominic Thomas, President of our Church, took over speaking from where Brother Gorie had left off. Brother Dominic was also greatly inspired. His words flowed as the Spirit guided him. Brother Dominic said that we who are in The Church pretty much know the way to heaven. But occasionally we go astray. The brother of Jared got side-tracked for about four years. He said that in the 24th Chapter of Matthew, Christ warns us of what is to come. Brother Dominic said, "Knowing in advance helps us from being deterred from what we start".

He then gave a warning, the Devil will take our people out of The Church if he can. Beware that our love for one another does not wax cold.



He continued, "God gave the most precious thing He had to save us, so we must not lose sight of the fact that we are called as Gentiles to do work among the seed of Joseph. We must rejoice as a people for we are alive with the Spirit of God."

Brother Dominic encouraged us to stay on the right road, because it's very hard to get back once we've strayed. He said, "If we get off the track, it's not God's fault, it's ours."

Our afternoon meeting was equally blessed. Brother Norman Campitelle had been sick for some time and we were delighted to have him in our midst again. As testimony meeting began, Brother Norman asked for a prayer. Brother Dominic Thomas anointed him. After the prayer Sister Carmela Santarcangelo and Sister Lorraine Thomas, both stated that God had beforehand revealed to them about what had just taken place.

Several more Brothers and Sisters had asked for prayers. While those who were to be anointed were coming forward Sister Jean Deperno said that the voice of the Spirit told her, "Blessed be when you are sick, because you call upon me".

Sister Diana Thompson  
Branch No. 1  
Detroit, Michigan

## Tampa Has Easter Sunday Baptisms

March 30, 1975 was a day of rejoicing and blessing as three new souls were united with God. The day was warm, sunny and beautiful with a wonderful breeze. Our service was opened by Brother V. James Lovalvo followed with a solo, "On The Wings Of A Prayer", by Sandra Lowe.

Brother Lovalvo chose for his text Matthew 27:50-51. The theme of the day was "The Death and Resurrection of Christ", which was very appropriate for the occasion on this Easter Sunday . . . expressing the passion and death of Jesus.

He asked the question, "What will your answer be to the Christ of the cross? Will you take the step today?" For tomorrow may be too late. Jesus didn't promise us riches or great wealth. But He did promise a beautiful mansion in the house of his Father.

He also said, "BE ALIVE IN CHRIST IN 75, and for a better tomorrow LIVE IN CHRIST TODAY." At this moment two of the daughters of Sister Johnson, formerly of Detroit, Michigan, rose up and asked to be baptized, as well as Sister Cristello's daughter, who had made her wishes known earlier in the week. We then went to Davis Island where the baptisms took place. Brother Lovalvo baptized Sister Angelina Cristello and Sister Nancy Valliancourt, and Brother William Tucker baptized Sister Mary Jane Saove. We returned to our meeting place for the confirmation of the new Sisters; and after a few brief remarks by Brother Tucker and sacrament, we dismissed with our cups running over.

*Editor's Note:* As Christ arose from the dead, three new souls arose to a newness of life in Christ on this Easter Day. May God bless them and keep them in His ever loving care. We urge all to pray for the

Tampa mission that it may grow and prosper for the HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD.

P.S. Services will be held every Sunday at the Tampa Savings and Loan Bank Building throughout 1975 . . . all visitors are WELCOME.

Brother Lou Pandone

## Niles Branch Receives Blessings From Visitors

On Sunday, March 23, we had the privilege of having Brothers Don Ross, Augie D'Orazio, and Mark Randy fellowship with us. Brother Augie opened our morning service expounding on God's love and what the Church means to him. He read in the Third Book of Nephi of the *Book of Mormon*. Brother Don Ross followed and told how Christ was placed upon the cross and how He knew the terrible pain He was to suffer. Brother Ross told us how he was brought into the Church. Brother Mark Randy told us of his many experiences in Guatemala, Mexico, and that we have all come to this earth for a purpose and we are the children of God. All three of our Brothers spoke many words that did edify us.

Sister Phyllis Koon sang a solo entitled "Hold My Hand."

On Easter Sunday our Brothers and Sisters from the Warren Branch had a desire to meet with us. Brother Jerry Giovannone introduced our morning service expounding on the resurrection of Christ. We have truly enjoyed our Brothers and Sisters and we can say we really felt the bond of love.

On Sunday, April 6, 1975, we had the privilege of having Evangelist, Brother Vince Gibson; his daughter, Sister Cindy; and his son visit with us. He opened the meeting reading the 15th Psalm, expressing how we must walk uprightly in the world while displaying the pure love of God. He also stressed our duties and obligations. I can truly say all those present enjoyed the fellowship and love of one another.

Sister Wanda Pandone

## Blessings In Edison, New Jersey

March 23, 1975.

We certainly rang the bells of heaven in the Edison branch today. Even though our presiding elder, Brother Don Ross, and our first counselor, Brother Augie D'Orazio, were in Ohio attending the Mission Board meeting, the Lord saw fit to shower our small branch with blessings. He truly provided the inspiration for Brother Nathan Peterkin's sermon, as well as Brother Rocco Ensana's. At the end of Brother Ensana's sermon he encouraged the congregation that getting baptized is a beautiful experience, and a joyful pleasure; and not to be afraid of it. (We had begun the meeting realizing that we were already going to gather at the river, because a man from the Hopelawn branch, Eduardo Perraro, had asked for his baptism a few days before this.) So imagine our added joy when at the end of our morning service Janice Thickstun made her wish known to be baptized also. The Lord gave us beautiful sunshine today, and at the water's edge,

Brother Jim Benyola baptized our sister. She was confirmed by Brother Rocco Ensana back at the Edison branch, where followed a most wonderful testimony meeting. But our joy lasted through dinner and overflowed into our Sunday night MBA meeting where we learned of another baptism in Freehold. (Making 3 in our area—thank God!) Two sisters experienced the same vision of a group of men dressed in white, seated in a circle on the rostrum, with one man outstanding. As Sister Janice bore her testimony, this one personage slowly moved towards her. This was a wonderful confirmation for her of the event that had transpired earlier that day, and combined with the love that we shared, the inspired singing, and the spoken words that we enjoyed, we could not help but praising God for this blessing.

But it seems that there was even more in store for us, for during the following week, we enjoyed the visit of Brother Mark Randy for 4 days. It was during our "Thursday Nites" meeting that the young people each bore their testimony for Brother Mark, only to be blessed by the calling for baptism by Ruth Kovacs of the Hopelawn branch. Brother Joe Faragasso Jr. related afterwards that he experienced a vision before she asked, that this young woman and the person sitting next to her were encircled with a radiant light; and many people present remarked later that they knew with a feeling in their hearts that she was going to ask for her baptism that evening. But she wasn't to go down to the waters alone, for on Saturday night, as we all joined hands in prayer at Brother Sam Risola's home, after a wonderful night of singing and socializing, Susan Gray of the Edison branch also asked for her baptism. Sunday, March 30 proved to be replete with blessings as Brother Julius Kovacs baptized his daughter, Ruth, and Brother Augie D'Orazio baptized Susan. Sister Ruth was confirmed by Brother Nick Persico, and Sister Sue by Brother Don Ross in their respective branches, but what an excitement was shared that evening in our MBA. Because of our desire to rid ourselves of prides, jealousies, and little plaguing problems that come between us, and because of our prayerful anticipation of the GMBA to be hosted in our area, the Lord has been blessing us most richly, and not only do we wish that He would guide and direct our new converts, but we wish that He would continue to shower us with these lovely mercies.

God bless you,

Brother Kenny Lombardo  
Edison branch editor.

## News From Cleveland Branch No. 1

We would like to inform you that we have been having a spiritual revival in our Cleveland Eastside Branch No. 1 as we have been following the sage instructions given us recently by our President, Brother Dominic Thomas, that we should become more spiritually minded. That if we wanted to receive greater blessings we must join in unity and harmony under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In compliance with our Brother's request, it seems that our meetings have been directed by the Holy Spirit of God as we have been enjoying a perfect peace and harmony in our midst. We have also seen the sick healed. Brother Mario Milano, an Elder of our Branch, was healed of arthritis in his knee. Sister Roberta Hufnagle was rushed to the hospital with an ulcerated stomach. The

Elders went to anoint her the day after she entered the hospital and the X-rays showed that there was no trace of any ulcers in her stomach and that even the scars of an ulcer of which she was healed previously didn't show up anymore on the X-rays! We want to thank God for His tender mercies shown towards us, His people.

Our Elders, Brother Milano and Brother Gibson, visited a ten-year-old boy named Michael Territo in the hospital. He had a malignant type tumor imbedded under his brain. The doctors didn't expect the boy to live very long, because the tumor was inoperable. After he was anointed by our Elders, the boy improved immediately to the astonishment of the physicians and is now back to school.

On Sunday, January 26, 1975, we had a most glorious and eventful day as we were visited by our Brother Joseph Gennaro, an Evangelist from Niles, Ohio, and his son, Brother Ron also an Elder from Niles. The weather was inclement, but they defied the elements to come and meet with us. The meeting was turned over to them to do as the Lord directed them and Brother Ron opened the service by talking on the *25th Chapter of St. Matthew*, which is the parable of the ten virgins. It was a wonderful exhortation to all of us and it gave us much food for thought. Brother Ron told us we should have oil in our lamps as the five wise virgins and not be found wanting, as the five foolish virgins, for we never know when the day of the Lord will be.

Brother Joe then followed with a very inspiring talk about the power of God and how the gates of Hell shall not prevail against the Church. He spoke of the days when Jesus healed the sick and caused the dead to come back to life, and also some of the miracles that have happened in our time in the Church. We could feel that God was talking to us through the message brought forth by our two brothers and we felt God's power and presence in our midst.

One of our older members, Sister Carmella Ventura, was then anointed. She has been feeling very sick lately with pains in her legs and sides. Brother Joe anointed her and, throughout the prayer, God's power was felt by all of us. The meeting was then turned over to testimony and Sister Carmella was the first to testify. She thanked God for everything He had done for her and related to us that she was in much pain before she was anointed, but as the oil was put on her head, the pain left her and she no longer felt so sick. She again praised God for His goodness towards her. After that the spirit of testimony moved among us and nearly everyone praised God for His goodness and mercy. Brother Albert Ventura, Sister Carmella's husband, thanked God that he was able to celebrate his 80th birthday. It strengthened us all to hear the testimony of our old Brother who is still strong and doing his best to serve God in every way that he can.

Brother Milano then asked if his companion would come up to be anointed. She has also suffered much with her legs along with other illnesses. She later testified that she had wanted to ask to be anointed but something held her back. She also praised God for His goodness towards her. For all that were there, it was truly a time of rejoicing and refreshing. Through the message brought forth by our visiting Brothers, the testimonies of the Saints, the anointings of the sick and all that was done in the service, we could feel God's spirit and His power leading us. At

the conclusion Brother Gennaro apologized for not being able to stop at anyone's home to eat, but he was going home full — for we had feasted on the manna from heaven; and, when you are full spiritually, it satisfies your natural hunger also. Everyone there felt the same way and thanked God for all that He gives us.

Reported by:

Brother Billy Prentice,  
Cleveland Branch No. 1

## Monongahela Branch News

Brother Mark Randy spent the day with us on Sunday, April 6th. He was the main speaker in our morning preaching service. He gave his testimony of how his father found the Gospel and the *Book of Mormon*, and related this to the desire that Nephi had in wanting to see what his father, Lehi, had seen. Nephi was destined to become the leader of the people, and needed this interpretation and understanding in order to prepare himself for the great challenge. Nephi wanted to make his contribution to his people and his God. We, too, must do as he did and seek to please God in our efforts and desires. We want the Lord to be happy and satisfied with us. Brother Randy said that as Saints of God, we must set goals in our lives and rely upon Him to give us the strength to do His work. We have to pray for strength, have the good desire, make the preparation to accomplish our work, and God will take care of the rest. Our Brother exhorted us to be humble and do the will of God and we will be blessed as he has been blessed throughout his life.

Brother Randy was in charge of our evening meeting and spoke of the circumstances and experiences connected with his trip to Guatemala. He related how God directed him and provided for him as he carried the Restored Gospel message. Our Brother spoke of the love shown by the people with whom he met. It was uplifting to hear how the Lord is working with His covenant people in our day and what a ripe harvest is waiting for the workers in God's vineyards.

On Sunday evening, April 20th, we had the pleasure of having Brothers Bob Watson and Phil Damore with us. Brother Bob, who is the President of the newly organized Arizona District, opened the meeting. He referred to the Jews requiring a sign and the Greeks wanting wisdom, as recorded in *1 Corinthians*. The Apostle Paul told them he offered the Gospel of Christ, which was greater and stronger than any sign or any amount of natural wisdom man could have. Brother Bob told us that God gives us a stewardship and we are held accountable by Him for using it wisely and profitably for the building of God's Kingdom. Everything we do in our lives must center around Christ, and we must make Him a living part of our lives.

Brother Damore reminded us that there is a work for everyone to do in The Church. This is where our joy lies. We serve the Lord so we can do His will, not our will. Brother Phil related various experiences that showed how faith generated results. In doing the Lord's will, we receive peace in our hearts and lives. In turn, God will give us all that we stand in need of, according to His promise.

Brother Merdy Griffith reminded us of those who left the Monongahela Branch to live and work among the

Seed of Joseph. It was a compelling spirit that caused them to be concerned about taking the Word of God to the House of Israel. Our Brother reviewed the plan of God and our part in carrying the Restored Gospel to Israel through the Seed of Joseph. God is planting the seed and preparing the way for many to seek for the true Gospel. He referred to Dr. Livingston of India as an example of how the Lord can work with someone who is sincerely searching for the truth.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother John Griffith, summarized the main thoughts and encouraged everyone to strive for the unity necessary to do God's work. We are thankful for the encouraging words of our visiting Brothers, for it is uplifting to share the love, joys, hopes, and expectations of the Saints throughout The Church.

## Blessings At New Orleans

I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you the countless joys and blessings experienced in our recent trip to New Orleans.

Brothers Jon Genaro, Wayne Martorana and I have had a yearning to gather with the Saints in that part of God's vineyard. We arrived Saturday afternoon and were cordially welcomed by our Sisters, their families and friends. For the benefit of those that are not acquainted with the Sisters there, I will list them by name: Marlea Frentzos, Gail Wortman, Cathy McGartlin, and Vicki and Hilary Johnson. We spent the better part of that afternoon in fellowshiping, singing praises to God, and exchanging testimonies. It was then Hilary expressed her desire to become a part of the family of God. All prayed diligently that evening, that God would shower us with His Spirit as we gathered on the Sabbath.

We held Sunday service at Sister Marlea's home. The room was filled to capacity, some attending for the first time. God truly opened the door of utterance to us and His Spirit encompassed all. We then journeyed to Lake Pontchartrain to administer the ordinance of baptism to Hilary. This was the first candidate that I've had the opportunity to baptize in my short tenure in the Ministry.

It is truly an exhilarating feeling that is second to none. While confirming Hilary, Thesbina, a Greek friend of the Frentzoses who speaks little English, but is very interested in the Gospel, conveyed to us she noticed a change in Hilary's appearance. It appeared that Hilary's face was radiant with the love of God.

Throughout the week, we endeavored to hold some type of meeting every day. One day we went to the park by the lake and had a wonderful lesson in the *Book of Mormon*. The sun was shining brightly which allowed us to enjoy the beauty of God's creation, as well as the beauty of His Word.

We set one day aside for the ordinance of feet-washing. At the beginning of the service, one of the Sisters was anointed for a problem. After prayer we all witnessed a feeling of serenity that overwhelmed her.

One evening Brother Jon was having pain in his shoulder and asked to be anointed. After anointing him, others offered prayer, asking God's blessings on us. When we arose, Jon exclaimed that the pain was gone. We praised God with all the energy of our souls that He hears the pleas and supplications of His children.

In conclusion, I'd like to quote what one of the girls stated. Her name is Gauby and she put it this way, "In this past week, we have laughed to the fullest and we have cried to the fullest, it has truly been a week we will never forget." I ask that you would remember our Sisters in your prayers, that God would continually bless them and increase them in number as well as in Spirit.

Brother Ron Genaro

We had a yesterday, and we have today,  
But will there be a tomorrow?  
Will it be filled with happiness,  
Or will there be pain and sorrow?

Shall we walk that four lane highway,  
An easy way today,  
Or walk the straight and narrow path,  
To save our souls from Jesus' wrath.

It is so easy to give our life to Him,  
To love Him and to serve Him,  
And of tomorrow we will have no fear,  
Because the Lord, our God, is always near.

Jesus walked that narrow path, wending on His way,  
There were pitfalls on either side,  
And many had fallen therein.  
A man reached up his hand to Jesus, and he began to pray,  
And Jesus took that outstretched hand,  
And forgave that man his sin.

It is just as easy as that, my friend,  
Reach out as He passes by,  
He may not come your way again,  
And you will be left to die.

Hazel E. Zoltek, Editor  
Sterling Heights Branch

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

David Lawrence to David and Leslie Schaffer of Youngstown, Ohio.

## New Year's Day Baby Blessed

Sister Edna Venuto and her husband Frank brought forth their infant son Frank, Jr., to be blessed on March 30, 1975 in the Edison, New Jersey Branch. Brother Augie D'Orazio prayed for this little baby who was born on the first day of January this year. Our prayer is that our loving Heavenly Father might always allow His good Spirit to strive with this little one in his future days.

## — WEDDINGS —

### PERIERA - TRAINA

Brother Eduardo Periera and Sister Antonina Traina were united in holy matrimony on April 29, 1975 at the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. They were married by Brother Julius Kovacs.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Joyce Feher.

The couple are making their residence in Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

### CICCATTI - LEIMBACH

Brother David Benjamin Ciccatti and Sister Deborah Ann Marie Leimbach were united in the bonds of holy wedlock on April 5, 1975 at the East San Diego Christian Church by Brother Louis Ciccatti.

The couple will reside in San Diego, California.

### BROWN - PETTYJOHN

Brother Belzonio Brown and Sister Rosemary Pettyjohn were united in marriage in The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pennsylvania on Saturday, April 12, 1975. Brother English Webb officiated at the ceremony and Brother Idris Martin assisted.

The newlyweds will reside in the Monongahela.

Our young Brother and Sister are starting their married lives united in the Gospel and our prayer is that God will grant them a wonderful life with His blessings and bounty.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### RONALD HEFNER

Mr. Ronald Hefner of Lorain, Ohio passed away from this life on April 16, 1975.

Funeral services were held at The Church of Jesus Christ and he was buried at Ridge Hill Memorial Park Cemetery. Funeral services were conducted by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

He leaves to mourn his loss his two sons, father, two brothers and three sisters.

May God comfort the family and his friends.

### NICK DEL FUORO

Brother Nick DelFuoro passed on to his heavenly reward on March 29, 1975 in Detroit, Michigan. He was a member of Branch No. 1 of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was born on November 27, 1894 and was baptized on September 7, 1958.

He is survived by one brother and one stepdaughter.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Mike LaSalle at the Frank J. Calatrerra Funeral Home.

Brother Nick was a good and faithful member. We shall miss him.

# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

July, 1975

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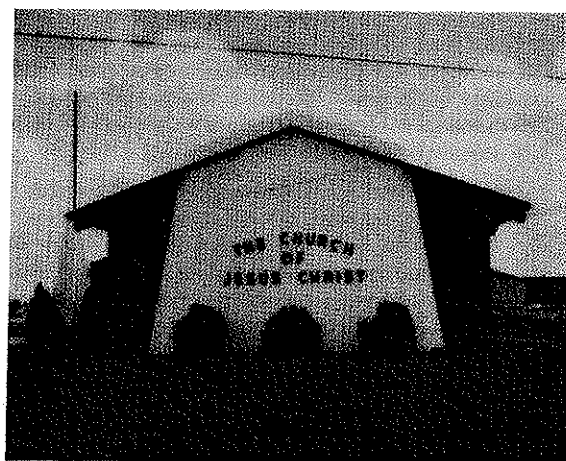
## DEDICATION — STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The Sterling Heights Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ held their dedication service Sunday, April 13, and the Lord cooperated with us by giving us a beautiful sunshiny day. The Church was filled to capacity, with many standing. At this point, let me state, that you who weren't blessed with the privilege of being here, please use your imagination. With Sister Arlene Whitton at the organ, and Brother Ralph Frammolino at the piano, we sang several warm-up hymns, and the walls seemed to be pulsating in tempo with our singing.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Louis Vitto welcomed all, and thanked the Nightingale North Nursing Home officials for their contributions and services. The Elders of our Branch have held services at the Nursing home each Sunday afternoon, for the past four years. Brother Vitto thanked those who had donated flowers for the occasion and he acknowledged to all the Branches the donations they had made to make this opening day possible. He praised the Brothers and Sisters of the Branch for their labors in revamping the Church and stated that, if we put our trust in God, His Holy Spirit will abide with us.

We had the first blessing of a baby in our new church. The honors went to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Prechel, (formerly Marjorie D'Amico). The baby, named Peter Abraham IV, was blessed by his uncle, Brother Paul Whitton.

Brother Vitto acknowledged the gift of a beautiful pulpit *Bible* and *The Book of Mormon* from Detroit Branch No. 4, and he then asked Brother Carl Frammolino to give a recap of the past three years. With Brother Reno Bologna serving as our Presiding Elder, we held our services in the Ridgewood School on Racine in Warren, Michigan and we were richly blessed while in this building. We had ten baptisms and nine babies were blessed. Brother Carl told how God had provided for our Church. Two experiences were given as to our new location. Sister Nicolette Lombardo, in a vision, saw the first three digits in our new address. Sister Theresa Palermo dreamed that she had parked her car across the street and her son started to cross and she asked him where he was going and he said "to Church". She went with him and entered the building and saw in her dream, one of



*Sterling Heights Branch*

the Sisters. On the day she first entered the church in reality, it seemed she had been here before. She then recalled her dream.

Brother Frank DiDonato, a very faithful worker in the Church, had a close call while painting in the building. The ladder fell and went through a glass door, but thanks be to God, he was not injured. Another incident was when Brother Paul Whitton was bringing the trailer back to his home to pick up the organ for delivery to the Church, he was hit by another car, but God was with him and no one was injured.

All members and their families walked up to the rostrum and sang "The Family of God", and "Let's Just Praise the Lord". Brother Louis Vitto and Sister Grace Visconti sang as a duet, "Jesus Will Outshine Them All", and the members joined in on the chorus. Everyone sang "Allelujah" with us, and Brother Anthony Gerace opened in prayer, after which Rosemary Szufnar, (formerly Rosemary Jenio) sang a solo entitled, "Bless This House", which was very appropriate for the occasion, and her voice was beautiful. We are looking forward to having Rosemary as a Sister in our Church.

The President of The Church, Brother Dominic Thomas, was introduced and he thanked every one for their support. He thanked Brother Carl Frammolino, the Presiding Elder for the past two years, for a job well done. He then presented the Apostles from the Quorum of Twelve, who were present. They were Brothers Joe

Lovalvo from California, V. James Lovalvo from Florida, Gorie Ciaravino from Detroit Branch No. 4, and Nick Pietrangelo from Detroit Branch No. 1. Brother Richard Isaac and his wife from the Six Nations Indian Reservation were also present.

Brother Jim Lovalvo and wife sang "His Name is Wonderful", after which he opened the meeting by stating that the Mother Church had given us some wonderful Elders and, also, some wonderful Brothers and Sisters. He chose as his text, *1 Corinthians*, 3:16. He stated that all who came within the bounds of this House would be blessed and that the purpose of dedicating the House of God is that it may always be a sacred place where we may come to find peace and be fed the Word of God, and that The Holy Spirit may be manifested here. He said that as he entered our building this morning, the feeling of love, joy and peace that he felt, will be with him all the days of his life. He stated The Gospel Restored will be heard all over the world, and that God never promised a "Rose Garden" or that we may never be weary, but that He did promise to heal our broken hearts and comfort us in our afflictions. His prayer was that we would have to enlarge our Church to accommodate all the souls that will find their way here.

Brother Joe Lovalvo thanked God that in his busy schedule, he and his wife still found time to be here. There were only two Branches in this area when he first came into the Church, and we now have No. 5. He said that if we have progress in our lives, we will never become stagnant. God is willing to bless us as long as we are faithful to Him and keep His commandments. As chairman of the Missionary Board in California, he related how he had prayed and fasted over the trouble at White River and how they were not sure they would be able to move their buildings from the reservation; but, after praying, he called Brother Ike Smith and told him to get a moving permit. This was done and only one day before the expiration of time allowed by the tribe, at which time they would confiscate all. He stated that the day is not far away when the greatest dedication of all will take place, when Jesus Christ will return to earth, and with the Choice Seer to pave the way, this land of America will be dedicated to the Seed of Joseph. Brother Jim Lovalvo sang "The Redman" and dedicated it to the Seed of Joseph.

Brother Dominic Thomas then spoke. He asked how can a mortal man dedicate anything to God. Because of grace, the perseverance of faith and the Son of God, this service was possible. He stated that our Branch, with just a few members, had room to grow and that it was the responsibility of all Branches to help us. He had all the congregation of our Branch to stand, and said that we cannot fail. The Branch Board of Trustees then stood and he thanked them for their efforts. He and Brother Gorie Ciaravino blessed the Holy Oil for our new Church Building.

Brother Louis Vitto thanked Mr. Guido Scalzi for the work he had done on the pews. He then told how members of another era, had marched down French Road in Detroit as they made their way to the Old Divine Branch, singing "We're Marching to Zion", and suggested that we picture the members of our Branch walking from the Ridgewood School to Dequindre and 14 Mile, as we sang this song in dismissal. Brother John Buffa closed in prayer.

Sister Hazel Zoltek

## GREETINGS IN CHRIST JESUS

They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary: and they shall walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

I have been privileged to visit several Branches in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Niles and Youngstown, Ohio. We visited the homes of the old, the infirm at home and in hospitals, anointing the sick. We also held meetings every night, both in the church buildings and in the homes. The Spirit of the Lord was our guide and our inspiration to the glory of the Lord. We also visited our little fold at Cumberland, Maryland and held two meetings there.

One Brother asked where does Brother Mark receive his strength, seeing that he has been so ill recently? The above verse came to him, and upon reading it, he was wonderfully blessed. I was equally blessed as he read it to me. God gave us the needed strength for the task. I praise the Lord for each day and bless His Holy name for the blessing to serve a loving Father and His children.

On the way home after conference, I stopped at Omaha, Nebraska. We held a meeting on Tuesday night, and I administered Sacrament to them. I left Wednesday for St. John, Kansas and met with that little group that night. I had not been at St. John since 1958, so it was good to be together again. This is a centennial year for that town. Their little church is nice, but needs help. It would be nice if a group of our people could meet there this summer and help them celebrate. Our early people had a great engineering knowledge, as the town is very well layed out.

I left Thursday morning for Anadarko, Oklahoma, and I had quite a time finding the Crall's residence. Finally, I found it; we were very happy to see each other though we had not known each other. We had a meeting together, and I administered Sacrament to them. A blessed meeting indeed. The Cralls are full of enthusiasm and have a great faith in God.

I left Friday morning for Fort Defiance and met with our young group of Saints. There are visionaries and dreamers of good things to come. Though I was tired, I talked to them of our conference in Pennsylvania and my recent trip to Mexico and Guatemala.

After a good night's rest I departed for the long journey toward home at 4:30 a.m. and arrived at Lindsay, California at 6:00 p.m. To my surprise, when I arrived in Lindsay I found Brothers and Sisters from San Diego, San Fernando Valley and Modesto. My family met me there on Sunday; it was a blessing to see Sister Randy and all those wonderful Saints, including some of my grandchildren.

The happiness of visiting so many within four weeks and ending with such unexpected surprise, my cup runs over and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I will love thee, O Lord my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation and my high tower. *Psalms 18:1-2*.

I thank those who made the many visits possible. Without them I would not have been able to accomplish as much. It would take a volume to relate the many

blessings we received. To believe in God is to believe in people, people like you, some of whom never get in the limelight, but within their quiet homes and lives are shining jewels in the presence of God.

To love God is to love you. May the Lord bless you ever and keep you.

Ever humble,  
Brother Mark Randy

## GREETINGS FROM ITALY

I am in receipt of a letter from Brother Dan Casasanta, his wife Fannie and Sister Rose Nalevanko from San Demetrio Corona, Italy. They arrived in Olbia Airport on May 8, 1975 and are busy visiting the different missions throughout Italy.

He mentioned that he is trying to visit where it is most needful. Their travels include traveling up into the mountains everyday to visit with the brothers and sisters and holding Sunday meetings including feet washing.

He writes — "We love and miss all of our brothers and sisters in America. May God continue to bless you is our prayer. Pray for us and the Saints here.

A more complete report will be given in future issues.

Editor

## Note of Thanks

I want to thank the Ladies Uplift Circle and all the Brothers and Sisters via the *Gospel News* in remembering me and my family by many cards, phone calls, and prayers during the sudden death of my granddaughter Allison Kelly, age 13 from Charlotte, North Carolina.

I also want to thank the bus group that went to Florida for the contribution to the Memorial Fund in her memory. Although my trip ended in sorrow, I am thankful to the Lord for the beautiful memories I will treasure, of which you are all a part. Thanks for caring.

Sister Rosilie Kaiser  
Greensburg, Pa. Branch

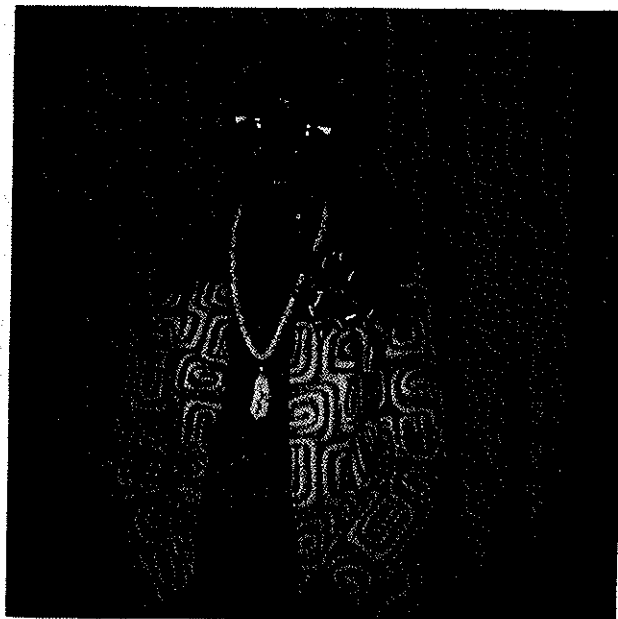
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To My Dear Brothers and Sisters of  
The Church of Jesus Christ,

The only way I can thank you all for your calls, prayers, letters, and cards in my behalf while I was so ill. I am sure your prayers are all that kept my spirit alive as I was very low in spirit at the time. Please continue to pray for me that I may be a testimony to others always, as you all are in our prayers. I have a long hard fight yet and do need prayers. God bless all my Brothers and Sisters.

Sister Bertha Ford  
Windsor, Ontario, Canada  
Branch

## TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR SARA VANCIK



Sister Sara Vancik, *Gospel News* Office Manager, was pleasantly surprised on Saturday, May 24, 1975. She was the guest of honor at an Appreciation Dinner held in her behalf at the Tonidale Restaurant in Oakdale, Pennsylvania. A total of 47 people of the *Gospel News* Staff and their families were present to honor her for her many years of dedication and work for the *Gospel News*, The Church's paper.

*Gospel News* Editor Paul Palmieri made a few opening remarks to those in attendance relating the purpose of the dinner. Then the Assistant *Gospel News* Editor, Thomas Ross presented Sister Vancik with a gift of appreciation quoting the words of King Benjamin's address in the *Book of Mormon* "When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God."

Paul Palmieri remarked that Sister Vancik has worked on the *Gospel News* with all the past and present Editors, namely: W. H. Cadman (her father), George Funkhouser, George Neill, Don Curry, Carl Frammolino and Paul Palmieri. She was also presented a *certificate of appreciation* plaque for her work.

Sister Vancik then spoke expressing her thanks for this occasion. She related that she did not deserve nor expect such fanfare for what she enjoyed doing, working for The Church. Unselfishly, she accepted and bestowed thanks to all those that ever worked for the *Gospel News*, all deserving credit. With faltering voice, Sister Sara quietly told the group she would miss everybody she leaves behind in both Monongahela, where she has fellow-shipped all her life and all others with whom she has worshipped.

Sister Lucetta Scaglione has replaced Sister Vancik as office manager. She spoke briefly revealing her reluctance to accept the position, but now is glad she did accept it, relating how it is a blessing to work for The Church.



Sister Hertha Jones, Circulation Manager told the group she has been working for 20 years on the paper. Reminiscing on when they addressed 800 papers monthly via the long hand method.

Paul Palmieri expressed his thanks to all those that contribute their time and labor for *The Gospel News* namely: typists, consultants, writers, various editors, office staff, printer, editorialists, etc.

John Bickerton Sr., Sister Sara's brother-in-law gave her a wonderful oral tribute, relating her fine qualities. He also paid tribute to William and Sadie Cadman for their untiring efforts in The Church. Sister Mabel Bickerton also paid homage to her sister Sara for the care of their parents.

Brief remarks were also made by Apostle Joseph Bittinger and Pennsylvania District President John Man Bittinger and Pennsylvania District President John Manes.

The evening concluded as all attendees socialized for a period of time.

### Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

Thank you for your thoughtfulness towards me in my most recent illness. Your prayers, visits, phone calls and cards were a source of strength to me that gave me the hope I needed. May God reward you with His love.

Sister Phyllis Nolfi  
McKees Rocks, Pa. Branch

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I wish to extend sincere thanks to all who visited me, sent get-well cards and notes, or telephoned or in any way expressed concern or remembered me in prayer during my hospitalization and convalescence. I have improved greatly since my unfortunate accident. I am now on vacation and with God's continuing help, I hope to return to work after my vacation is concluded.

God bless and reward all of you.

Brother Thomas Staley  
Glassport, Pa. Branch

### TO ALL GRADUATES — YOUR LUCKY DAY

As you reach for your diploma  
There will be some joy and tears  
It can mean success or failure  
As you travel through the years.

Don't forget what they have taught you  
Be so proud of what they've done  
This may help you find a future.  
Your young life has just begun.

Ask the Lord to guide your footsteps  
Take Him with you all the way  
As you reach for your diploma  
Thank Him for this lucky day.

—Aunt Emily

## NIGERIAN COUPLE PARTISAN AT THE GENERAL CHURCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



It was my desire to attend the General Church Annual Conference convened at Greensburg in Pennsylvania and to salute my Brothers and Sisters in the Church before I left Orangeburg for good.

On April 18, 1975 I set off with my devoted wife from Claflin University to follow up my desire of attending the Conference. I communed with Nigerian brothers and Sisters around Orangeburg City by telephone and some by personal contact to notify them of my Religious trip. Calling them by names, they were Dr. Moses Akpan, Sister Martha Akpan, Brother Samuel Akpan, Brother Ifio Akpan, Ofonmbuk Akpan, Sister Iniuyai Akpan, Brother Augustine Etukudo, Sister Nse Etukudo, brothers Joseph Arthur and Leo Okon Umana. All of them invoked God's blessing on us and wished us a calm and peaceful journey on land and in the air. Brother Moses Akpan replenished my wallet with dollars for my traveling expenses.

At noon we landed at Pittsburgh's Airport where Brother Ross (Akpan Annang) hopefully and patiently waited with his humble wife, Anthony his son, Joseph his brother and a group of other Christian siblings.

A few minutes after, Brother Anthony Ross, as agile as a monkey arranged for an additional automobile and charged himself the responsibility of manipulating the steering until we reached Greensburg.

Upon our arrival at the Auditorium, a telephone operatress patted on Brother Ross to attend to a long distance telephone call. Immediately Ross attended. He returned to our horse-shoe smilingly to relate to us that it was Bro. Moses Akpan who investigated our arrival. Our hearts were blossoming with joy because there was someone who cared and loved our Religious activities in the United States. Such demonstration of Love is noteworthy. Brother Akpan knew that the preeminent virtue in the Christian life is Love, *1 Cor. 13.13*.

That being my third time at the Church Conference, I was more conversant with the brothers and sisters and their Christian kissing styles which is a customary friendly

(Continued on page 7)



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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### THE TRAGEDY OF VIETNAM

The recent overthrow of the government of South Vietnam by the military forces of North Vietnam marks a sad turning point for a people who have endured the hardships and desolation of war for many years.

Indeed, the whole of Indochina, comprising North and South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, has been plagued by provincial rivalry and warfare for perhaps two centuries or more.

When French colonization began in the late 18th century, the state of affairs began to stabilize and gradually improve. In fact, the influence of France in Indochina can be traced to the missionary efforts begun in the 17th century.

In spite of French efforts to maintain law and order, warfare and rebellions throughout the provinces proved to be burdensome over the years.

### PROSPERITY FOR A SEASON

The Indochinese prospered for a time under a great ruler, Gia Long, who did much for his country. He undertook considerable public works, a land survey, and the promulgation of a new legal code. Gia Long's successors, however, began a persecution of Christian natives and missionaries, in the course of which between 1833 and 1873 eight European bishops and fifteen missionaries were put to death.

Indochina's internal conflicts were also aggravated by an invasion of Chinese troops from the North. Fortunately, this warfare was not prolonged. The Tientsin convention (May 11, 1884) was arranged by the French representative, Francois Fournier, and resulted in several treaties whereby peace with China was restored.

Gradually, the country began to prosper; and before World War II, had reached a point where they enjoyed a flourishing commercial economy. The principal exports were rice, corn, tea, coffee, spices, fish, rubber, coal, iron, zinc and tin.

World War II brought Japanese occupation of Indochina and their policy of 'Asia for the Asiatics.' This terminated French administration that had covered more than two centuries.

### LONG AND BITTER WAR

However, at the close of World War II, the Japanese withdrew. Peace did not prevail very long, due to the rise of the Communists who seized power in North Vietnam. This was the beginning of a long and bitter war throughout Indochina. Gradually, the U.S. Government, in the interest of resisting the spread of Communism, began to give financial and military aid.

This involvement proved costly in the loss of many American lives, many more wounded, and many prisoners. Regrettably, the cease-fire agreement reached at Paris some two years ago was broken before a final peace pact could be achieved at Geneva.

The recent victory of Communist military forces has imposed Communist rule over the Indochinese people.

This is a sad time for many of them who tried to uphold free government. It is a sad time for an America that tried to help them.

May God soften the hearts of those now in authority that they may not deal harshly with the people, and we pray that they will permit religious freedom.

Surely, the God and Father of us all is mindful of the Indochinese people as well as the entire human family.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Jochebed

Dear Girls and Boys,

Jochebed was a woman of great faith. She was a mother who had learned early to trust her God. Born in Egypt, she was the daughter of Levi, and became the wife of Amram. He was the grandson of Levi who was the son of Jacob.

Jochebed was the mother of three children. Her older son, Aaron, was set apart to be a priest and served for almost forty years. Her daughter Miriam, was taught the great faith of her mother. When the faith of her people, the Israelites, was low, Miriam led the women of Israel in song, "Sing Unto the Lord", as they crossed the Red Sea. But as the mother of Moses, Jochebed recognized this boy was born for some special purpose. She was willing to dedicate her son to God. We only read of Jochebed in the first years of Moses' life. She was a very wise mother and walked humbly before God.

When Jochebed gave birth to Moses, the Pharaoh had decreed that all Hebrew baby boys be killed at birth. After three months Moses' mother realized she could no longer take the risk of hiding her baby at home. How these months must have been filled with anxiety and prayers to God. Then a way seemed to open. God had a plan.

Miriam remembered that the princess, with her ladies, frequently came to the river to bathe. Could Jochebed hide her baby in the bullrushes by the river? She and Miriam got busy with their plans. They wove a little ark or boat out of the long reeds and daubed it with mud to make it water tight. Placing baby Moses in the little boat they hid it among the tall reeds of the Nile River. Miriam hovered near, anxiously keeping watch. Surely she prayed and prayed as her mother had taught her. She too had great faith and soon it was rewarded.

Pharaoh's daughter with her maidens, came to the river to bathe, right near where the little boat was hidden. The princess soon spied the little ark and asked that it be brought to her. As she looked at the baby she said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Miriam came to the princess and asked, "Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?" Pharaoh's daughter said, "Go." How happy Jochebed was to hear the arrangements. She was to become the baby's nurse. How good God is! So Jochebed's baby was saved from the fate of many of the Hebrew's children. The princess gave him the name, "Moses".

During the brief years that Jochebed had Moses in their home, she trained him in the faith of the Hebrews. He remained true to his mother's teachings. No doubt

he treasured a deep love for his sister Miriam, who helped save his life. He had been chosen of God to lead his people to the promised land and receive the Ten Commandments. Jochebed's children surely were true to her teachings whether she lived to see the great events take place in their lives we know not.

Next month I will tell you about a little boy who spent his life in the temple. Do you know his name?

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OHIO DISTRICT SPIRITUAL GATHERING

The Ohio District held a spiritual gathering in Lorain, Ohio on Sunday evening, May 4. After a period of community singing, Brother Mitchell Edwards of Warren, Ohio introduced the service and expressed himself briefly on the text of Peter and John healing the lame man at the gate beautiful. Brother Edwards stated that we should not lock the Love of God in a closet or bury it but that we should take it out and display it to those around us. Let us give of ourselves. Lip service is not good enough, we must set a good example.

The young people of Lorain sang "Do You Know My Jesus," after which Sister Rose Palacios related an experience. About a year ago she was told by her doctor that she had malignant tumors in her chest. She fasted and prayed often throughout the time that followed this diagnosis and two weeks ago she went back to her doctor. The X-rays showed no evidence of the tumors.

We then sang "Power In The Blood" and Brothers Joe Genaro and Rocco Biscotti both felt inspired to offer prayer in behalf of those who are very afflicted at this time. Both brothers offered prayers and while Brother Rocco was praying he spoke in the gift of tongues and the interpretation given was, "Unless we become as little children, we can in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven."

At this juncture of the service, Brother Frank Calabrese felt to ask if there were any who wished to be anointed and prayer was offered for those who came forth. We were privileged to have one of the sisters from New Orleans with us on this night also and she gave a beautiful testimony regarding her search for the truth and how she was led to contact Sister Marlea Frenzos, Brother Dom Bucci's daughter. Sister Kathy has been blessed with some wonderful experiences.

Brother Joe Calabrese related some of the correspondence he has received from persons inquiring about the Church. Brothers Ron Genaro and Mario Milano also expressed themselves briefly. District President, Brother R. V. Biscotti, in his closing remarks, admonished the young Elders to move cautiously and urged us all to prove the Lord. Brother August Perlione closed a beautiful service with prayer. We hope to see you at our next gathering in Warren, Ohio on July 27, 1975.

Brother Jim Alessio  
District Editor

## NIGERIAN COUPLE PARTISAN AT THE GENERAL CHURCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 4)

salutation symbolical of brotherhood ties as recorded in *Roman 16.16*.

The actual social stranger was Angelica, my wife who seems the first Nigerian lady partisan at the General Church Annual Conference in the U.S.A. Throughout the four days the American Sisters demonstrated their highest maternal sorority and made Angelica feel at home. She strictly maintained her racial identity by her traditional dressing styles throughout the days.

At the end of each day, we retired with Brother Ross and wife to Brother and Sister Joseph Bittinger, one of the pioneer Missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ in Africa. We were well fed spiritually and materially by Joe and his wife. My special thanks goes to Sister Bittinger who took the pains polishing and preparing the room in which we slept for three nights. On the third night Brother Bittinger showed us on his projector films of events and personalities taken during their last visit to Nigeria in 1974.

On Sunday morning the President recognized me as one of the speakers to the Congregation. In my laconic speech I called on Christian Recruits and enlistment of Christian Soldiers *I Timothy 1.18* so that as a Church we might be able to fight Religious War and demolish every stronghold and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

In *II Cor. 10:3-5* Paul did not use means which appeal to human passions or lusts, as men do in political struggle or in competitive rivalries of business. These are useless in the warfare of spirit. The weapons of the Spiritual Warfare are TRUTH, LOVE and RIGHTEOUSNESS which have in them the power that alone can conquer evil where it has its root in the hearts of men.

In *I Timothy 1:18*, it is seen that Timothy was charged that in his Christian Service he must wage the good warfare. Military metaphors appear frequently in the *New Testament*. They are really metaphors and cannot legitimately be used as arguments for or against participation in modern war.

The inescapable fact that the Christian life involves conflict against the evil in man's heart, it is a source of power for the Prophet, the Reformer, the Builder and the Servant of the Kingdom.

By re-enforcement of our Spiritual power, recruitment of able Christian soldiers, and Spiritual alliances, we as a Church can successfully extirpate the Devil strongholds throughout the globe.

While I was yet speaking a young man stood up and accepted Christ and demanded Baptism. Praise Be To God. Arrangements were initiated and the young recruit was baptized on the same day as he demanded.

The four days Conference was well run. Dr. Dominic Thomas, the President of the Church and his Counsellors demonstrated their high administrative expertise worthy of emulation. All deliberations were judiciously handled. I observed with keen interest the President's Style of open door policy in the Church and the secret ballot system used during election of officers. His administration is

strictly democratic. The Spirit of the Lord prevailed throughout the days.

After Church Service we were transferred from Brother Bittinger's Buick to Brother Joseph's Chevrolet for homeward bound. This I mean Aliquippa, the home of Brother Ross (Akpan Annang). In fulfillment of the Gospel according to *St. Mark 5:19* we stopped by Brother Anthony's bungalow to rest. Sister Judith Anthony played her expected role as a housewife. The social schism that would separate us from their nuclear family was totally bridged. This was an evidence of true Christian home. Shortly after Brother Anthony returned from his Religious assignment and joined our company. Joe Ross and wife and Brother Gentile with family were also present. We discussed at length basically on transportation of Electric Generator by Air, few typewriters and hand tools on land to the Secondary School in Nigeria. The completion of the roof of the incompleated Secondary School kitchen was another major topic of discussion.

After an inspiring prayer by Anthony we left his house for a glance of Aliquippa Church building. Finally Brother Ross took us to his house. He showed me a lot of outgoing and incoming correspondences from Nigerian brothers. Most interesting was his quasi museum mainly for Nigerian Stuff. Sister Ross immediately prepared us coffee and loaded their family car with fresh food for us to take home.

In order to catch our plane schedule, Ross's family led us safely to the Airport where we took off for Orangeburg at 11 p.m.

George U. Ekpo  
2225 College St.  
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Columbia, S. C. 29208

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Is there a proper way to fast?

Very much so! First as most individuals already know you are not to partake of food or drink. It is also important to refrain from anything that will knowingly disturb your attitude of meditation and prayer.

Most important as Christ stated, "when thou fastest, anoint thine head and wash thy face;"

"That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy father which is in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. *St. Matthew 6:17-18*.

As you can see Christ is telling you that your fast must be directed to God for your needs, and not to the praise or knowledge of your fellowman. Thus making your season of fasting and prayer, a strictly personal experience between you and God.

No matter how "big" you are, you're six feet tall when you're on your knees praying.

\* \* \*

A church is only as good as its congregation.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Visitors At Rochester, New York

As per his Evangelist schedule, on April 6, 1975 we were honored to have Brother Joe Calabrese and family in our midst.

After some community singing Brother Joe chose for his text the *6th Chapter of Ephesians*, concerning the duty of children towards their parents and servants towards their masters.

He related many experiences about keeping the Sabbath, that we should put on the armor of God so we may be able to withstand the wiles of the Devil.

Brother Joe also stated that it was their 38th wedding anniversary and was happy to have spent it among the Saints.

Brother Ansel D'Amico, Presiding Elder then gave a few concluding remarks and we were dismissed with prayer by Brother Patsy Marinetti.

April 13, 1975, Evangelist, Brother Paul Benyola, formerly from Lockport, New York and Brother and Sister Nick Mangiapane from Detroit, Michigan visited us.

After a prayer by Brother Patsy Marinetti, Brother Paul chose to speak on the *24th Chapter of the Gospel of St. Mathew*, Christ's foretelling of the destruction of the Temple and the signs of the times.

He also elaborated on the hymn, "I Don't Know About Tomorrow", by relating many wonderful experiences that were uplifting. There is great sadness in our hearts because of his move to Rhode Island but we wish him well.

The meeting was then opened for testimony after which Brother Ansel D'Amico, the Presiding Elder gave a few remarks and wished God's blessings upon all.

A good spirit prevailed during the meeting and God's blessings were felt by all.

Sister Carmella D'Amico  
Branch Editor

### Lorain Branch News

The Lorain Branch has set aside the second Sunday of every month to visit the Amherst Manor Nursing home. We meet with the older people there singing hymns and visiting with them. Many times they sing right along with us. What a blessing in knowing, we all share a portion of God's love. A passage of scripture is read or a testimony is given and we sing a few more hymns. After the prayer, we go around and shake each one's hand, and you know, you can actually feel in their hand shake the warmth and love they carry deep within their hearts for Jesus. We are so thankful for this opportunity of being able to meet with them.

Our Sister Rosemary DeFoggie is in this nursing home and we visit with her and sing some of her favorite hymns and she is administered sacrament. After the visit here, some will proceed on to another nursing home to visit our Sister Nancy DeCredico, a member of our Branch, to sing and have her receive sacrament.

On the Sundays that we go to the nursing homes, we

close our meeting at noon and return for an evening service of singing and testimony. In the past we have invited other Branches down or different singing groups of the Church. We have received many beautiful blessings as a result of the efforts we put forth toward the Lord, and through His mercy and grace He bestows upon us His works of undying Love. God Bless you!

Sister Leona Nardoizzi  
Lorain Branch Editor

### Ordination At New Brunswick Branch

Sunday, April 27 was a Sabbath Day filled with the Spirit of God. We were blessed with the ordination of Brother Wilbur McNeil to the royal Priesthood. In our morning meeting the many visitors added to the joy we experienced. Brother Dominic Rose from the Brooklyn Branch washed Brother Wilbur's feet, and he was ordained by Brother August D'Orazio from the Edison Branch. Also with us was Brother Nathan Peterkin from Edison who opened the meeting with a prayer that was truly seasoned with God's Spirit. As each of our Brothers of the Priesthood spoke and offered prayers, we received words of encouragement and food for our souls. The blessings continued throughout the afternoon meeting and it was a day well spent in the service of our King.

### Baptism In New Brunswick

They say it is never too late to give your life to the Lord. Sister Josephine Buocolo, who is 75 years old, asked for her baptism on Sunday, May 9, 1975. It was surely a beautiful day as Brother Salvatore Sgro took Sister Josephine into the river. She was confirmed by Brother Frank Mazzeo. The morning and afternoon meetings were filled with the Spirit of God as our Brothers spoke on the feeling of baptism and that no matter how old you are, you can serve the Lord.

### Blessing At Branch No. 2

I would like to share the blessings we enjoyed at a Sunday meeting held April 23 at Detroit Branch No. 2. It started with the visit of Brother Joseph Milatoni, who, on his way home from General Church Conference, was able to spend Sunday with us before leaving Monday morning for his home on the San Carlos Reservation.

The morning service started with the blessing of Cary James Wojtkowski, the new son of Sister Sheila and Paul Wojtkowski by Brother Joseph Milatoni. Brother Joe then spoke in the morning service, relating the fall of Adam, the plan of redemption and the work of the Gospel restored in the latter days. During the sermon he spoke of one experience that took place at the San Carlos Mission. He told how the Lord healed an Indian girl who had been crippled since birth to walk after she was anointed by the Elders of The Church. At this time during the meeting, Sister Nancy Harvey, who had been having considerable pain in her right foot, had a feeling to ask the Elders to anoint her. For the last ten months she has lacked feeling and control in her right leg and has had to wear a leg brace in order to walk.

At the end of the meeting she then asked the Elders to anoint her, that the pain in her foot would be relieved. After the prayer, she returned to her seat; she felt a warmth enter her leg and no longer felt any pain. While returning home, Sister Nancy took off her leg brace and discovered her legs looked and felt identical and she had been completely healed. She no longer needs the brace to walk. During the week at the Ladies Uplift Circle meeting, Sister Nancy related her experience.

Brother Kerry Carlini

### Baptism At Windsor

Sister Julie Boucher was baptized on March 23, 1975. She met the Church through her neighbor, Sister Hazel Collison, and also through her sister, Sister Clara Cuerrier. She started coming to Church in October 1971.

Brother Don Collison started our meeting by reading *Alma* 34:11-41, a very significant chapter. *Verse* 31 was outstanding, "Yea, I would that ye would come forth and harden not your hearts any longer; for behold, now is the time and the day of your salvation; and therefore, if ye will repent and harden not your hearts, immediately shall the great plan of redemption be brought about unto you." Brother Ken Wright followed upon the same theme.

Sister Julie was brought to repentance while our Brothers were speaking, and as soon as the speaking had ended, she immediately made her desire known. As she was preparing for baptism, she said, "I always signed myself as a visitor, but now I am no longer a visitor."

For the baptism we went to Holiday Beach on Lake Erie. It was a beautiful day! Our new Sister was very touched by a couple of little girls who presented her with shells they collected on which they had written her name and the date.

The baptism was performed by Brother Don Collison, and the confirmation was done by Brother Ken Wright. *Acts* 2:47, "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

Sister Ruth Stanek,  
Windsor Branch Editor

### Baptism In Dallas, Texas

On Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day, our Sabbath day started at the water's edge when Joseph L. Smith was baptized by Brother George Benyola, who later in our morning service confirmed Brother Joseph in The Church of Jesus Christ.

What a truly inspiring way to start the Sabbath. The blessings of God were with us all through the day.

Brother Joseph, born and raised in the Church, comes from the Washington, D.C. area. He is now a member of the armed forces and stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, which is 150 miles southwest of Dallas. Our prayers are with this young Brother, for we know he will have many trials and temptations to face while in the service.

May God bless each of you is the constant prayer of the Dallas Mission.

Brother Hank Ardinger

### Ordination At Kinsman

A large attendance was on hand to witness the ordination of Brother Philip Ray Jackson into the Priesthood. The meeting was filled with the spirit of God as Brother Rocco Biscotti ordained Brother Philip as an Elder in The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Daniel Corrado washed the feet of Brother Jackson in the ordination.

Prior to Brother Philip Jackson's ordination as an Elder, he was ordained a Teacher in 1973. We pray that God will bless our new worker.

### Another Baptism In Freehold, N. J.

The Saints of the Freehold Branch enjoyed another wonderful day in the service of the Lord on Sunday, May 11.

An additional blessing was experienced in the baptism of Robert Crudup. Brother Crudup was baptized by Brother Nathan Peterkin and confirmed by Brother James Howard.

May God bless and direct Brother Robert in his new service to the Lord and also make him a blessing and help to the Freehold Branch.

Sister Linda Crudup  
Branch Editor

### Baptism At Vanderbilt, Pa.

The Lord called Sister Regina Ann Keller into the Gospel on Sunday, May 18, 1975 as Brother Joseph Bittinger was speaking.

It was a joyous occasion as our new Sister gave herself to the Lord. She was baptized and confirmed by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

We are thankful for the blessings we have received in our Branch. One week later we had another child blessed as Melissa Jean LaRew of Ft. Knox, Kentucky was blessed by Brother Joseph Shazer.

Continue to pray for us.

### East Side Branch No. 1, Cleveland, Ohio

June 1, was a wonderful day full of the blessings of the Lord. In our morning worship service, we were greatly inspired by the message of Brother Joe and Brother Ron Genaro of Niles, Ohio. The subject for the service was "The Love of God" and the Love and blessings continued throughout the testimonies, surely our cup overflowed with the Spirit of the Lord.

The East Side branch held a Sunday evening service and invited surrounding missions and branches. The young people presented a skit based on, "The Miracles of the Lord". They showed how unbelievers scorned the miracles of the Lord from the time of Moses, Joseph Smith and through our present day.

Community and group singing was enjoyed by all. Our guest speaker was Brother Ron Genaro, followed by Brothers Joe and Frank Calabrese and Rocco Biscotti.

The message continued to be the Love of the Lord, and the way, we, the children of the Lord, should live.

Following the service, the sisters served refreshments. Fellowship with our visitors, was very heart warming and it was a wonderful day we will not forget. We wish to thank all of our visitors, and extend an invitation to everyone to visit. God Bless everyone is our prayer in Jesus' name.

Sister Margaret Abbott

## Spiritual Meeting Begins Month of May At Lorain

On Sunday, May 4, we had the Spirit of God with us throughout the day. Brother Frank Calabrese opened the morning meeting by reading from the 12th chapter of Hebrews. Before we had left that meeting Brother Tony and Sister Laura Calvarese were reinstated into The Church. Surely their hearts were filled with much joy and peace as they gave their hearts again unto the Lord.

That evening we had an area Spiritual meeting. As we were singing "Because He Lives," Sister Leda Prentice saw two lights, one under the Stick of Judah and one under the Stick of Ephraim, which are painted on a sign above the rostrum.

On Sunday, May 18, Brother Leonard Nardozzi, (Lorain Branch), asked for his baptism, while on the way home from G.M.B.A. conference on the bus from Pennsylvania, along with Sister Ruth Genaro, (Niles Branch). As we boarded the bus, Brother Leonard had tears in his eyes and was truly being touched by God. About half an hour went by and he asked for his baptism. We had a mini-conference on that bus and the blessings were great. Sister Ruth was also touched and gave her heart to the Lord. We took turns giving our testimony from the front of the bus and we continuously sang songs thereafter until we arrived in Aliquippa. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Sunday, May 25, Brother Leonard was baptized at Lorain by Brother Frank Calabrese and confirmed that evening by Brother Joe Calabrese. May the Lord be with our two new converts always.

That Sunday of G.M.B.A. conference, the Lorain Branch was visited by Brother Joe and Sister Carmella Genaro and Sister Sarah Mollica from the Niles Branch. May God continue to bless you always.

Sister Leona Nardozzi  
Lorain Branch Editor

## Baptism At Phoenix

It was a blessed day indeed as Sister Victoria Victor brought her new baby to be blessed at the church in Phoenix, Arizona on Sunday, May 18, 1975. After young McTeveus Victor had the blessing of God asked upon, her mother Sister Victoria asked to be baptized.

She was baptized by Brother Robert Watson and confirmed by Brother Ether Furnier. Our Apache Sister has been faithfully attending our services with her husband and children. May God continue to bless them.

## From Possessions To Salvation

We at Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan welcomed our Evangelist, Brother Dominic Moraco, on April 6, 1975. His sermon began from the 12th Chapter of Luke, starting at the 16th verse. It is a parable spoken by Jesus about a rich man. This man had so much he said to himself, "I'll pull down my barns and build larger ones. Then because I've stored all that I'll need I'll just sit back and relax." But God told him, "Thou fool this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"

Brother Dominic said he almost fell into the same trap. He explained that he is retiring after about 35 years of working at the same company. He thought to himself, "I've worked, now I'll take my ease. I have a pension and all the things I need." Then it came to him, "Thou fool". How easy things can pass from us. He then thought of all the people who needed help. Those who are starving, the sick who need to be visited, and all the souls who need to be saved.

Brother Dominic asked us, "Why is the world so messed up?" "Did God do that?" He answered, "Not God, but man with his greed."

He then asked us, "Did you ever get up very early in the morning before anyone else is up? When you look out in your backyard it's so quiet and peaceful. Then man wakes up and everything is entirely different. Greed enters in, he's out there to make more money."

He said we in The Church know the Lord, so we must think in terms of the entire world. We have to fight against our own human nature. Humans always have a tendency to stretch out farther for themselves than they would for others. The Church teaches us to stretch our arm out *all the way* to help others.

Brother Dominic reminded us again of the rich man who couldn't see all the starving people. All his thoughts went to his own worldly goods and grains. The Church of Jesus Christ has taught us to be unselfish. We are taught to search for the salvation of our souls, rather than worldly possessions. We have an obligation to each other and to the world.

Brother Dominic has given us a very important message. We who are a part of The Church of Jesus Christ, are God's representatives here on earth. We have a responsibility to go out and reach others. We are not to lay up treasures on this earth, but to prepare for the life which is to come.

In our afternoon service we were blessed again. Brother Richard Thomas was ordained a Deacon in The Church. Brother Nick Pietrangelo reminded us that the office of Deacon is part of the Priesthood of The Church, and sometimes we fail to appreciate its importance. After Brother Nick's words the ordination began. Brother Sam DiFalco washed Brother Richard's feet. Then the Priesthood knelt to pray before anointing Brother Richard. The prayer was led by Brother Concetto Alessandro. Finally Brother Mike LaSalle anointed and ordained Brother Richard Thomas as Deacon in The Church of Jesus Christ. I pray the Lord will continually bless Brother Richard in his new duties.

You can't measure God's love by the size of the church.

## Fort Pierce Branch Enjoys Many Visitors

The Fort Pierce Branch of Florida has been very blessed by having many Elders visit from other parts of the country. There have been many Brothers and Sisters from other Branches as well. Each time we see one of these visitors we know of a surety the Lord will bless our meetings.

Three young Sisters came from Detroit No. 3; Kathleen Furitano, Sharon Pontillo and Rose Mary Furitano. Brother V. J. Lovalvo brought forth the text "Faith Unlocks The Door" from *Moroni*. The testimonies of these young Sisters was a joy to hear. We thank God for the knowledge we have that His Church will be made up in the future including many young people dedicating their lives to Him.

In March Brother Frank Giovannone and his wife visited from Warren, Ohio. His mother, Sister Mary Giovannone has been ailing and they made the trip to see her. Brother Cleveland Baldwin of Chattahoochee, Florida attended the same day. They spoke on the 1st *Chapter of John*; the love of God and for one another.

April 6th Brother Don Ross and family from Edison, New Jersey attended our morning worship. His theme was the Restoration. I remember Brother Ross when he first entered the ministry. When I heard him preaching the Gospel I thank God how he has inspired this young Brother.

Brother Philip Damore, his wife Sister Anna, and Sister Sarah Watson visited on April. His text was the 43rd *Chapter of John*. Can any good come out of Nazareth? Personal experiences of his mother and father was recalled by Brother Giovannone.

When the General Conference was being held in Pennsylvania Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. of Tequesta conducted our meeting. Many of the Brothers in their testimonies spoke of the blessings they received from hearing him speak. There is something special about our Elder Brothers who had not the privilege of education but taught themselves to read the *Bible*. Their preaching is food for our souls.

Louise Micale  
Branch Editor

## Mother's Day

Our service this morning was opened by singing "Farewell All Earthly Honors."

Brother V. J. Lovalvo sang a solo, "If That Isn't Love."

Prayer by our Presiding Elder Anthony Ensana who has returned after a month's absence. He also spoke on the 25th *Chapter of Matthew*. The story of the ten virgins and their lamps. We should not be like the foolish, but we should be ready at all times. God put knowledge in man to choose. Whatever gift we have we should use it.

Brother Dominick Giovannone carried on the service by telling us we should be serious about our Church. The story of Mary and Martha was told. The work of the Lord is more important than temporal things. We have to protect our souls for our second life.

Mark Rogolino asked for his baptism.

Five transfers of the Sisters in Louisiana from Ohio

district was approved. They will be under the Fort Pierce, Florida District.

Mark James Rogolino was baptized by his father, Brother Frank Rogolino.

In the afternoon service Brother V. J. Lovalvo spoke on the 20th *Chapter of Acts*; Corinthians 1-11 verses.

Elders Eugene Perri Sr., Eugene Perri Jr., attended our service. Brother Mark Rogolino was confirmed by Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. Brother Mark and his wife Sister Marcia are expecting their first child.

Testimony followed by the Saints. Sister Juanita Rogolino told how she couldn't have received a better Mother's Day present than to have her son in the Church.

We pray the Lord will continue to bless and work among the Brothers and Sisters of our Branch. Pray for us and we shall pray for you.

Since many of the Brothers and Sisters came from the North a few are traveling to see their families. Carl and Sally Romano to Michigan, Lester and Clara Logue to Texas, Ruth Morris and family to visit husband in Georgia, Louis and Libby Pandone to Ohio, Sister Rose Rogolino, Frank Rogolino, Louise Micale, William Wittack all to New Jersey. We pray they all have a safe journey to and from their destinations.

Sister Louise Micale  
Fort Pierce, Florida

## News From The Washington, D. C. Mission

Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters in the name of Christ, Our Savior.

We here at the Washington, D. C. Mission are toiling day by day, hour by hour to uphold the banner of God.

The 29th *chapter of Alma* reads, "Oh that I were an angel and could have the wish of my heart, that I might go forth and speak with the trump of God. . . Yea, I would declare unto every soul. . . that they should repent and come unto our God, that there might be no more sorrow upon all the face of the earth."

Our joy is great for truly we, too, would like to sing the praises of God from the highest mountain. Our desire is to share the knowledge of this great and glorious God to all who will listen. We have such a vast reservoir of souls here and truly we know that there are many here in the Washington, D.C. area who are looking for the Master. Pray for us that we might be brightly shining lights in this city of darkness; that those around us will know that truly these are the children of God.

We have been privileged to have visitors to our little mission from other parts of the vineyard. We would like to take time out here to thank all the brothers and their families from New Jersey and other areas who have volunteered their time and efforts in visiting the Washington area for the spiritual uplift of its members. Words cannot express our gratitude.

Sister Gertrude Little has honored us with her presence. Brother August and Sister Betty D'Orazio also visited us. Brother Augie's message was very inspirational. He planted a seed of thought in everyone's mind when he said that there are very many people who claim to be religious but very few of them are spiritual. There is quite a difference.

Brothers and Sisters, pray that we as a church will always possess the spiritual being that is such an important part of our lives. God's people live spiritual lives twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Never do we hesitate to step out on faith for we know that He is forever by our sides. He is our refuge in times of need, our shelter in times of storm. We are a blessed people, for we are privileged to know the Lord. May we always remember what a great blessing that is.

We would like to welcome Sister Esther Andrews back into our fold. Sister Esther has moved back to the Washington area and we are truly blessed to have her here.

Our open invitation still stands for those who have the desire to visit here with us. We always consider it a blessing to worship with the Saints in other parts of the vineyard.

May God bless and keep you always.

Sister Hythia Young  
Washington, D.C. Mission

### — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Amanda April to David and Pat Adams of New Brunswick, New Jersey;

Joshua David to Roger and Ada Patterson of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania;

Heather Mae to Ralph and Carol Keller of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania;

Bryan Christopher to George and Brenda Soverns of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania;

Dawn Ann to Michael and Darlene Gambill of Sterling Heights, Michigan;

Brandon John to Donald and Angeline Lordy of Sterling Heights, Michigan;

Lonna Jeanette to Joseph and Sharon Loveri of Sterling Heights, Michigan.

### — WEDDINGS —

#### WELLS - JACKSON

Mr. Larry Wells and Miss Rebecca Jackson were united in holy matrimony on April 26, 1975 at Kinsman, Ohio by Brother John Ford.

The newlyweds will reside in Kinsman, Ohio.

#### EICHER - KOONTZ

Mr. Darrell Lee Eicher and Miss Pamela Sue Koontz were united in holy marriage on February 22, 1975 in

The Church of Jesus Christ at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. Brother Joseph Shazer officiated at the wedding.

The couple will reside in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

#### BROCCO - PATTERSON

Mr. Thomas Allen Brocco and Miss Debra Patterson were united in holy wedlock on April 26, 1975 by Elder John R. Thomas. They were married in the Vanderbilt Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

The newlyweds will reside in Grindstone, Pennsylvania.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

#### CARMEN SGRO

Elder Carmen Sgro of New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his eternal reward on April 2, 1975. He was born on February 10, 1910 and was baptized into The Church on November 26, 1926. He was ordained an Elder on February 7, 1934.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, two sons, two daughters, four brothers, three sisters and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the New Brunswick Branch, with Brothers Donald Ross and August D'Orazio officiating.

Brother Carmen was greatly devoted to The Church and its works. He had a great love for Christ and it reflected in his words and actions. He will be greatly missed in our meetings, but his memory will always remain in our hearts.

#### ANTHONY MICALE

Brother Anthony Micale passed on to his heavenly reward on February 14, 1975. He was a member of the Edison, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was born on February 18, 1898 and was baptized into The Church on December 8, 1929. Brother Micale was ordained a Teacher of the Edison Branch in 1952.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, four brothers, three sisters and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Donald Ross and August D'Orazio.

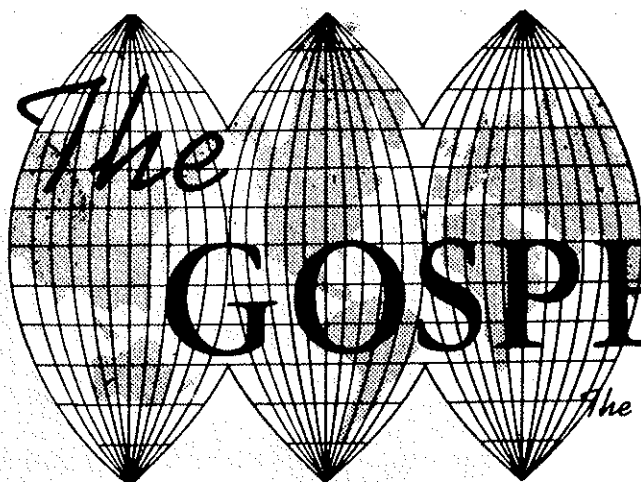
Brother Anthony was a faithful worker for The Church and Christ. He will be missed by all who knew him.

#### CANDI LEE ROGOLINO

Infant Candi Lee died at birth on May 21, 1975. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rogolino of Fort Pierce, Florida.

Brithier Frank Rogolino officiated at the funeral service.





# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

August, 1975

Volume 31, No. 8

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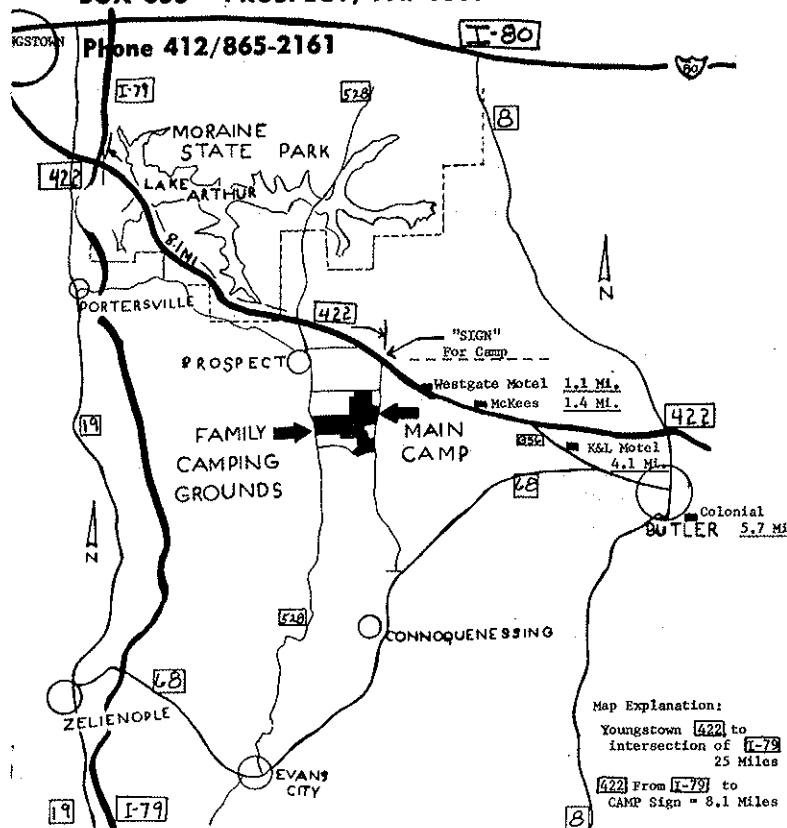
## 1975 G. M. B. A. CAMPOUT

## WASHED IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

### Camp Lutherlyn

BOX 355 - PROSPECT, PA. 16052

Phone 412/865-2161



Just a reminder that the 1975 G.M.B.A. Campout will be held at Camp Lutherlyn, Prospect, Pa. from Saturday, August 9 to Saturday, August 16, 1975. If you need any information contact:

Brother John Genaro  
432 Champion Street W.  
Warren, Ohio 44483

Tonight, a lovely and yet so very young girl came to our house. We welcomed her warmly. We would, she is one of ours. She has been washed in the precious blood of my beloved Christ. Oh how fragile is youth! How will my husband approach the subject of her unhappiness? (the unfortunate subject of divorce and/or re-marriage). My Lord, please give him the wisdom of Solomon and the compassion of John. Of course, I know what he will tell her, for I have often heard him advise young people on the seriousness of marriage and the heartaches of divorce. Paul, the Apostle instructs us that our mate is for life as long as one of them is alive. (Romans 7:2) Truly, this Sister has a heavy burden on her young shoulders. My heart cries out to her as I listen to her very sad and heart-breaking story. Oh, my God, if only our young people would be more prayerful and conscientious in choosing their mates, the companion that is to be for life, not for the honeymoon only.

Perhaps it is our fault, no, my fault first. I have neglected to tell how I came to marry my husband, the father of my children, my companion and my dearest friend.

When my family and I came to the Church of Jesus Christ, one of the things that impressed me was the words of our late Sister Helen Campitelli, "This church does not believe in divorce, therefore, you must go to God in prayer and ask that He will help you and choose for you the man or woman you are to marry. Believe this in faith and He will give you an experience in answer to your prayer." In innocence I believed of course, as I was a very young teen-ager.

I did not fall in love until God revealed to me whom I was to marry. I had a dream where this particular young man came to me. He needed my prayers and my help. As I watched him, a man, dressed in a white robe, appeared whom I knew to be the Son of God. He spoke to me and said, "You must help this young man and stay by his side. And though life will not always be easy, I will be with you, my child." As He was speaking to me, (He spoke of many things) we reached a stream of water and again He spoke to me and said, "Now, you must cross this stream of water alone, and then follow that young man." (I was not baptized as yet) As I recall the words He spoke to me, the tears flow down my cheeks, for truly, God is giving evidence that what I write is true.

The next thing I knew, the young man on top of the mountain was calling my name. I had a young boy at my side who looked like the man who was calling to me. I can still hear him calling my name, "Mary", and, my answer to him, "I am coming". (I am still saying, "I am coming," although sometimes, reluctantly.)

I had been instructed by the Church to prove God in all experiences, for all experiences are not of Him. So, I prayed, "Give someone else an experience that will confirm mine." My brother Mark, not knowing what God had given me, was praying that the Lord would reveal to him whom God had chosen for his mate. You see, that was what we had been taught to do. Faith and prayer do bring results because Mark had a vision (or dream) where he saw all of our family sitting at our table. (Joseph and James Lovalvo were also sitting at our table). A man, dressed in white came in and placed one hand on my sister Virginia's head and the other hand on Joe Lovalvo's head and said, "These two will be united in my name." Then, He placed one hand on my head and the other hand on James Lovalvo's head and said, "You two shall be united in my name." He then turned to Mark, and said, "For you, not yet."

(End of Mark's experience)

Even with those revelations, I was not satisfied. I began to fast and pray often that God would give me the qualities necessary to be a good wife to this man who now had been ordained a Minister unto God, and that God would be pleased in our union.

On our wedding day, Sister Campitelli saw two lights, one on top of my head and, one on my husband's head. As we approached Brother Furnier, who was to unite us in marriage, the two lights became one, and a voice from heaven spoke and said, "These two shall be united in my Name."

Am I boring you with my long story? Is it a story or a reality? It's as true as God is true. Jesus said, "Knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Seek, and ye shall find." God is still the same. So, why am I not teaching what was told to me until someone will put it into effect.

Tonight should have been a happy social evening with a glow on this young Sister's pretty face. Instead there is sadness in her eyes. My sincere prayer this evening is, "God help us to teach our young people like the ones who have gone before, who were so zealous to teach us." Am I good because the Lord blessed me in my youth? I say, "No." God, in His infinite mercy, foresaw the sadness and affliction I was to have in my later years, and gave me a strong foundation. How could I have withstood otherwise?

So you see, my dearest young people, look to Him for guidance. Jesus will care and provide for you because He purchased you with His precious blood.

I will now bid you adieu. Even though you are very young, you have so many wonderful years ahead of you. We have one thing in common, we were all purchased with the same precious blood, that Christ so willingly spilled for us to ransom our souls. His love for us was so great, should we not return it by trusting in Him all of our lives? So let your prayer and mine be, "Take my hand and let it be, Oh Lord, and consecrate my life to Thee."

With Love,  
Sister Mary Lovalvo

## ERIE MISSION RE-DEDICATION

June 8, 1975



Surely June 8 will long be remembered by members and attending friends of the Erie, Pennsylvania Mission because of the re-dedication of our building. All of the Saints here worked very hard to improve God's House and the results were very gratifying. We had in attendance five Apostles, four Evangelists, ten Elders and Brother Dominic Thomas, the President of The Church. We were also pleased to see many visitors from other Branches and Missions, including Brother Ronnie Dyer, originally from Erie, but now residing at San Carlos Reserve.

After community singing the Re-dedication service was opened with comments by Brother Rocco Biscotti, President of the Ohio District, followed by a solo, "God's House", by Sister Florence LaRosa. The Erie choir then sang a medley of three songs, "Our Church", "The Greatest Story Ever Told", and "A Restoration".

The first speaker was Brother Paul Benyola, formerly of Lockport Branch (now living in Massachusetts). His topic was US as the Temple of God and comparing the spiritual and the temporal sides of our bodies and our building. A solo was then sung by Sister Iva Fedorka. Brother Frank Calabrese followed with The Restoration as his theme. Next a trio was sung by Sisters Karen Milantoni, Inez Caldwell and Judi Dyer.

The last speaker, Brother Dominic Thomas, exhorted us on the importance of prayer and he complimented the Erie Mission for the work we did with so few people.

No words can really express the inner love and gratitude we feel in the Erie Mission for the help and prayers which were received through our Brothers and Sisters throughout The Church. And thanks to our Lord and God we are "On the Upward Road".

Sister Dolly Kovacic, Editor

## CORRECTION

Elder's officiating at Brother Carmen Sgros' funeral were Brothers August D'Orazio and Frank Mazzeo.

—Editor

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

by Joseph Bittinger

Recently I received a letter from Brother Edem A. Ebong in which he informed me of being hospitalized for a hernia operation. He also stated that Brother E.U.A. Arthur, President of The Church in Nigeria was hospitalized for cholera treatment at the same time. Brother Ebong is one of the traveling Elders who periodically visits the Branches and Missions of The Church in Nigeria.

We were sorry to hear of our two Brothers being in the hospital. We trust and pray that their confinement was of brief duration and that they have recovered and returned to their homes and loved ones, able to resume their temporal and spiritual duties which are many.

Brother Ebong appeals to us to pray to God in their behalf for The Church's sake and for the removal of all these troubles that are being encountered. We assure our Brothers that we sincerely petition God many, many times in their behalf that He will bless them with His Holy Spirit to lead and guide The Church, that The Church may progress in all its works to become great in these Latter Days, and the power of God's Holy Spirit may be manifest through the Ministry. The Church teaches that the sick be anointed with oil in the name of the Lord. "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." (One should not believe that all sickness is the result of sin.) "...pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." *James 5:15, 16.* The Ministry exercises all the spiritual gifts spoken of in *I Corinthians, Chapter 12* to the honor and glory of God in the land of Nigeria. Miracles are inherent in the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. Righteousness is a prerequisite for obtaining them through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Brother Ebong speaks of the suffering and many hardships faced by he and others in The Church and the difficult problems brought on because of great inflation prices. He states that at times he rides a bicycle instead of the motorcycle, since the price of petrol (gasoline) has risen so high. "...Now we have it at one naira a gallon." Brother John Ross said that is equivalent to approximately \$1.66 in United States money at the present time. Ebong complained the price had gone up to two and a half naira a gallon in the recent past (\$4.15 a gallon.) Petrol is only one item in the cost of living and operational expenses causing hardship and concern. Sickness and hospital expenses are added problems and worry, similar to ours here in America.

We are happy that in view of all the problems and sickness that have occurred, Brother Ebong was able to pay a visit to the people of Okepedi in Uyo/Oron Circuit, February 7 through 9, 1975, to encourage them in their service to God. He further states that he paid another visit to The Church in Arochukwu, March 7 through 10. "The work there is progressing well. They obtained a site where they erected a building for worship with no roofing, no mudding. They are anxious to complete it if there could be a fund."

These people were holding meetings under a trellis covered with palm branches when we visited with them last year, not an inviting place to meet during the rain

season. May God bless them for their faith and courage in trying to erect a wattle building in which to worship God. Hardship, sickness, sorrow and disappointment are no respecter of persons; they will rise up to confront us at any time or place and may be so vigorous that we may be momentarily stunned, confused or embarrassed. Sometimes we or our family may be stricken down. The problem will not go away itself, and we cannot run from it either. We have to face the facts as they are. But how wonderful it is that as servants of God we do not have to bear our heavy burdens alone. As Jesus took away our burden of sin when we came to Him and were baptized for the remission of our sins, He has promised to help us with all our burdensome problems that we are unable to handle while serving Him in spirit and truth. When we have exhausted every means available to us and are still unable to help ourselves or overcome the problem, this opens the door for God to come to our rescue. With man, many things are impossible. Jesus said, "...with God all things are possible." *Matthew 19:26.*

I love the Scripture where Jesus said, "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? ... Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows." *Luke 12:6,7.* Is this not proof that God sees and is aware of the sufferings and hardships of His people who have entered into a covenant to serve Him in these latter days. Of all the people on this vast earth, the servants of Jesus Christ, His Saints possess the ultimate hope.

I appreciate receiving any experiences or testimonies had by the Elders or members of The Church in Nigeria. If the material is found suitable it will be used in this column in *The Gospel News*. Let us read your testimony of what the Lord has done for you.

### Windsor, Canada

Forgive me Lord if I have taken for granted this day that has passed, the wonderful treasures that you have given me. They have given me so much pleasure. When I arose from my bed this morning, your sunshine already filled the room. The birds had reluctantly quieted their morning song.

As I looked out the window, I beheld your creation on every side. The trees with leaves beginning to spring forth green. Next door the fragrance of blossoms filled the air. I opened your scriptures and read from your word. Then I knelt to pray. I know that this is the only way to begin my day.

I suddenly became aware of a city outside becoming alive. The greatest of your creation, men, women, and children hustling around. It was time for my day to start.

Soon it was over. God's spirit beckons me now to stop and reflect upon this day. The thanks that I give to you are not sufficient for all that you've done for me.

Sister Olive Elzby  
Sister Didi Collison  
Branch Editor, Windsor

## LEST WE FORGET

We praise the Lord in the morning, exalt Him at noon, and glorify Him at the evening tide.

Greetings to you in Christ Jesus our Lord,

I should like to share with you an experience we had at Mt. Bridges shortly after the mission began to grow.

Brother and Sister Christian Van Bree were immigrants of Netherlands. Their family consisted of 13 children. Being sharecroppers, their income was very poor, but their faith in God was complete.

On Sunday Christian and Anna, his wife, talked to me about their misfortune since they arrived in Ontario, Canada. They said to me, "We have plowed the land ready for planting. We have seeding potatoes but are undecided whether to plant potatoes or onions. Now that we have both made a covenant with God and you are our minister, tell us what we must do." I never had such confidence placed in me by anyone. I conceived in my mind that if these God's babes in Christ so trusted me, I must be trustworthy. I answered them thus, "I will give you the answer next Sunday." Brother Van Bree wished that I had the answer quickly since the planting season was near past. I said, "I will pray to God this coming week; you also pray." Each day I prayed but no answer. Then Saturday night came, and as I prayed more earnestly, saying: "Lord, there are 13 children in this family. They have placed their trust in me. If I am truly your minister, will you, for their sake, tell me what I must say." That night as I slept the Angel of God appeared to me saying, "Marco, tell Christian and Anna, Monday morning at the rise of the sun to get all the able children ready to go into the field and plant the potatoes. Tuesday morning early, just Christian and Anna go to the field, tell them to raise their hands up and pray in this manner: 'Lord, bless this seed for our children's sake'."

That year they had such an abundance of potatoes. They repaired their old truck and delivered the potatoes to the grocery stores and sold directly to them. The income of their share gave them an income of \$3,200. The grocery owners were so happy with them that they asked them to get more, so they went to the neighbors and in this manner supplied their needs.

One day Christian asked me, "What shall we do with the \$3,200 since we now have an income from the extra sales?" I prayed again. This time the same Angel told me, "Tell them to save the money in a bank, with this they will buy a farm of their own." Shortly thereafter they saw an ad of a farm being auctioned to settle the estate. The minimum offer accepted by the judge was \$3,500. I told them to offer the \$3,200, as the Angel of the Lord said, "with this they will buy a farm". They took me to see the farm: 100 acres, a brick veneer large home, 2 barns and several other out-buildings. I offered prayer before we left. The following Sunday they said theirs was the only offer presented to the judge!

It was a happy day for them. Moses in gladness of heart shouted: "There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun who rides upon the heavens in thy help. The Eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms." And then said to Israel, "Happy art thou Israel who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord."

I say the same to you who read these words. He is the same Lord. Cast out all your doubtings and trust His holy name. 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.

Mark Randy

## PRAISE THE LORD

As I awoke this morning in the dawn of a new day,  
My heart was filled with gladness and I began to pray.  
Thank you, Lord, for the wonder of your power and grace.  
May I express it in my actions and wear it upon my face.  
Yes, I could have been lost, if my Saviour had not tried  
For all mankind to save, For He sincerely pleaded, suffered, and died

On old Calvary cross now a memory of His Father's divine will

Let not your hearts be troubled, wait upon me and peace be still.

Oh Lord, listen to your feathered creatures as they sing around

Their constant assurance each day by Thy hand shall always abound.

Even they are noticed of Thee, when they fall by death who awaits us all

Let by this example somehow lift our voices and upon the name of Jesus call.

To lead us each one down earth's pathway of life doing our best in sincerity

Where we shall dwell (not for a while) declared our God but for all eternity.

So, please Lord, take our life this day and turn it in your direction

Let your peace, your joy, and love abide in us and forgive our imperfections.

And so Lord, tonight as the sun sets and darkness is around

Wherever Thy sheep are gathered there also may our Shepherd be found.

Togetherness is a privilege to praise, bear witness, sing, and pray.

The fruits we offer through His grace for this another day.  
As David of old who once said and today the message still is ringing

Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and unto His courts with praise.

Be thankful unto Him and bless His name, His banner shall we raise.

Brother Joseph Draskovich

Who will miss you just this once in Church? God Will!

\*\*\*

Troubled? Tell it to God. He'll listen... anytime!

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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### PEACE

*By Eugene Kline, Guest Editorialist*

Next year we will celebrate 200 years since the founding of our Nation. We have enjoyed short periods when we were not at war, but not perfect peace.

I wish to take the reader back to a period on this continent when for a period of approximately 200 years there was peace—a peace beyond our “fondest hopes”.

We read in *Fourth Nephi*, in the *Book of Mormon* that the people were all baptized in the Church, that there were no contentions or disputations among them, and every man dealt justly one with another.

They had all things in common, there were no rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakers of the heavenly gift. They worked mighty miracles and God prospered them mightily and peace still remained with them through the 71st year.

### THE LOVE OF GOD, A HAPPY PEOPLE

Because of the love of God in the hearts of the people, there were no contentions or strifes among them, nor murder or lying, nor any manner of lasciviousness. Nephi said, “And surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God.”

For 84 years there was perfect harmony and the people still prospered in the land, even until 110 years had passed away, and still there were no contentions in all the land when 200 years had passed away.

Mormon says that the people had multiplied and spread over all the land and had become exceedingly rich, because of their prosperity in Christ. (Spiritual)

Then in the 201st year there began to be those who were lifted up in the pride of their hearts and began the wearing of costly apparel, and jewelry, and all manner of fine things of the world. And from that time they no longer had all things common among them. Many churches then sprang up. Persecutions arose against The Church of Jesus Christ and the people began to harden their hearts.

### HAPPINESS LOST, BECAUSE OF SIN

In the 244th year, the wicked became stronger and more numerous than the good, until 320 years had passed away, and there was so much evil and unrest in the land that Ammaron hid the sacred records. I see in *Fourth Nephi* a people who had a life of happiness and lost it, all because of sin.

I wonder how many readers can say they have “true happiness”. It is within our grasp, as the prophecies are not for 200 years of peace, but nearly 1,000 years. Mormon declared, “Hearken, O ye Gentiles, and hear the words of Jesus Christ:”

“Turn from your wicked ways; and repent . . . come unto me, and be baptized in my name, that ye may receive a remission of your sins, and be filled with the Holy Ghost, that ye may be numbered with my people who are of the house of Israel.”

The writer leaves you with the thought:

Are you truly happy? Are you really living in perfect peace?



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Hannah

Dear Girls and Boys,

This story is about Hannah who was an ideal mother. Her husband was Elkanah, a priest. Hannah was very sad because she did not have a child.

Each year Hannah and Elkanah went to Shiloh where he made his sacrifices in the temple. These journeys were trying ones for Hannah as she saw parents with their children happily going to the tabernacle. Finally on one trip Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband saw how sad she was and asked, "Why do you weep? Why do you not eat? And why are you grieved, am I not better to you than ten sons?" Hannah did not answer. She arose and went into the tabernacle to pray. "O Lord of Hosts," she prayed, "will you look on the affliction of your handmaid and remember me, but give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life and no razor shall come upon his head." This would be a sign that he was consecrated to God.

Eli, the priest, saw her lips moving but could not understand her silence. He asked her if she were drunk. Hannah answered, "No, Lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink but have poured out my soul before the Lord." When Eli saw how eager she was for a child, he joined her in prayer asking the God of Israel to answer prayer. Hannah went away believing God would answer her prayer.

Hannah's prayer was heard and there was born to her and Elkanah a son, whom she named Samuel, meaning, "asked of the Lord". As Samuel grew Hannah remembered her promise. She and Elkanah went to the temple where she left little Samuel with Eli the old priest. She was happy and she sang a beautiful song about her happiness and belief in God. "The Lord bringeth low and lifteth up. He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the beggar to set them among princes."

Hannah showed she could pray in good times and in bad, in joy and affliction. She had confidence that Samuel, though small, could learn to do little things in the tabernacle.

After a while, the boy Samuel did his work so well in the temple, that Eli had him wear the simple garments worn by the priests, called an ephod. Hannah made a new coat each year for Samuel and looked forward to taking it to him. We know she put love into every stitch of the little coat. Eli saw her devotion and prayed that God would give her more children. She became the mother of three sons and two daughters. What a great reward!

Sincerely,  
Sister Mabel

## M. B. A. Highlights

### A MISSIONARY?

Did you say you wanted to be a missionary? And you yearn to go to some distant, remote place to teach the unlearned natives the things of God? Ever considered the natives in your own backyard? In your own corner? The people you meet each day? Don't you know that you learn to be a missionary right where you are?

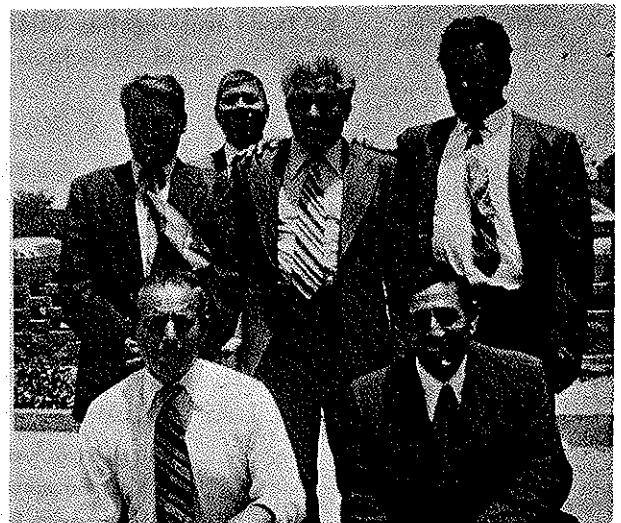
If you have the Lord's work so strongly in your heart and mind, are you presently working in the vineyard of the Lord? "The vineyard of the Lord?" you say, "Where is it? Who is my neighbor?"

So long have you gone to the Lord's house and not extended a warm welcome to the visitor? You say you cannot travel far to do the Lord's work? Then why do you neglect to show the love of God to the stranger that comes into your midst? Do you make it a practice to look for him each time we meet at the Lord's house? What was it about the Lord that drew all souls to Him? Was it not His love? Is it not written that "by the love ye show shall the world know that ye are my disciples?" Are you a fit vessel for the Lord's love? Can His love flow through you so much that you are anxious to give it to everyone you meet? Do you know what serving God is all about? If not, don't you think it's time you found out? Do you realize the hour is late?

You want to be a missionary? Are we not all missionaries who love the Lord? And must not we witness continually each day? THEN, MOVE!

Santine M. Mercure, Editor  
Anaheim Newsletter

### Mexican Elders



Left to right, front row: Vincent E. Arce and Chrey Estrada. Standing: Antonio Ortegh, Odilon Mora, Eugenio Mora, Ramon Anaya.

June 24, 1975  
Box 233  
San Carlos, Arizona 85550

To All The Staff Workers of The *Gospel News*,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the Appreciation Dinner given me before my husband and I left Pennsylvania to make our home in Arizona. It was quite a surprise to me, and I have many precious memories, not only of that special evening, but of my years of association with those who have devoted so much of their time in unseen labors for The Church.

I know God rewards all the efforts made in His service. May He continue to bless and help each one of you.

We are living at the Skill Center about eleven miles from the San Carlos Mission and would be happy to have any of you visit us if you get the opportunity. God bless you.

Your Sister In Christ,  
Sara Vancik

\* \* \*

### Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Brother Frank and I want to express our deep appreciation for the many prayers that have been offered in his behalf. Surely the Lord has answered them and has smiled upon us.

We want to thank the many Brothers and Sisters who have sent flowers, cards and letters. These thoughts have been a source of encouragement to us. There aren't enough words to express our sincere gratitude for your concern. May the Lord's richest blessings repay each and every one of you.

Sincerely,  
Brother Frank Vitto and  
Sister Kay Vitto

### Announcement

The book *American Indian Moses* by Brother Timothy Dom Bucci will be available about the beginning of August.

A short dream about the book was had just recently. I dreamed I was taking a jet plane flight, destination unknown. As I was about to enter the plane, young Brother John Mancini of Monongahela, Pennsylvania appeared on the left of me and exclaimed "The Book is Powerful".

I'm inclined to believe that it refers to "American Indian Moses".

T. D. Bucci

o-o-o-o-o

Your service to God can be like a well made stew, gently seasoned and full of variety.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Baptism At Niles, Ohio

On the bus trip coming back from G.M.B.A. a joyous time was had by everyone. Two people asked to be baptized. Sister Ruth Ann Genaro of Niles and Brother Leonard Nardozzi of Lorain, Ohio.

Sister Ruth was baptized on May 25, 1975 with many visitors present from different parts of The Church. Brother Joe Genaro baptized his daughter and Brother Ron Genaro, her brother, confirmed her into The Church.

The fellowship meeting which followed was filled with the presence of the Lord's Spirit. We ask that you continue to pray for us.

### Ordinations At Branch No. 2

Words cannot express the beautiful services held Sunday, June 1 in which three Brothers were ordained officers of The Church at the Detroit Branch No. 2.

Upon the starting of the morning service, the Branch was delighted in seeing visiting Sisters Karen Milantoni and Inez Caldwell from their home in Globe, Arizona. These Sisters once attended our Branch and have since moved with Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantoni to assist the work on the San Carlos Mission in Arizona.

The morning service was opened by Brother Dominic Moraco who spoke on the importance of preparation in our service to God. Where will we spend eternity was the question Brother Dominic raised and he admonished the congregation to be diligent in seeking and serving God. Immediately after, Brother Melvin Petris arose from his seat and stated that the night before he dreamed Brother Dominic was speaking on the same topic he spoke on this morning.

Many visitors were in attendance during the afternoon service to witness the ordinations. Brother Reno Bologna spoke concerning the work of The Church and that the load should be shared not only by the ordained officers but by each and every individual. Brother Dominic Thomas then followed speaking on the duties of Deacons and Teachers. Before the ordinations got under way, prayer was offered by Brother Frank Morle, asking that God's blessing would be with these ordinations. For the office of Deacon, Brother Bill Buffa was asked to come upon the rostrum to have his feet washed by Brother Jim Cotellesse. He was followed by Brother Joe Carlini to have his feet washed by Brother Joseph Batalucco for the office of Teacher. Brother John Straccia was next to have his feet washed by Brother Reno Bologna for the office of Teacher. In completing the ordinations, Brother Bill was ordained by Brother Paul Francione, Brother John by his uncle Brother Frederico Straccia and Brother John Romano ordained Brother Joe.

We continued by singing "There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit" which seemed to convey the beautiful spirit felt by those there. Our newly ordained Brothers were then asked to express themselves in which Brother Joe related a dream he had over a year ago in which Brother John Romano was ordaining him.

As the meeting drew to a close a ring was formed by the ministry and congregation while we sang "Alleluia".



Closing prayer was offered by Brother Alex Gentile. Surely our newly ordained Brothers will be a welcome addition to the needs of our Branch.

Brother Kerry Carlini

## Baptisms At Phoenix

On Sunday, June 8, 1975, the day after Arizona was organized as a District, Richard E. Ackman was baptized in The Church. A beautiful spirit was felt in the entire service. Brother Melvin Mountain baptized his son-in-law. Confirmation for the Holy Ghost was performed by Brother Phillip Damore.

It was a wonderful beginning for our new District.

Again on July 6, 1975 another baptism was performed at the Phoenix Branch. Evans Victor was baptized by Brother Stephen Saffron. He was then confirmed by Brother Robert Watson. Brother Victor is an Apache Indian and several weeks ago his wife was also baptized. We all rejoice in our addition to the fold of Christ.

## Baptisms At Vanderbilt

The Vanderbilt Branch experienced an extra blessing on two different Sundays, June 22 and June 29. The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Charlotte M. Sapko and Harry Overly.

Brother Joseph Shazer baptized his granddaughter, Charlotte M. Sapko and confirmation was performed by Brother George E. Fuller. The Lord touched our new Sister while she was visiting her grandfather.

Brother Harry Overly was also baptized by Brother Joseph Shazer. He was confirmed by Brother Milford Eutsey.

May God bless our new members and use them for His glory.

We have had many children blessed in our services lately: Lisa Lenora, daughter of Charles and Margaret Lynn; Charles Alfred also of Charles and Margaret Lynn; and Melissa Jean of Matthew and Linda Shusnak.

We ask that you would continue to pray for us.

## Monongahela Branch News

Monday, June 9 was the beginning of our 17th annual Vacation Bible School. This year's theme was "Jesus Cares" and, as usual, all the lessons and songs were written by Sister Mabel Bickerton. We maintained an average attendance of 86 with our highest attendance showing 94. Children of many other denominations enjoyed the 9-day session.

The lessons we studied portrayed Jesus caring for those He met who were in need of healings. He showed His love by healing the blind, deaf, sick, lame and those possessed with evil spirits. He took little children in His arms and blessed them. Jesus showed His love for Mary and Martha when he raised their brother, Lazarus, from the dead. The lessons were illustrated in the handcrafts made by the children.

Special missionary projects included a "Sunshine Box" of items brought in by the children to be given to a shut-in. One day was designated as "Papoose Day" and everyone brought in baby items to be sent to Indian families in Arizona and the Indian Hospital in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Missionary donations were given to an orphanage in Bethlehem, Israel, and the San Carlos Indian Reservation.

A quilt was made by several Sisters and painted by the young people's class. It illustrated the various names used in referring to Jesus, such as the Morning Star, Bread of Life, Lily of the Valley, Great Shepherd, Rose of Sharon, etc. The quilt was presented to Sister Sara Vancik, a teacher and helper in our Bible School for many years. It was delivered to Sara, who recently moved to San Carlos.

A program on Thursday evening, June 19th ended Bible School for another year. The various classes reviewed what they had learned about Jesus as the smiling faces of parents in the audience beamed with approval.

Sunday, June 22, was a blessed day for us. Brother Bob Buffington of the Imperial, Pa. Branch visited with us throughout the day. He opened our morning preaching service by reading from the 10th Chapter of Mark about the rich man who asked, "Good Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" When Jesus told him to sell what he had and give it to the poor, the man went away sorrowing. Our Brother spoke of how this man allowed his riches to stand between him and God. He was robbed of eternal life because of the value he placed on his natural riches. In comparison, Brother Bob spoke of Zaccheus who sought Jesus. Once he met the Lord, he offered to give half his goods to the poor and to restore four-fold to those he robbed. In turn, Zaccheus received the blessing of God. We were reminded that to receive a full portion of God's blessing, we must give our all. If we give only a portion, we will receive only a portion of God's blessing. Brother Bob spoke of experiences that illustrated our need of God and His goodness toward us.

During our afternoon testimony meeting, which was also our feetwashing service, Joyce Matthews asked for her baptism. She is the daughter of Sister Dorothy and Calvin Matthews. We left The Church and went to the Monongahela River where our new Sister was led into the waters of regeneration by Brother John Griffith. She was later confirmed by Brother James Grazan. Sister Joyce said she was touched by God's Spirit in the morning meeting and knew she had to ask for her baptism. Our sincere prayer is that the Lord will guide our new Sister and make her a light to her family, friends, and all she may come in contact with. The Matthews family are moving to Bedford, Iowa in the near future and we pray that God's blessings will follow them. May they be a light in their new location.

In the past several years, we have had to say "Good-bye" to many of our members who decided to settle in other parts of the country. When one visits the Phoenix, Arizona area it seems like another Monongahela Branch because of the great numbers of our former members who have moved there. It has left a void in our home Branch because most of these had been very active, not only in our Branch activities but also in the Sunday School, M.B.A., and the Ladies' Circle. Our last count showed about 60, including children, who are now located in Arizona.



Recently, we had a special M.B.A. meeting honoring Sister Sara and Brother Paul Vancik, who left our Branch and are now living in San Carlos, Arizona. Sister Grace Landry, Sara's youngest sister, reviewed the highlights of Paul and Sara's lives. Sister Sara told of her life-long desire to live and work among the Seed of Joseph. The Branch held a social hour to show our appreciation for the many years of service rendered by the Vanciks. In attendance were former members of Monongahela (now living in Phoenix) Brother Mel and Sister Ruth Mountain and Brother Dick and Sister Barb Ackman.

On June 25, following our mid-week prayer meeting, we honored a few others who are leaving our midst. Sister Dorothy Gandley is now living in the Harrisburg, Pa., area. She accepted a position as an "adopted grandmother" for a young family from India. Sister Dorothy will be attending the Fairless Hills Branch of The Church.

The Matthews family were also honored as they are preparing to move to Bedford, Iowa. They are buying a farm there and Dorothy and Joyce will be the only Church members in that area. As our loved ones leave, we have an assurance that God will bless them. Perhaps it is the means of planting the seeds of the Restored Gospel in parts of our country so that others may be led to Our Church. May God protect them and be their guide and companion is our prayer.

Visitors from Glassport and Vanderbilt were present to witness the ordaining of Brother John E. Mancini to the office of Deacon. Brother John Griffith, our Presiding Elder, read from the 6th *Chapter of Acts* concerning the ordaining of Deacons into The Church and the qualities they possessed to be worthy of their office. John's feet were washed by Brother David Majoros and Brother Idris Martin offered the prayer, confirming the office upon our Brother. We pray that God's Holy Spirit will guide Brother John in carrying out the duties of his office. May his zeal and enthusiasm make him a blessing to those whom he will serve.

## Brother Mark Randy Visits Glassport

On Friday, April 11, 1975 Brother Mark Randy visited Glassport Branch. Also in our midst were Elders Dan Casasanta, Jim Curry, and Idris Martin. In addition, members from other Branches were in attendance. They came from Monongahela, McKees Rocks, and Washington, D. C. Of course, Glassport Branch was well represented and a wonderful and joyous evening was had by all present.

Brother Mark Randy spoke many wonderful and encouraging words unto us. He expressed his humbleness and gratefulness to be in Glassport. Some of his comments that were especially noted were: God is so wonderful and merciful. He is also, gracious, forgiving and compassionate. God is love to everyone who believes — praise God we believe tonight. The Lord builds in us as we allow him — it is our duty to come to him as a Father. Ask unto the Lord what he wants you to do. In closing his discourse Brother Randy stressed, "Let's have unity in our homes and among our Brothers and Sisters." The words which Brother Randy brought forth were edifying and uplifting to every attentive ear. All that were present were completely full of the love of God having heard our

Brother's words. To have captured all of Brother Randy's words would have been wonderful. However, I thank God for the honor of documenting a few of his words so that others may in some small way share in the blessings we experienced in Glassport.

## Evangelists At Glassport

The Glassport Branch Membership were again fortunate to receive words of inspiration from visiting Evangelists. On Thursday, June 12, 1975, Evangelists Reno Bologna and Dominic Moraco (designates of the Quorum of 70) came to Glassport as part of their visitation program in the Pennsylvania District. Opening remarks were made by Glassport's Presiding Elder, John Ali, who requested that Evangelist Fred Olexa of Roscoe Branch introduce the Brothers from the Michigan/Ontario District. The meeting was then turned over to Brothers Bologna and Moraco.

The service was opened by Brother Reno with singing of the 1973 Campout Song "If That Isn't Love". He then offered the opening prayer. Brother Bologna expounded on God's word. He spoke on the Lord's Parable of "The Sower" as contained in the scriptures: *St. Matthew, Chapter 13*. In addition, he made reference to 2nd *Peter, Chapter 2, Verse 9* wherein we are informed, the Lord knows how to deliver us out of temptation. In closing Brother Reno commented that these are words of life and encouragement.

Brother Dominic Moraco then followed and preceded his discourse with singing the hymn "Farther Along". He then commented that Glassport is a very important Branch of the Church. He related that back in 1920 three sowers from Glassport migrated to Detroit leaving their jobs, families, etc. to introduce the gospel there (plant the Lord's seed.) Brother Dominic emphatically stated, "what a garden they planted" — within a few years four Branches were started, one on each end of the City.

Brother Moraco urged everyone to put their hearts and souls into the church; to "smile" — it's contagious; and, that we become willing workers for the Lord — working for the growth and development of Zion. Brother Dominic concluded his remarks suggesting that we labor more diligently. If we become "weak" go to the "strong" for the needed encouragement. Evangelist John Manes of McKees Rocks closed in prayer.

The words which our Brothers brought forth of a certainty fulfilled the purpose of their visit — to encourage and lift up the Saints of God. Other Branches that were represented were Greensburg, McKees Rocks, Monongahela, and Roscoe. Once again we thank God for his many blessings which he showers upon his believers.

## Baptism At Glassport

A wonderful spirit prevailed at the Glassport Branch Church Sunday, June 29, 1975.

Immediately following Brother Alma Nolfi's sermon concerning the time Jesus asked his disciples "...whom say ye that I am?", Florence Cynthia (Humphrey) Pales- tra rose to her feet and requested her baptism.

At the conclusion of the morning meeting the Saints of God retired to the waters edge and witnessed Brother John Ali baptize our new convert.

Also in our midst were Sister Catherine Carneval of the San Fernando Valley, California Branch and Brother Jim Link, Jr. and Sister Diana Papa of the Bronx, New York Branch who shared in our joy on this memorable day.

Subsequent to the baptism we returned to the Glassport Church Building where our new Sister was confirmed with the Holy Spirit by Brother Alma Nolfi. We thank God that another soul has come into the fold.

Brother Gerard Valenti  
Glassport Branch Editor

## Phoenix MBA Sponsors First Graduation Banquet

On Saturday, May 31, 1975, the MBA gave its first banquet honoring all of the church-affiliated Arizona high school graduates. It was held in the evening at Sir George's Royal Buffet in Mesa, Arizona.

The graduates honored were: Debra Lynn Christman (Tucson), Kim Hemmings (Lakeside) and David Anthony Damore (Scottsdale).

Brother Barry Mazzeo, Superintendent of the Phoenix Branch Sunday School, presented each graduate with a Bible.

Solos which were sung by Sister Elaine Jordan (Fort Defiance) and Brother Ronald Mazzeo (Phoenix) were an especially beautiful part of the program.

Each graduate was called upon to make a few remarks. Debra Christman plans on becoming an R.N. Kim Hemmings is currently employed as a butcher but expects to join the Air Force. David Damore was especially happy to hang up his paper bag after delivering newspapers for seven years! He will go to Stanford University in California in the fall.

Most exciting and interesting were three large panels with snapshots and photographs of the folks in the audience during their graduation or earlier years. Each picture was numbered and the object was to guess "who was who". This proved so hilarious — for suddenly *everyone* was a youngster once again!

Brother Robert Watson made some closing remarks in which he mixed wit with wisdom and all were laughing heartily one moment and reflecting soberly the next.

Congratulations and praise are in order for Sister Ann Collis and Brother Mark Landrey and his charming wife Judy (and many others) who helped make this program such an outstanding success.

May God's richest blessings follow our dear youthful graduates as they take their first steps into the world of adulthood and responsibility.

Sister Frances J. Capone  
Branch Editor  
Phoenix, Arizona

## News From Kent, Ohio

On Sunday, May 25, 1975 the Saints that live in the Akron and Kent area gathered for meeting at the home of Brother and Sister Finley in Kent, Ohio. To date, we

have held eight meetings in the area since April 2, 1975. Brother Joseph Manes is in charge of our meetings and has been assisted by Brother Raymond Cosetti and Brother Oliver Lloyd. We in the area have enjoyed a wonderful spirit in gathering together for meetings.

Also present at this meeting were several visitors, two of which were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crall who had expressed their desire to have their baby blessed into The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Raymond Cosetti and Brother Joe Manes spoke many wonderful words to us concerning the blessing of little children speaking from the *Eighth chapter of the Book of Moroni* and the *Tenth Chapter of Mark*. The child Brian Franklin Crall was then brought forth by both his parents and presented to Brother Joseph Manes who pronounced the blessing upon the child. Truly a wonderful spirit of joy and thankfulness to God was felt by all.

There are thirteen Brothers and Sisters in this area and we hope to be remembered by all our Brothers and Sisters throughout The Church and the Lord would lead, guide and direct us in all things to His honor and glory and that our hearts would truly echo the words of the hymn "Give of Your Best to the Master".

Sister Mary-Margaret Cain

## Visitors At Sterling Heights

Sterling Heights Branch has been blessed on three succeeding Sundays by visiting Elders. On May 25, we began our service with the blessing of baby Jeanette Oliveri, granddaughter of Brother and Sister Sam Palermo, by Brother John Buffa. Our Sister Mary Serra, who had been confined to the hospital, was released for the day to attend services, as her faith was so great that she wanted to be anointed by the Elders before her operation. She has since come through the operation beautifully, thanks be to our Creator. Brother Pete Capone from Branch No. 3 was our first speaker, using as his theme, "After death, what?" We must be meek, humble and submissive to the Holy Spirit, repent and be baptized if we want to receive a crown of everlasting life which awaits us if we are faithful to the end.

Brother Patsy Marinetti from Rochester, N. Y., continued with "Why is man here and what is truth?" He stated our great nation is in jeopardy and our leaders without wisdom. America is a blessed land, searching for the "light at the end of the tunnel", there is only one truth and religion must be applied every day. Communication with God is our greatest discovery.

Brother Louis Vitto summed it all up with "Choose ye today whom you will serve" — A tendency to forget the Lord is rampant today. We must be prepared to meet the Lord, we must know where we will spend eternity. The word Eternity has always awed this writer. Do we realize the magnitude of the meaning of this word?

On June 1, we welcomed from the Quorum of Twelve, Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Nick Pietrangelo. Brother Ciaravino discussed the Peaceful Reign at great length and stated that the word "Rapture" was no where to be found in the scriptures.

Brother Pietrangelo continued with the same thought. We must think about death at all times in order to moti-

vate us to serve God. In closing, he related how his father, in his last sermon, said "This is the true Church, there is no other.

On June 8, we welcomed Brothers Spencer Everett, Tom Everett, Brother Eugene and Sister Donna Amorino and Sister Barbara Chambers. They sang a number of inspirational songs and there were several testimonies. We thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

Sister Hazel E. Zoltek, Editor

## Singspiration At Lake Worth

On April 27 at 6:00 p.m. the Lake Worth M.B.A. Local hosted a singspiration. The visiting locals of Jupiter, Ft. Pierce, and Miami joined Lake Worth in a beautifully inspired musicale.

Piano recitals and oral recitations were skillfully executed by members of the locals.

Michael DiFede, age 10, played the enchanting, "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" on the piano.

Sister Diane Jasmin, age 15, chose a beautiful selection for the piano, "I Just Came To Talk With You, Lord" while Sister Linda D'Orazio narrated the lyrics. This was very moving and inspiring.

Recitations by Sister Carmella Mazzeo and Sister Peggy Benyola were enjoyed by all the members and guests.

Sal Moccio, Jr., age 14, wrote and delivered a most magnificent poem entitled, "Without Him".

Refreshments were served in the Sunday School room immediately following the singspiration.

All in attendance left uplifted and contented to have spent a pleasurable evening with their Brothers and Sisters.

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## Sisters Honored At Lake Worth

The Lake Worth Ladies Uplift Circle celebrated Mother's Day Saturday evening, May 10, by hosting a mother-daughter international covered dish dinner honoring Sister Rose Sirangelo and paying special tribute to Sister Mary Perri and her daughter, Cindy. Miami and Ft. Pierce Circles were also in attendance.

The Lake Worth Sisters displayed remarkable culinary talents. Exquisite dishes sumptuously prepared by Sisters graced the banquet tables.

Sister Rose Sirangelo, the elder Sister in the Lake Worth Branch was presented with a hanging plant to commemorate the many seeds of goodness she and Brother Frank Sirangelo have sown over the numerous years they've been in the Lord's service. She graciously accepted the planter and addressed her remarks to the many Sisters and guests at the dinner. She reminded all of us to value The Church and place it as a focal point in our lives.

Sister Mary Perri who has served as both President and Vice-President of the Lake Worth Ladies Uplift Circle and her daughter, Cindy, were given going away presents by the Circle. They are very much loved and their warmth and goodness will certainly be missed.

After the presentations were made a cake with the hymn "Mothers In Salem" inscribed on it was served.

A wonderful spirit was felt and many Sisters found leaving very difficult. The Sisters worked with such willingness and harmony that it was impossible to deny the beautiful spirit in our midst.

As I observed the Sunday School room crowded with these beloved women I could not help but reflect on the past if only for a moment. I remembered the meetings in Brother Frank Sirangelo's home, this little church when it was still a house, the screened porch which was unrecognizable now with its panelled walls, air conditioning, and equipped kitchen. I recalled when we were a handful and now there were tables set for more than 50 persons. My heart swelled and my vision blurred for an instant. I am so grateful that the Lord we serve is so merciful and good. What joy there is in serving the Lord.

Sister Letti Obradovich  
Lake Worth 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:

Andre'us George to George and Marlea Bucci Frentzos of Ft. Pierce, Florida

Louis Clayton to Louis Clayton and Penny Ruth Timms of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania

Jason David to John and Elizabeth Kish of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Jennifer Lynn to John and Patti Vukich of Donora, Pennsylvania

Amy Michele to Don and Sharon Lenhart of Worthington, West Virginia

Kurt William to William and Christine Garrison of Duncannon, Pennsylvania

Troy James to James and Pamela Sue Behanna of Glassport, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### HATCH - LOCKLEAR

Stephanie Hatch and Richard Locklear exchanged sacred vows of marriage Friday, June 27, 1975 at the Lake Worth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. The ceremony was officiated by Brother Mike Radd.

A reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bargo Locklear, aunt and uncle of the groom, followed the wedding.

Stephanie and Richard will reside in W. Palm Beach, Florida.

### MROCHEK - LAKTASH

Mr. Anthony Mrochek, Jr. and Sister Bonnie Laktash were united in Holy matrimony on May 31, 1975 at the Monongahela Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother James Grazan officiated at this beautiful ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Brother Mac Bright.

As the newlyweds plan to make their home in the Washington, D. C. area, our sincere prayers are that God would bless them and provide them with all their needs, both naturally and spiritually.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### ANTONIO PIETRANGELO

Elder Antonio Pietrangelo passed on to his heavenly reward on April 9, 1975. Brother Tony was a member of Branch No. 1, in Detroit, Michigan. He was born on January 17, 1895 and baptized into The Church on July 25, 1923.

He is survived by his wife, four sons, two daughters, 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and one brother.

The funeral services were held at The Church of Jesus Christ, and were conducted by Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Paul Vitto and Anthony Scolaro. Brother Tony Pietrangelo was layed to rest at White Chapel Cemetery.

He was a true man of God and his loss will be felt by all that knew him.

### ERNEST A. BYO

Brother Ernest A. Byo, a member of Cape Coral, Florida Mission passed away suddenly June 10, 1975 from a heart attack. He was baptized in Youngstown, Ohio on May 1965.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, one daughter, one step-daughter, one step-son, 14 grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers James Velardi and Alvin Swanson at Miami, Florida. He was buried in Youngstown, Ohio where services were conducted by Brothers A. A. Corrado and Raymond Cosetti.

May God comfort those who knew Brother Ernest.

### JOHN FURITANO

Brother John Furitano of Branch No. 3 Detroit, Michigan passed on to his heavenly reward on May 12, 1975. He was born on June 18, 1900 and was baptized on May 2, 1937.

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

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Peter H. Capone.

Brother John was a Deacon and Teacher in our branch and he will be greatly missed. May God comfort his family.

### PATSY PARRONE

Brother Patsy Parrone passed on to his heavenly reward on June 25, 1975. He was born on September 8, 1897 and was baptized on September 18, 1932 at Rochester, New York.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Ansel D'Amico, Patsy Marinetti and Paul D'Amico at the Profetta Funeral Chapel.

Left to mourn his loss are: his wife, one son, four daughters, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Brother Patsy was instrumental in bringing many people to The Church. He often provided transportation for those who had none. May God comfort his family and all those who will miss him.

### CHRISTINE TRUPIANO

Sister Christine Trupiano of Branch No. 3 Detroit, Michigan passed on to her eternal reward on April 20, 1975. She was born on February 17, 1892 and was baptized on September 29, 1940.

Surviving are two sons, two daughters, 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Silverio Criscuolo.

Sister Christine was a faithful sister who served God to the best of her ability. She will be sadly missed by all, especially The Ladies Circle Sisters.

### DAVID MATTHEW LOPEZ

Infant David Matthew Lopez passed away two months after birth in the hospital, which he never left.

Brothers Silverio Criscuolo and Nephi DeMercurio handled the funeral services.

He is survived by his parents, one brother, one sister and grandparents.

May God comfort the parents of the child.

### RAYMOND L. KIMMELL

Raymond L. Kimmell passed on to his eternal reward on June 17, 1975. He was born on July 24, 1912.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, three sons and two daughters.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Alma Nolfi at Wojciechowski Funeral Home, Glassport, Pa.

Interment was at Round Hill Cemetery. He will be missed by all who knew him.

### ERNEST SCHULTZ

Brother Ernest Schultz of the Lake Worth Branch and a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ for 45 years passed on to his eternal reward June 13, 1975 at the age of 80. He held the office of an Elder for the past 27 years.

Brother Schultz was among the first to migrate to Florida some 30 years ago and his life was dedicated to spreading the Gospel throughout the state.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Mike Radd of Lake Worth and Frank Rogolino of Ft. Pierce.

Brother Schultz is survived by his wife, two daughters, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, two brothers and one sister.

Brother Ernie will be greatly missed for he was an inspired speaker and a zealous worker for the Lord.

Our prayer is that his family will be comforted with the knowledge his voyage is over and he has reached the golden shore.

# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

September, 1975

Volume 31, No. 9

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## BETHLEN PRESS HAS OPEN HOUSE



*Left to right: Sandor E. Chomos, President of the Bethlen Press, Inc., Paul Palmieri, Editor-in-Chief of The Gospel News, and Joseph Ross, Managing Editor of The Gospel News.*

Open House was observed on Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3, 1975, at Ligonier, Pennsylvania, for the Bethlen Press, Inc. (Bethlen Press, Inc. publishes *The Gospel News* for the Church.)

This was the first opportunity we had to meet Mr. Sandor E. Chomos and his family. We were very impressed with his warmth and friendliness.

The Bethlen Press, Inc. moved to a new building, and they have enlarged their capabilities. My wife, Eleanor, and son, Paul Aaron, along with Brother Joseph Ross and his wife, Connie, spent a few hours with Mr. Chomos and toured his facility.

A basket of flowers from *The Gospel News* staff was sent to congratulate them on their new opening.

We pray that God will continue to bless Mr. Chomos and his family, and his associates.

## NEWS FROM SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA

*"The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors, unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren."* (Genesis 49:26)

It is difficult not to remember this blessing pronounced upon Joseph by his father Jacob as you look out in every direction from the church compound and view the lofty peaks, the ground and rock elevations of flat topped mesas, hills, etc.

Into this area of the "EVERLASTING HILLS" the promises of God to this segment of Joseph's seed found some fulfillment when the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ was brought to them. There were some that listened. The God of Israel began to prove to the Apache *The Book of Mormon* and the Restored Gospel are true and of Divine origin. This great record, *The Book of Mormon*, was no longer a document to be looked upon with fear and contempt, but rather with joy and thankful heart.

Sister Lillian Quasada, baptized October 1, 1961, had this experience. "Shortly after I was baptized, I dreamed I was in our church building in San Carlos. There were just a few of us in the building. In front of the pulpit, lying in a casket, was the body of an Indian lad. On the rostrum were Elders from different places. I recognized some from California. Outside the church was a large number of people from other churches on the reserve. A voice kept telling me to go up to the casket and give gold plates to the boy. I did not go up at first but the voice kept telling me to give gold plates to the dead boy. Finally, I gathered enough strength to begin walking up the aisle towards the casket. A figure I did not recognize put the gold plates into my hands as I walked up the aisle. I thought the dead boy looked like my nephew as I approached him. I placed the gold plates into his hands and immediately the boy came to life. His face became beautifully illuminated. I no longer recognized him as I looked on his shining face. He began waving the gold plates in front of him. Then the Indian boy spoke, "THESE PLATES ARE A RECORD OF OUR PEOPLE AND THIS IS THE TRUE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST!"

All of a sudden, the people that were standing outside began to come into the church and quickly filled up the building. As they came in, they kept saying, "NOW WE

KNOW THAT THE BOOK OF MORMON IS A RECORD OF OUR PEOPLE! NOW WE KNOW THIS IS THE TRUE CHURCH!" Then this wonderful dream ended.

Sister Quasada's personal experience about how she came into the Church is certainly worth relating to all *The Gospel News* readers.

"My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Before I was baptized, my only sister in the family became very afflicted and had to go to the hospital. She and her husband were members of another church as was Sister Nash, my mother. I was once a member there but had backslid.

When my sister's condition got worse, Brother Dan Piccuito, who was then in San Carlos, came to visit us and not only prayed for us but anointed her also. During this time, none of the members or the pastors of this other church visited us. But Brother Dan continued visiting us and encouraging us about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I became deeply troubled and unhappy about our whole family condition.

By September, my sister's condition became worse. However, she was happier because of this new church and said that if she ever got out of the hospital, she would be the first reserve member in The Church of Jesus Christ. She made me promise that I would make that step for Christ; also, that I would take care of her two sons if she didn't live through her illness.

My sister passed away September 10, 1961. She appeared ready and happy to go to the Lord and did pass away with a smile on her face.

We attended The Church of Jesus Christ regularly. The people from the other church now began to visit us and tell us we were going to the wrong church.

On the Saturday night of September 30, 1961, after I had fallen asleep, in a dream I heard a very soft voice speak and kept repeating the numbers 3-27-1-15. I awoke and looked into the *Bible* for some meaning to these numbers. I then searched through my song books but still couldn't find anything. I then knelt down and asked the Lord, "PLEASE LORD, IF THAT VOICE I HEARD CAME FROM THEE, HELP ME TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS!" I cried after I had finished praying and then I thought of *The Book of Mormon* that Brother Dan gave me. I started looking into it and finally I turned to *III Nephi, 27th Chapter, verses 1 through 15*! I read this scripture and it told me the Church bearing the name of Jesus Christ was His Church and He had named His Church with His name! I said, "THANK YOU LORD, FOR SHOWING ME THAT IT REALLY IS THE TRUE CHURCH."

On Sunday, October 1, 1961, after the meeting, we all gathered around in a circle and joined hands. Brother Dan started praying and he began to talk in tongues. My mother, Sister Nash, heard him speak in our Apache language saying, "MY CHILDREN, COME UNTO ME. NOW IS THE TIME. FEAR NOT, FOR I AM YOUR SAVIOUR."

We asked to be baptized that same day, Sunday. My mother and I became members of The Church of Jesus Christ and up to this day I'm very happy that I'm serving a living Saviour. He hears and answers my prayers. My desire is to prove faithful and do the best I can to serve my Lord in spirit and in truth the rest of my remaining days."

Your Sister in Christ,  
Lillian Quasada

Sister Anita Hopkins, Deaconess of the Mission recalls, during 1964, "Before I was baptized, I had a dream where I was in a church gathering among the Gentiles. I saw the roof open up and a small cloud coming towards me. It grew bigger and bigger until it opened up into a circle and in the center of the circle I saw Jesus Christ. With arms opened to me He called me to come unto Him and told me He would give rest to my soul. Praise His wonderful name, He has done just that.

In the year 1969, my little daughter Naomi was born very ill. Her blood was yellow and she wasn't expected to live. I called upon the Elders of the Church and they anointed her with oil. Right before the three Elders and myself the Lord did a most beautiful work! He put new red blood in her. It looked like pink clouds swirling from the veins in her neck into her cheeks. Today she is five years old and in perfect health.

I praise His wonderful name for He can do all things if we have faith in Him. I am very happy in The Church of Jesus Christ."

Sister Anita Hopkins

Sister Nellie (Pepper) Hopkins, a young Sister baptized in February, 1974, relates how God came to her rescue, "When I was so loaded down with the burdens of life I became filled with despair, He gave me a most wonderful experience.

One night I lay awake, unable to sleep. My Brothers and Sisters told me that the *Bible* and *The Book of Mormon* encourage us to go to the God of heaven in prayer. He would bear our griefs and our burdens. That night I prayed and prayed. I was determined to receive of my Father's Help. I also desired to be reassured if He had really loved me and welcomed me into His family. With a broken heart set upon Him and Him only, I prayed that God would take me from all this. Suddenly, my spirit was lifted from the things of this world and I found myself fallen before the throne of God! The familiar feeling and spirit of the Love of God that I felt when I was baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ once again filled my whole being. I was overwhelmed by this wonderful love that God had for me!

I cried at the foot of His throne and at His feet. I felt so unworthy. I desired that my God would take me away from all the despair, the disappointments, the unanswered questions, the doubts, the uncertainties of life. Then God, as if to answer me, told me, "MY CHILD, YOUR TIME IS NOT YET."

Sister Nellie Hopkins

Sister Isadore Kayson, wife of Brother Claude Kayson, tells how God worked so miraculously in her life.

"Dear Brothers and Sisters, I'm glad that God called me in The Church of Jesus Christ. I'm so happy that God still looks upon us. He provides our every need and blesses us every day.

I can still remember how my niece, who was unable to walk for the first three years of her life, was anointed in The Church of Jesus Christ and healed right away. She is now 14 years old and in good health.

My son Fernando stepped on a needle on my bed. The needle broke and one half the needle entered into the bone of the heel. I took him to the hospital and the X-ray showed the needle in the heel. The doctors told me they could do nothing with it. My friends and relatives told me

my boy might get cancer from that needle in the heel bone and told me to go back to the hospital with him.

Before I did this, I took him to the Church to be anointed. I knew the Lord could heal him. I then took him to the hospital again. They X-rayed his foot and Brothers and Sisters, the needle was no longer in his heel bone. They showed me the first X-ray that showed the needle and then I looked at the second X-ray and it was no longer there. The doctor asked me if we had pulled the needle out of Fernando's heel bone but we said, 'No.' I told the Doctor the Lord had healed him.

I'm so happy to serve and trust God. I will prove faithful and praise Him."

Sister Isadore Kayson

Brother Claude Kayson, an Elder of The Church of Jesus Christ, a Brother we love very dearly, one we've shared many wonderful blessings with here in San Carlos, recounts these two experiences from the many God has given him.

"Before I was baptized, I saw myself leading my people up a big hill. We were singing that beautiful hymn, 'WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION, THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF GOD.' That was the time I was beginning to come to The Church. Shortly after this experience, I was baptized into this wonderful Church.

I had another vision where I saw myself walking toward our Church. I heard a voice say, 'COME UP MY SON, I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.' I found myself standing on a big mesa. As I stood on the edge of this mesa, I heard the voice again say to, 'LOOK TO THE WEST AND LOOK AT THE GENTILE PEOPLE, THEY ARE THE ONES THAT DON'T BELIEVE MY COMMANDMENTS.' I looked to the West and I saw a whole city on fire. I heard many people crying. Again I heard the voice say 'LOOK OVER THIS VALLEY, THESE ARE MY PEOPLE.' I saw it was the Indians. I then saw a tornado coming my way. I was about to run but the voice said, 'STAY, IT WILL NOT BOTHER YOU OR MY PEOPLE.' I saw this tornado destroy an entire city behind me. It passed over where I was standing. I stood still as it continued past me and then passed straight over the village where my people live. The tornado then went straight across the valley and touched down on the other side of the valley where it destroyed another city. I found myself walking toward the Church. This vision appeared so real I thought it had really happened. I thank the Lord for showing me this vision."

Brother Claude Kayson

These experiences, and so many others, have borne witness to Joseph's Seed that Jesus is the Christ, that The Church of Jesus Christ is His Church. Faith in God has produced great evidences that all things which made the ancient Church so powerful and glorious were Restored in the Latter Days to help, comfort and direct God's people as they march on to their great Salvation.

There will be times when we will be tried, tested and discouraged as we seek to fulfill the will of God in bringing salvation to Israel and the whole world. But we will be victorious, with God's help, if we do not give up. Our complete trust must be in the word of God that tells us so forcibly that a marvelous work shall be wrought among the Gentiles and it shall be of great worth, as Nephi

says, "...UNTO HIS SEED, UNTO THE GENTILES AND UNTO ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL..." (1 Nephi 22:8,9)

So much can be said on this hope that is so basic to our faith. Recently God spoke to our group in San Carlos. He appeared to us in vision and told us, "THE WORDS I HAVE ALLOWED TO BE RECORDED IN THE BIBLE AND THE BOOK OF MORMON ARE TRUE. IF YOU LOVE ME AND SERVE ME IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, I WILL FULFILL ALL THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN RECORDED IN THEM AND YOU SHALL BE BLESSED. BUT, YOU MUST LOVE ME AND SERVE ME IN RIGHTEOUSNESS."

May God bless His work always with those signs evidencing His Authority and His Power. Without God confirming the work of the Church and His Word with signs following, we may find it extremely difficult to convince Israel and the world of the validity of our claim that God has restored the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all its Power and with Priesthood authority.

Brother Joe Milantoni

## An Experience

During a recent severe illness, my eight-year-old son, Steve, told me two days before I was admitted to the hospital, I had been so sick for so long he was afraid I was going to die and he would lose me. I comforted him and told him not to fear for God was looking after me and he seemed contented and immediately fell asleep for the night.

I was hospitalized for twelve days during which God daily filled my cup to overflowing that I thought I could contain no more. When I came home from the hospital, one morning as my son was getting ready for school he said, "Mommy, do you know what I did while you were in the hospital?" To which I replied, "No." He said, "I prayed to God that he would please not let my mother die, let me die instead." I embraced my son and started to cry and he had tears in his eyes. I told him that was a very unselfish prayer and that God would have a special blessing for him.

Now I think I understand better the words of the Saviour in *Mark* 10:14, 15: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." I thank God that during my illness He comforted my family and for His bounty of blessings towards me and that my son in his time of trouble sought refuge from the Lord.

Sister Mary Margaret Cain  
Stowe, Ohio

## — Special Notice —

The book *AMERICAN INDIAN MOSES* is now on sale. If anyone desires to have one, write to:

Vantage Press, Inc.  
516 West 34th Street  
New York, New York 10001



## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

*An address presented by the principal of The Church of Jesus Christ Technical Secondary School, Atai Otoro, Mr. Peter U. Iniodu, at the 14th Anniversary of the Foundation Day of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria.*

Fellow Christians in Christ:

Today marks the 14th Anniversary of the stable foundation of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. We have all listened to the vivid narration of the story of the founding of the Church with Atai Otoro as the Centre by our able leader and President, Pastor E. U. A. Arthur. I shall, in my very brief address, attempt to brief you on the progress and developments of our Technical Secondary School which is an arm and the glory of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria.

Our School was formally opened on the 24th of January 1972 in this Church. At that time, the site for the school was neither cleared nor were any building materials provided. But with encouragement from the Parent Church in the United States through Brother John Ross, we still forged ahead. From the moment we started we have enjoyed the patronage of the Parent Church in every way.

I shall be unable to enumerate everything the Parent Church has done for the school so far. But I shall mention just a few things. At least six students in this school now are on Mission Scholarships from the parent Church. Boarding scholarships which cover tuition, boarding and incidental expenses are held by students from Eket, Etinan and Itu while Tuition scholarships only are held by students from Abak division. The Abak scholarships stand at one for Afaha Obong and one for Otoro.

I am happy at this point to announce to you that the Electric Generator and the Electric Sewing Machine mailed to us by the Parent Church have been received. They are now with us in the school compound awaiting installation.

It is needless mentioning that all the buildings in the compound including the uncompleted dining hall/kitchen, except the second classroom block, are built with funds from the Parent Church. The Parent Church is correct when she announces that she has gone overboard the estimate. However, if she did not go overboard, the school would not be what it is today.

On the issue of "Government take-over of schools", I shall here try to explain Government policy on education. The use of the term has been criticised in various quarters. What Government actually means by the "take over" policy is "Coming into partnership" with the Communities owning the school for effective running of the schools.

By this exercise, Government assumes the responsibilities of staffing and paying the staff of all educational institutions. With increases in the salaries of workers, it would be impossible for any private institution to pay its staff salaries from the meagre fees collected from the students. Take our school as an example. The salary bill for workers per month is N3145.23 for all workers. The bill for one term of four months is N12,580.92. But our tuition fee for each of our 314 students is N20.33. This would fetch us a total of N6,383.62 per term which is only sufficient to pay two months' bill. We would be left

with a deficit of N6,197.30 per term or N18,591.90 per annum. In order to avoid this awful situation, Government has stepped in to collect the fees and pay the salaries and wages of all workers. In addition, Government policy involves giving subvention for certain capital projects in the schools. But the communities owning the school and their sponsoring agencies are very highly welcome to sponsor other capital projects or complete those already started but not completed.

In other words, Government policy on education brings both the communities and government into full participation in the running of schools. It does not take away responsibility from Communities or the sponsoring agencies that own schools. Government, for instance, has been highly impressed to hear that the Parent Church has donated the Generator and the Electric Sewing Machine. The Commissioner for Education has assured us he will write to thank the Parent Church on behalf of the Government for the gesture.

On the issue of the name and status of the school, I want to assure you that it was a mistake in Government circle to call it a Trade Centre. The correction is receiving attention in the Ministry of Education and very soon, a publication will be made to call the school its proper name.

Now that I have explained Government policy on education, I hereby call on all of you here present to wake up from the slumber and start right now to do something to support the school. The school is built for the progress and development of our children and society. The Parent Church in the United States has done a lot to teach us responsibility to ourselves and to our society. In this 14th anniversary of the "stable birth" of The Church of Jesus Christ in this country, let us make a resolution that we will work hard to support this school which was built for our children and children's children. May the Almighty Lord bless us and give us the courage and strength to do that which is right and glorious in His sight.

Thank you.

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*"Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth."*

An old Chinese Grandpa, too feeble to work, was considered by the family an unwanted burden—just another mouth to consume the meager supply of rice. Therefore, the father of the home decided to put the old man on a wheelbarrow and take him up to the mountains to die. The little eight-year-old grandson went along, full of curiosity and questions. The father explained that the grandfather was old and helpless, and that there was nothing else to be done with him.

Then the little chap had a happy thought, "I'm glad I came along, Daddy," said the youngster, "because when you get old I'll know where to take you." The daddy stopped dead in his tracks, thought better of the whole situation, and brought the old gentleman back home.

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If you're feeling far away from God, guess who moved.



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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### DO YOU KNOW YOURSELF?

(Part One)

By Robert A. Watson, Guest Editorialist



We are constantly introducing our wives, our husbands; our brothers, our sisters, etc. to other people. The reason we do this is to identify individuals and family. If we were merely blobs of protoplasm, or groups of cells, arranged in a disorderly fashion we would cease to have an identity that separates us into individuals with specific likes and dislikes. We are however the product of a great master plan wherein the great architect instilled within every living being a tremendous capacity to love and be loved. This desire is manifested in our reaching out at periods within our life to another person of the opposite sex that we can continue the continuity of life through procreation. It also provides a way for us to leave an imprint on life that will continue when we are gone.

#### *Great Mystery of Life*

When in the art of procreation this great mystery of life reached into the great unknown and plucked us out we were introduced to a series of developments that would bring us step by step to the integration of family life. We might during this process be deprived of some of its manifestations such as brothers and sisters; we all however would be attached to two people who would become very familiar known as our mother and our father. This biological attachment would rock the cradle, supply our physical and temporal needs. Though they would feed us, clothe us and live with us twenty-four hours a day, there wasn't any way they could break down this mass of protoplasm and cell. They would not be able through their wisdom or ingenuity to identify each part of their procreative act. You see there was a mysterious unseen catalyst that held everything together. This catalyst went beneath the surface of the skin, penetrated the hard recesses of the skull. It brought together a marshalling of spirit and matter.

#### *Illuminated By Spirit*

We were provided a house in which we alone would live the rest of our lives. This house would be built from matter, but illuminated by spirit. We would find at times that this house would be a very lonely place in which to live. The only company we would have would be comprised of our thoughts, our memories, and our interaction with God and man. We learned ever so soon the difference between the self-imposed purging of the inner man and the well taught cleansing of the outer man. We became ever so mindful of the two worlds in which we live. We were to find it extremely difficult to reconcile the many contradictions that living seemed to impose upon us. The manifestations of such things as smiling outwardly when being racked inside with pain. Speaking words of comfort when inside we were torn up with sadness. Shouting to be heard in order to break the deathlike stillness that was within we found ourselves moving from place to place but inwardly we were immobile. We gave many times in order to overcompensate for a great need we had within. We

(Continued on next page)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Deborah

Dear Girls and Boys,

This is a story of a very important woman who lived in the time of the "Judges". She attained public dignity and power which was very unusual in that day. First, she became a counselor to her people, the Israelites, next a judge and a deliverer in time of war. She was a great leader because she trusted in God and inspired others to do likewise. She was indeed, "a mother in Israel".

Long before Deborah became a leader in war, she would sit under a palm tree and give counsel to the people. Palm trees were rare in Palestine so this one could have been a land mark. She was known far and wide as a counselor in time of peace. Her greatest service was in time of war. Deborah was very concerned at the oppression of her people by enemies and sensed their danger as they faltered in leadership.

Sisera was the commander of Jabin's army, their enemies. Deborah was not afraid of him or of his nine-hundred chariots. She remembered God had delivered the Israelites from the mighty Pharaohs. This helped her encourage Barak, the leader, to help deliver Israel from Jabin, the king of Canaan. Deborah told Barak to go towards Mt. Tabor and take ten thousand men and she was positive God would deliver Sisera and his chariots into their hands. Barak said, "If you will go with me I will go, but if not, I will not go." He had great faith in her because of her faith in God. Deborah replied, "I will surely go. The Lord will sell Sisera into the hands of a woman." The scripture states, "Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh." She felt she was armed with strength from God.

Barak summoned the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun and he saw they were poorly armed and none rode in chariots. This did not discourage Deborah. They started out with ten thousand men. Deborah said, "Up, for this is the day in which the Lord has delivered Sisera into your hands; is not the Lord gone out before thee?"

A terrible storm came and lashed at the enemy. Sisera's iron chariots sank in the mud and many of his men were slain. Sisera abandoned his chariot and ran to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber, a Kenite. He thought he would be safe here but it was not to be. He was weary from battle and soon fell sound asleep. As he slept, Jael took a sharp tent peg and hammer and crept up to Sisera. She drove the peg through his temples into the ground and he died.

Soon Barak came by looking for Sisera. Jael came out to meet him and said "Come, I will show you the man you are looking for." Into the tent they went and there lay Sisera, just as Deborah had prophesied, "The Lord

shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." And from that time on Israel became stronger and stronger against Jabin, until he and all his people were destroyed.

In the *Book of Judges, 5th Chapter*, you can read of the song Deborah and Barak sang about this wonderful victory.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

### EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT — continued

took from others when there was no real need, only to satisfy our many secret overindulgences.

Yes, we are trying to find who we really are. Many young people say they are trying to find out their true identity. They find it extremely difficult to push through the maze of sophistication erected by so-called civilization. Are there any answers to these dilemmas, can someone direct us to the long journey within?

*To be continued next issue*

### OUR WOMEN TODAY —

#### Ladies' Uplift Circle 55th Anniversary

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle celebrated its 55th Anniversary at Monongahela, Pennsylvania on Saturday, July 12, 1975. A good representation of Sisters were present from various parts of the United States and Canada.

The day was divided into two meetings. The morning session included the business meeting and a Memorial Service for all Circle Sisters who have deceased in the past five years. In the afternoon, the Monongahela Circle presented a program commemorating the 55th Anniversary.

Sister Eva Moore read the Scripture from *Matthew 25:31,40*. The Sisters from Aliquippa, Imperial, and McKees Rocks sang "The Ladies Circle Song" written by the late Amy Martin for the 25th Anniversary. Sister Mabel Bickerton, reviewed the history of the Circle from July 15, 1920, to the present date. There are 37 Circles, 3 Districts and 1 or 2 Girls' Group. As God blessed the Circle while it was growing, the Evil One tried to disturb the work. We see the Evil One did not succeed. It is the aim of the Sisters that they be helpmates to The Church.

In the business session, the Financial Secretary gave her report. Monies were donated to the Africa Relief Fund; Gospel News; Italian Reflector; for the expenses in Mexico for the church building, and to the General Church. *The Book of Mormon Concordance Fund* was started with \$1,051.22. A special meeting will be held in Washington, D. C. on September 19, 1975.

The elected officers for 1975-1976 are:

President, Mabel Bickerton

Vice-President, Ruth Akerman

Secretary, Lucetta Scaglione  
 Financial Secretary, Ethel Crosier  
 Indian Mission Treasurer, Ethel Crosier  
 General Fund Treasurer, Irene Griffith  
 Cook Book Fund Treasurer, Betty Eiler  
 Memorial Fund Treasurer, Mabel Bickerton  
 Historian, Mary Criscuolo  
 Librarian, Betty Manes  
 Editor, Mary Tamburrino  
 Concordance Treasurer, Rose Corrado

The Erie Circle took charge of the Memorial Service. They reported that 21 Sisters have gone on to their reward. A rose was placed in a vase as the names were mentioned.

The next General Circle will be held on October 4, 1975, in Imperial, Pennsylvania.

A vote of thanks was given to the Pennsylvania District for all the help that was given to make this an enjoyable day. Lunch was served and a group picture was taken of all those that were in attendance.

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In the afternoon service, the Monongahela Circle presented a program entitled "55 YEARS OF BLESSINGS". Sister Grace Landrey was chairman. *Psalm 122*, was read and Sister Madeline Robinson sang, "Open The Gates of The Temple". Circle Activities was heard from the Atlantic Coast, California, Florida, Ohio, Michigan-Ontario, and Pennsylvania Districts. In their activities, they search the Scriptures; help their Branches; support the General Circle projects; and help the brethren in the missionary fields, not to mention many other activities that prove to be a blessing to them.

A review of the General Circle's finances for the past five years was given by Ethel Crosier. It was noted that \$19,984.14 was donated from the General and Indian Mission Funds to the General Church. There have also been donations made to the Auditorium. From the Cook-book Fund there has been \$8,095.00 donated to the General Church.

We could never put in writing all that transpired that day. Those that attended were happy they had the privilege to be there on this commemorable day. A special blessing to the oldest living member, Sister Elizabeth Davidson, who is 103 years old.

Mary Tamburrino  
 General Circle Editor

P.S. Nell Kohler was baptized on Saturday evening after the Anniversary meeting.

## Lorain Ladies' Circle Keeps Busy

The Ladies Circle of the Lorain Branch continues on with their work in visiting the sick and afflicted. So far this year, we have held a pot luck dinner which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We did not limit our visitations to the Sisters or Brothers of the Branch, but also to friends and neighbors. Testimonies were shared and hymns were sung. It is a joy to bring words of comfort to those who are less fortunate. My prayer is that God will continue to bless our Ladies Circle and give each of us strength to be of help to others.

Sister Ruby Kinser  
 Ladies Circle Editor  
 Lorain Branch

## Mother-Daughter Banquet

On Saturday, May 10, the Ladies' Circle of Lake Worth, Florida held a Mother-Daughter Banquet. Sister Rose Sirangelo was honored as "Mother of the Year". Sisters and friends from Lake Worth, Ft. Pierce and Miami attended the dinner, which featured an International menu. A beautiful cake was inscribed with this verse from our hymn:

When Mothers in Salem  
 Their children brought to Jesus  
 He sweetly smiled and kindly said,  
 Suffer the children to come unto Me.

A farewell was also given to Sisters Mary Perri and Cindy. The Sisters were loyal workers in the Circle and will surely be missed. They are making their home in New Jersey.

Mary Tamburrino  
 General Circle Editor

## Mothers and Daughters Together

On Tuesday, May 20, 1975 the Michigan-Ontario District held its first Mother and Daughter Banquet. It was sponsored by The Ladies' Uplift Circle.

Our evening began with a warm welcome from Sister Mary Criscuolo, and continued with a prayer led by Sister Antoinette Ciaravino. Following the prayer, dinner was served.

After an enjoyable dinner, Sister Arlene Whitton led us in some community singing. Musical accompaniment was supplied by Sisters Vanessa Capone and Susan Coppa.

Sister Mary Criscuolo continued the evening's events by making some presentations. Individual carnations were given to the mother who had the most children in attendance, the mother who was the oldest, and so on until a final carnation was left to honor all the mothers that had gone on to their reward.

Sister Donna Amormino was then asked to sing for us. It was a familiar song to all of us called, "Mother".

The next part of our program was devoted to mothers in the Bible. Beginning with Eve and ending with Mary the mother of Jesus. At the end, Sister Sadie B. Cadman was included as a symbol of our Sisters today. Many beautiful words were expressed about her love and work, for God and our Church.

Finally in closing Sister Angela Scolaro spoke a few words about the attitudes we should have in bringing up our children. The importance of God in their lives.

Detroit's Branch No. 3 closed the evening with a song, "When there is love in the home".

Over 300 mothers and daughters attended our banquet. In the past, the Ladies' Uplift Circle has striven to aid God's work and the growth of Our Church. I pray by the grace of God, our future will be as blessed.

Sister Diana Thompson

## California District Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference

The California District Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference met in San Fernando, California, May 31, 1975.



*Sister Christina at Ladies' Circle Conference at Valley on May 31, 1975.*

Sister Vio Thomas, from San Diego read the Scripture from Psalm 27. Sister Sylvia Curry, the District President, remarked that we can only depend on man to a certain extent and then we must turn to God. Testimonies were given and the theme seemed to be that if we could feel our Brothers' and Sisters' burdens and pray for them that it would lessen the burdens.

Communications were heard from:

Sister Sarah Watson encouraging us to continue helping missionaries.

Brother Frank Genaro thanking us for the money sent for the sewing machine.

Brothers Joseph Milantoni and Ike Smith for help received from the Ladies' Circle.

Sister Judy Calabrese from the Navajo reservation relating an experience had by their daughter Kim. Kim, the only Anglo in her class had a hard time adjusting. Her parents fasted and prayed and Sister Judy talked to Kim's teacher. The class had a project where they could write a letter to any other student in class. Kim received five or six letters, each one saying, "I like you." One letter said, "I love you," over and over.

In the afternoon meeting reports were given telling of each mission's needs and monies were distributed accordingly. Sister Perdue spoke of the many visions had confirming the work in Mexico City. There are more and more requests coming in for the Gospel to be brought there.

A special prayer was asked for Glenn McNabb who has done much work for the Church but has not yet obeyed the Gospel.

The Brothers that were in the meeting spoke to the Sisters. Brother Ed Buccellato spoke on the controversy of women's role in society today. Many women have tried to improve their role in the world. He said he is proud we have Sisters that want to help others as well as the Church. Brother Paul Liberto spoke on women's role as it is spoken of in the *Bible*. He encouraged us to be satisfied with our role as a wife and mother. He said we should

realize our responsibility to spread the Gospel as much as a man should realize it is his. Brother Ray Saczko gave his testimony. He said while standing guard in the army overseas, he was wounded. He promised to God he would serve Him if he would be safely returned home, and he did. Brother Alex Cavallaro praised the Sisters and stressed the importance of the mother's role in the home. Sister Christine Taormina was brought in from a convalescent home and was able to attend the afternoon meeting which was a blessing to all those that was there.

Since we were celebrating Memorial Day, the evening program was in memory of those Saints that have passed on to their eternal reward. Many testimonies were given of how the Lord worked in their lives.

Which are you? Wish Bone  
Jaw Bone  
Knuckle Bone  
Back Bone

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## Lay Missionaries Needed

*David Majoros*

I was grateful to God to have read the testimony in the June 1975 issue of *The Gospel News* of a young American Indian Brother, Virgil Thompson. How good it is to see the fruits of the labors of our Brothers and Sisters that have given of themselves in the spreading of the Gospel to the American Indian! This is a literal fulfillment of prophecy showing that God is moving His mighty arm in a great plan that will eventually result in the gathering and conversion of the twelve tribes of The House of Israel. (See *III Nephi* 21:7)

Various scriptural passages throughout the *Bible* and *The Book of Mormon* teach us that it is through the conversion of The House of Israel, beginning with the Seed of Joseph (American Indian), that the world will be evangelized.

For example, *1 Nephi* 22:6-11 gives a wonderful account of how God will accomplish this great latter-day work using His servants—the Gentiles:

Verse 6 tells us that the Gentiles will be nursing fathers and mothers to the Red Man, providing for them temporally (through material wants and needs—as food, clothing, shelter, etc.) and spiritually (through the preaching of the Gospel—which is food for their souls). This verse points out that the Gentiles will be set up as a "standard"; and we can readily see how our country IS viewed throughout the world as a place of refuge and freedom from oppression.

Verse 7 tells us that this mighty Gentile nation that God will raise up will "scatter" the American Indian. Too many instances in America's history have shamefully shown the truth in this, as entire Indian tribes were uprooted from their original homes and forced to live on land that no one else wanted.

Verse 8 refers to the great work that God has done among the Gentiles—namely, the Restoration of the Gospel through Joseph Smith.

Verse 9 refers to the fact that the Gospel will be of great worth to the Gentiles in that it will offer them salvation through Jesus Christ and will show the way to re-establish Christ's Church. This will not only benefit the Gentiles, but will provide the way by which the lost and scattered remnants of The House of Israel will come to the true knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and will learn of their true identities as being members of The House of Israel.

Verses 10 and 11 are very important passages. They teach us that *the rest of the world cannot be effectively evangelized until the House of Israel receives the Gospel.*

In the past The Church has worked among the American Indian, or Lamanites, as *The Book of Mormon* refers to them, through the ordained ministry. However, in an effort to increase the work among the Indian and to impress the Lay members with its importance, the MBA has adopted the Lay-Missionary Program which is designed to provide the Laity (those members NOT in the ministry) to assist in the work by actually helping the missionaries on the reservations.

You may receive more information concerning the Lay-Missionary Program by writing to me, Brother David Majoros, at 1006 Meadow Ave., Charleroi, Pa., 15022. And, by the grace of God, an article will be included each month in *The Gospel News* explaining more about the Church's need for work among the American Indians and how you, the Laity, can become actively involved through the Lay-Missionary Program.

In the meantime continue to pray for our Brothers and Sisters working in the American Indian mission fields, as their workload and trials are great.

o-o-o-o-o

Greetings to All Readers,

Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. *Hosea 6:1.*

Our recent conference at Orange, California brought a few to Modesto, for which we were made happy. John Mancini arrived just before conference; we enjoyed this humble young man in our city. After conference came Harry Robinson. I met him at the airport at Stockton, and he suggested we go to visit his brother Nathan who lives in Vacaville, California. We had a fruitful visit there. May some good come as a result of this visit.

Brother and Sister George Johnson also came to Modesto. These visits were short but good.

The gatherings of the people of God are always good and tend to renew our friendship, strengthen the spirit, and bring new members into the family of Christ. Speaking of conferences, Modesto will soon host the California District Semi-Annual Conference on August 30, and 31.

Mark Randy  
Branch Editor,

\* \* \*

For the best time of your life... attend Church!

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### A New Member In St. John, Kansas Mission

On June 28, 1975 the St. John Kansas Mission was cheered and strengthened in the baptism of Roger Schroeder.

He was baptized and later confirmed by his father-in-law, Brother Alexander Robinson. Brother Paul Robinson gave his testimony that God had shown him beforehand that Brother Roger would ask for his baptism. This was an answer to many prayers.

### Imperial, Pennsylvania Branch Welcomes New Member

Marian L. Yoder had been faithfully attending services along with her four children for about a year.

On Wednesday, July 2, 1975 she was baptized by Brother James T. Moore.

Sister Yoder testified that she desired to be baptized into a new life in Christ Jesus and make this Church her Church.

### Young Convert Added To Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch

Robert Lee Beeman was touched during a Wednesday evening M.B.A. meeting and he asked to be baptized.

Brother Beeman was baptized and confirmed by Brother Joseph Bittinger. The blessing of God was felt by all. May God bless our youthful new member.

### Bell, California Branch Receives New Member

On Sunday, July 6, 1975 Girolama Capone asked for her baptism during the Sunday School session.

She was baptized by her husband, Brother Joseph Capone and later confirmed by Brother Vincent Scalise.

Sister Capone's baptism is an answer to many prayers. We all thank God.

### San Diego, California Branch Adds Two Converts

The San Diego Saints have been cheered and uplifted by the baptisms of two new converts.

On Sunday, May 25, 1975, Shellie Lindsey was baptized by Brother Joseph Dulisse and later was confirmed by Brother Paul Liberto.

Several remarked that young Sister Shellie glowed with a radiant smile as she came out of the water. It was beautiful!

On Tuesday, July 8, 1975, Laura Christine Womack

went to the water for baptism. She was one of four who requested baptism on Sunday, July 6 in the California District.

Sister Womack was baptized by Brother Joseph Dulisse and confirmed by Brother Thomas Liberto. There was a wonderful spirit in our meeting. Thank the Lord.

## Ordination At Lake Worth

After a week of rain it was a joy to see the sun on Sunday morning, May 18, 1975, the day Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. would be ordained into the office of Evangelist. Knowing there would be many visitors from Detroit, Ohio, Miami, Ft. Pierce, and Jupiter it seemed the Lord showed His approval by granting us a most beautiful day to experience the wonder of this ceremony.

Prayer offered by Brother Frank Sirangelo opened the morning service.

As is the way of our people, Brother Gene was ordained into the office in the most simplistic and humble way. His feet were washed by Brother Frank Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio and Brother Jim Lovalvo laid hands upon Brother Gene thus ordaining him into the office of Evangelist.

Brother Frank Calabrese followed Brother Gene's investiture by delivering a sermon on the correlation between the Saints of old and the Saints of today. He emphasized the importance and the responsibility of all those who take on the name of "Saints of Latter Days". He reminded us of the significance of setting a daily example to all mankind. He called for the rededication of our commitment and renewal of our first love.

Brother Jim Lovalvo favored us with a hymn and continued preaching concerning the need to walk in the light. He referred to the many hours of practice it takes to become a Saint and how we must strive to become more righteous. Brother Jim left us with many good thoughts to ponder.

Many glorious testimonies were given by the Brother and Sisters alike.

Brother Gene Perri gave a few brief remarks and expressed his gratitude to Brother Frank Calabrese for traveling such a distance. He also declared his hopes and desires in fulfilling the office of Evangelist.

Brother Chuck Smith closed the meeting and Brother Jim Lovalvo sang "Because He Lives" with the congregation entering in the chorus.

Sister Letti Obradovich  
Lake Worth Branch Editor

## News From Fredonia, Pennsylvania Branch

Saturday, June 7, the Pennsylvania District M.B.A. gathered at the Delaware Civic League picnic area near the Fredonia, Pa. Branch. In spite of a cloudy, cool day, many Brothers and Sisters enjoyed a bounteous indoor picnic at noon. After the meal, we were entertained by various group singing and talks. A very interesting talk was given by Sister Pearl Nester of the California District (formerly from McKees Rocks.) She told us concerning

her life in California and the work in the Red Lake, Arizona area. Sister Eva Moore gave a nice testimony of her meeting The Church and also the work in Kentucky and Georgia.

The children enjoyed various games led by Carla McCartney and Joel Gehly.

The evening meal was a weiner roast. After the meal, we continued in group singing and speaking by Brothers Robert Buffington, Richard Scaglione and Russel Cadman.

Sunday morning our building was near to overflowing. Approximately 35 visitors stayed over. Six Brothers occupied the pulpit. Brother Joseph Bittinger opened the meeting with prayer, and Brother Milford Eutsey read *Isaiah 11:1-9*. He and other Brothers spoke on the coming of Zion and how that God's will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven.

May God bless His people as they strive to serve Him and spread His Gospel.

## News From The Bronx Branch

The week following our General Conference Meeting, Brother Joe Lovalvo, Apostle from Modesto, California, visited our Branch after many years. He attended our Wednesday evening service. Due to his visit, many Brothers and Sisters, Elders and Evangelists from the Atlantic Coast attended the worship service.

Brother Persico, Elder from Hopelawn, led the congregation in a singing session before services began. Sister Anna Pinto gave her testimony of God's great blessings. She testified that a certain hymn had been on her mind for a few days. She had asked of the Lord to have it sung at our meeting that night because she could not think of the title and it was disturbing her. She stated that the very first Hymn that Brother Nick requested, hymn No. 18, "How Will the Saints Rejoice to Tell", was the one. Sister Anna Valenti, Brooklyn Branch, also stated that this same hymn was on her mind all day. We thanked God for all the wonderful signs He sets forth before us to let us know that He is always near.

Brother Sal Feola, Presiding Elder of our Branch, turned the meeting over to Brother Lovalvo. He opened the service with the reading of text, *St. Matthew, Chapter 4*. He spoke of the temptations brought out in this part of the Scripture that faced Jesus while He was fasting and praying. He was triumphant over the Evil One who went to great depths in order to tempt Him. Brother Joe then reminded us of all the temptations facing us each day and how the Evil One never gives up. We were reminded to pray continually, asking the Lord to give us strength to overcome all temptations.

Brother Joe then covered the Scripture, *Ezekiel, Chapter 37:15-17*. He spoke of the two sticks. One stick was of Judah and the other stick was of Ephraim. They stand for the *Bible* and the *Book of Mormon* which before God are one. He mentioned how many precious things that had been removed from the *Bible* are covered in the *Book of Mormon*. There are still things that have not been revealed as yet, but the time will come when the word of God will be brought out in all its fullness and man will not be in a confused state anymore.

Brother Sal Valenti, Elder from Brooklyn, spoke the Tongue and Sister Linda Gomes gave the interpretation.

"This is the Body of Jesus Christ". Mike Pinto stated that it had been revealed to him that Brother Valenti was going to speak in a strange language at our Wednesday night service. Brother Lovalvo stated, as a great blessing filled our hearts, that God truly was in our midst. He showered us with so much love and blessings that our cup runneth over. We all felt such a spiritual uplift and so happy that we were in the right place at the right time.

Brother Joe spoke of his many experiences he had seen and witnessed during his many travels. He reminisced on his recent retirement, thanking God that he could now devote more time to the work of the Lord.

He testified that while visiting relatives in Brooklyn, God answered his prayer when he anointed a cousin who needed His help. She had recently been involved in an accident that had left her with a great deal of pain. She complained that she could not rest at night and wanted some relief from her discomfort. After she was anointed, she felt the pain leaving her and that evening she had a restful night. She thanked God for His wonderful blessings brought about through prayer.

Coffee, cake and conversation followed the closing of our meeting. (The three C's — title adopted by Brother Jim Link, Elder of our Branch).

May the Lord continually guide and direct Brother Joe and Sister Virginia in whatever He has in store for him and his wife. We pray that the blessings will always be in abundance and he will continue to be instrumental in the work of our Lord. God bless you all.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Rose Laessig  
Branch Editor

## Blessings, Visitors, Baptism At Roscoe Branch

Amber Denise Scott was blessed into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 6, 1975. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Darlene Scott. Amber Denise was blessed by Brother Fred O'Lexa in Roscoe, Pa.

On July 12, 1975, two small children were brought to the Church by their parents, Sheila and Henry Murray, Jr., from Phoenix, Arizona. Mark McCoy Hampton and Kelly Murray were both blessed by Brother B. J. Martin. On July 27, 1975, Jason Wayne Longnecker was brought to the Church by his parents, Garmon and Belinda Longnecker and was blessed by Brother B. J. Martin. A beautiful spirit was present during the blessing of the children. Several little ones have been brought to our Branch of the Church to be presented to the Lord these past several months and it is wonderful to see the Church being added to.

On July 27, 1975, Sister Molly Thompson was taken to the waters of baptism by Brother J. Fred O'Lexa. As our Sister came out of the watery grave she cried out, "Thank God, thank God," being filled with joy.

She was confirmed that afternoon at the Church by Brother B. J. Martin. Sister Molly has attended our services faithfully for the past year and we thank God to see another called to work with us in God's service.

We were happy to have with us during the afternoon service Brother Isaac Smith and his family from the White

River Reservation in Arizona. Brother Smith opened the afternoon meeting giving his testimony of his calling into the Gospel. He spoke of his determination to use his life for the Lord's service and also of the great joy and satisfaction there is in seeing a soul change from a discarded condition into a new and useful one by being cleaned up spiritually and put to use in the work of the Lord.

Also visiting with us were Brother James Grazan and Brother Dan Todaro from Monongahela Branch. There were many testimonies given and it was good to be in the House of the Lord.

As we sing in the hymn "Jesus Thy Blessings Are Not Few, Nor Is Thy Gospel Weak," we thank God for all things and pray He will bless our new Sister Molly and our Brothers and Sisters who come to visit with us and share God's blessings.

The Brothers and Sisters  
Roscoe Branch

## Auction Brings Showers Of Blessings

The second Perry Auction which was held on May 31, began with a 70 percent prediction of rain! I'm sure a volume of prayers were offered, because the rain held off until the completion of the sale. First we give our thanks to our Lord, for His Spirit moved in many directions. To all that contributed, the workers and those that come to buy—Thank you!

A young Amish man, who clerks for Brother Ralph Nellis, donated his time and even did a little selling. Brother Chuck Cutts also helped. He kept you alert, as he took a turn auctioning. Our crowd was small; but all held to the end. One gentleman came with a box of miscellaneous items which he donated to the auction. Strangers helped carry items to the auction block. It was a day filled with laughter, fellowship and all shared our Lord's blessings.

Our young people held the rummage sale; the proceeds to be applied to the bus fund. The food wagon was staffed by Sister Madia Elliott, Sister Betty Quinn and David Kline. All cakes and pizza were baked by the ladies of the Church. It is uplifting to know that those with family burdens still took upon them another load to help out The Church.

Written by Sister Olga Nellis

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Lisa Joy to John and Joy Azzinaro of San Fernando Valley, California;

David Joseph to Vaughn and Karen Elaine Watford of College Park, Georgia;

Shawn Richard to Rick and Charlene Swank of Perry, Ohio;

Brian Franklin to Robert and Rose Marie Crall of Perry, Ohio; and

James Joseph to David and Sandra Gibson of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

*GILLILAND - CODDINGTON*

Brother Clarence Gilliland and Sister Alice Coddington were united in holy matrimony in The Church of Jesus Christ, Youngstown, Ohio, on August 2, 1975.

Brother Richard Santilli officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Sister Betty Genaro.

The couple will reside in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

*ROUSCH - DRAKE*

Mr. Danny Rousch and Miss Diana Drake were joined in holy marriage in The Church of Jesus Christ, Perry, Ohio on July 5, 1975. Brother Gene Kline officiated the ceremony.

The couple will reside in Painesville, Ohio.

*FORD - SACZKO*

Brother Paul Franklin Ford and Sister Sandra Lee Saczko were united in holy matrimony in The Church of Jesus Christ, San Diego, California on July 5, 1975. Brothers John B. Ford and Daniel Corrado officiated at the ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Phyllis Koon and Brothers Steve DeCaro and Enos Genaro.

The couple will reside in Kinsman, Ohio.

*HOLLMAN - TIMMS*

Mr. Byron Hollman and Miss Valera Timms were joined in holy marriage in The Church of Jesus Christ, Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania on July 11, 1975. Brother Joseph Shazer officiated at the ceremony.

The couple will make their home in Beallsville, Pennsylvania.

*GENARO - CALABRESE*

Brother Peter Chris Genaro and Sister Candace Terese Calabrese were joined in holy wedlock in the Red Lake Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ, Red Lake, Arizona on June 1, 1975. Brother Frank Genaro officiated at the ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Brother Dennis Calabrese and the groom.

The couple will reside in Window Rock, Arizona.

*BRUTZ - McCLANAHAN*

Brother Ronald Brutz and Sister Loretta Ruth McClanahan were joined in holy matrimony in the home of the groom's parents in Tucson, Arizona on May 17, 1975. Brother Anthony Brutz officiated at the ceremony.

The couple have made their home in Fort Defiance, Arizona.

*BRAGG - ROSSI*

Mr. Frank Bragg and Miss Annette Rossi were united in holy matrimony in The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania on July 5, 1975. Brother Anthony Ross officiated at the ceremony.

Sister Patricia Giannetti was the vocal soloist and was accompanied at the organ by Sister Janet Gibson.

The couple will reside in New Cumberland, West Virginia.

*JACKMAN - MARSHALL*

Mr. William Jackman and Miss Deborah Marshall were united in holy wedlock in The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania on July 11, 1975. Brother Paul Palmieri officiated at the ceremony.

Brother Kenneth Staley was the vocal soloist, and his wife Sharon accompanied him at the organ.

The couple will reside in Ambridge, Pennsylvania.

*GROSSMAN - KUNKLE*

Mr. Bradley Grossman and Miss Marilyn Kunkle were united in holy matrimony in The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania on August 16, 1975. Brother John Ross officiated at the ceremony.

Panfilo DiCenzo was the vocal soloist, and musical accompaniment was rendered by Sister Nina DiCenzo, his sister.

The couple will reside in New Castle, Pennsylvania.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

*LUCIA PICHELLI*

Sister Lucia Pichelli of the Greensburg, Pennsylvania Branch passed on to her eternal reward on July 7.

She was born November 12, 1896 and was baptized in May 1939. She is survived by one brother and one sister, both in Italy.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Paul Gehly.

Sister Pichelli was always first to testify and give God thanks for the Gospel. She will surely be missed by the Greensburg Branch.

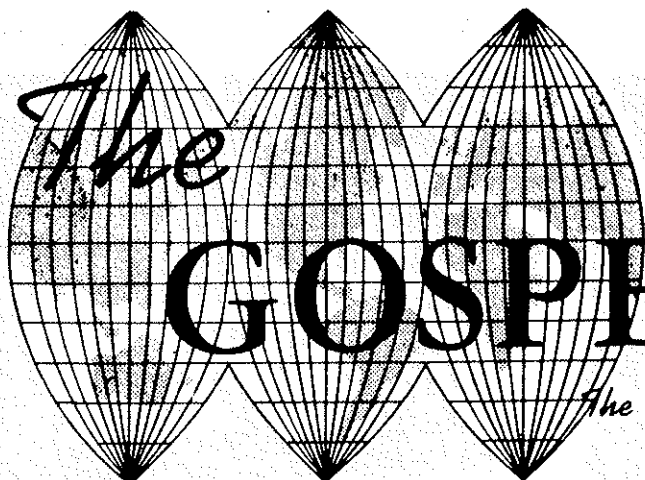
*JAMES P. GAVAGHAN*

Brother James P. Gavaghan passed from this life on July 7, 1975. He was a member of the Monongahela, Pa. Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

He leaves to mourn, his wife, one son, and two daughters. Funeral services were conducted by Brother James Moore.

Brother Jim helped cook the meals and could be seen in the kitchen when the General Church Conferences were held in the Monongahela Church building. He will be missed by all who knew him.





# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

October, 1975

Volume 31, No. 10

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## *M. B. A. Highlights*

### 1975 G.M.B.A. CAMPOUT

The 1975 G.M.B.A. Campout was held at Camp Luth-  
erlyn, Prospect, Pennsylvania from August 9 to August 16.

On Saturday, August 9, 1975 at 1:00 p.m. cars started  
entering the Camp and it didn't stop until Friday the 15th.  
Everyone was excited to see one another as visitors came  
from 14 states: Arizona, California, Florida, Kansas, Mis-  
sissippi, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts,  
Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Windsor,  
Canada.

A short meeting was held on Saturday as the G.M.B.A.  
President, Brother Paul Palmieri, welcomed everyone to  
camp. Brother John Genaro, the Camp Director, then  
covered the rules for our stay at the camp.

The Sunday service was the largest attendance we  
have had at a campout. Brother Louis Ciccati of San  
Diego was our leading speaker and he presented a beauti-  
ful Spirit into our meeting, his questions on whether we  
are pillars or posts was discussed throughout the week.  
Other speakers, Brothers Bob Buffington, James Moore  
and Rocco Biscotti followed with the same theme. The  
meeting was brought to a close as the Lord's Supper was  
passed to all members of The Church.

In the afternoon, we spent the time visiting different  
bunk houses and campers. Sunday evening service was  
spent as different individuals gave thanks to God.

The camp was divided in three areas where the  
largest group stayed in bunk houses and the second area  
where the bunk houses had better living conditions. The  
third area was the campers, who without a doubt had the  
best conditions, except distance. They had good FOOD  
and SHOWERS.

We were all awakened at 7:30 a.m. to the sound of a  
hymn over the P.A. system. This marked the beginning of  
each day. We met in Chapel at 9:30, after breakfast. At  
Chapel we sang, prayed and organized the activities of  
the day. Each day featured a different speaker at Chapel;  
this was well received. Brother Lou Vitto, the Chaplain,  
led our morning services; and he did a fine job.

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### CONFERENCE NOTICE

The October 1975 General Church Conference will  
convene on Friday, October 17, 1975 at 9:00 A.M. in our  
General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

The Friday sessions will be open for Priesthood and  
Teachers only. The Saturday sessions and the Sunday  
meeting will be open to all members.

#### NOTE:

1. Meals will be furnished on a pay-as-you-attend basis.  
The cost will be \$1.00 per meal per person with no  
charge for children under 12 years of age.
2. Those attending conference must make their own  
arrangements for lodging.

The Sunday meeting will start at 10:00 A.M. ALL  
ARE WELCOME.

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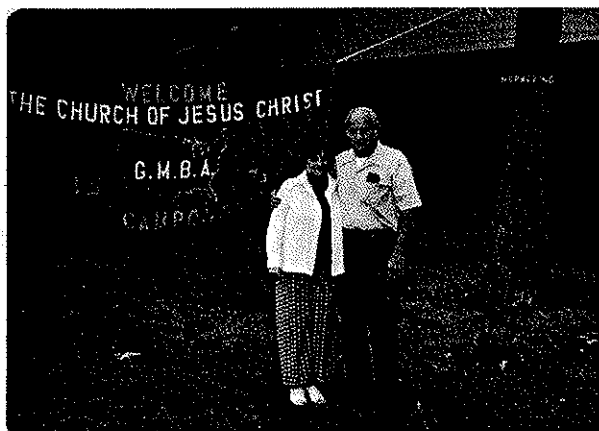
After Chapel we all went to different seminars that  
had been organized by Brother Joseph Ross. Some sem-  
inars, such as Brother Rocco Biscotti's, continued in the  
afternoon, as the young people requested more seminars  
after recreation. This was done for three days.

The evening meetings were conducted as the Spirit of  
God led us. On Monday evening Brother Augie D'Orazio  
opened our meeting and started our service off with the  
Spirit of God. Experiences were related how God was  
speaking to us at Camp and we enjoyed God's Sweet  
Spirit as Brother Paul Holan rose to his feet and asked to  
be baptized. After the meeting Sister Kathy Pastorelli  
also asked to be baptized.

On Tuesday we went to Chapel and then to the waters  
to baptize the two candidates from Monday evening. After  
the baptisms we went to our seminars.

Our evening meeting was used to confirm our new  
members and hear testimonies from various individuals.  
Brother Rocco Biscotti spoke on how God directed him to  
come to Campout.

One experience I wish to note: In a prayer meeting  
one morning Brother Rocco Biscotti spoke in the Gift of  
Tongues. The night before Sister Debbie Catalano had a  
dream where she heard Brother Biscotti speak in the Gift  
of Tongues.



*Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantoni.*

Wednesday evening was designated to be a testimony meeting. Brother Don Ross spoke that membership in The Church is the greatest position in the world. Carman Buffa was prayed for, after which she asked for her baptism. She was baptized on the Sunday after Campout in Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan.

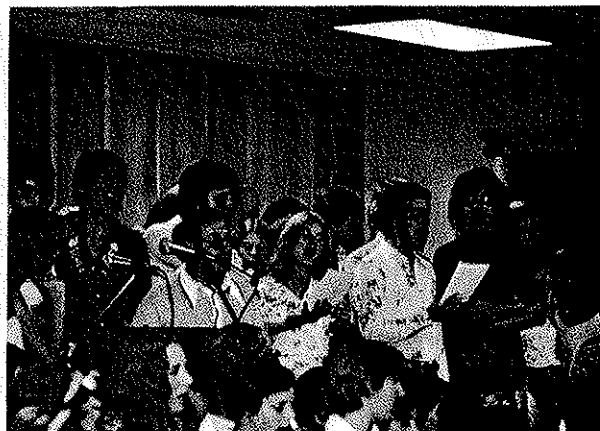
After the meeting Brothers Michael Buffa and Ken Henderson asked for their baptism. At Chapel the next day Brother Paul DiNardo asked for his baptism, but wanted to return to Florida so his parents could witness his baptism. The two Brothers were baptized after lunch.

The evening meeting started with the confirmation of Brothers Henderson and Buffa and the balance of the evening was used in preaching and singing.

Friday came quickly and before we knew it the Camp was drawing to a close. Our last evening meeting was opened with the young children presenting a program. Brother Joe Milantoni spoke of past campouts and how God has always blessed us. During the service we had open testimony and many bore testimony of the goodness of God. Brother Phil Buffa requested to be baptized and was followed by his mother and father, Eleanor and Pete Buffa, requesting to be reinstated into the Church. After 30 years they are now a complete family in the Gospel.

After the meeting Sister Debbie Catalano asked to be baptized.

Saturday many of us awoke early as we realized this was the end of the 1975 Campout. The baptisms were



*They sang it out.*

taken care of before Chapel and were then confirmed at Chapel. We spent the time in Chapel saying our final good-byes for a season.

Space does not permit to recognize everyone that did so much at Camp. While many were attending meetings, people such as Brother Jim Genaro was busy collecting money and registering people; while many slept Brother Wayne Morterano was busy finding people a place to sleep.

In attendance were many Elders and Evangelists. Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Rocco Biscotti, Russell Cadman and Joseph Bittinger were in attendance from the Quorum of Twelve.

There were many moments of relaxation at the Camp. The recreation committee which consisted of the "gold-dust twins", Aaron Dix and Nick Francione did a fine job. Their creativity and consistency was reflected in their efforts. A new game was added to our Camp called "blind man's football". You would have had to be there to see Brother Joe Ross and Sister Elizabeth (Suds) Staley in action. Seeing is believing!

The traditional softball and volleyball games were held. In a process of elimination the older players AGAIN strapped it on the young. (Oh well they have a whole year to get into shape.)

Our week could not have been a success without the untiring efforts of our able Camp Director, Brother John

(Continued on Page 6)



*Program from Friday nite.*



*Group from 13 to 17 years.*

## ARIZONA BECOMES A DISTRICT

On Saturday, June 7, 1975, Arizona was organized as an independent district of The Church. Before this date, Arizona was part of the California District.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo from California chaired the meeting and was assisted by Brother James Lovalvo from Florida.

Brother Jim Lovalvo sang a beautiful rendition of "If That Isn't Love." He then made some pertinent introductory remarks, highlighting the fact that organizing means progress but progress is REAL inasmuch as we do the will of God in all things. He further remarked that promises made by people are with reservations, but the promises of God are total. His talk was very interesting and thought-provoking. He concluded by expressing the desire that Arizona would become a successful District and that many churches will be built.

Before the business of organizing was launched, Brother Joe Lovalvo strongly urged that the interests of the new District best be served by electing men who can do the best job and for all to negate relationships, friendships and anything that might infringe upon the will of God.

He announced that Brother Robert Watson is President of the District, having been elected by General Church vote at the April Conference.

Brother John Ross, Jr. was selected secretary pro temp.

The following Brothers were elected in their respective positions: First Counselor: Peter Capone; Second Counselor: Richard Christman; Recording Secretary: John Ross, Jr.; Assistant Recording Secretary: Barry Mazzeo; Financial Secretary: Philip Damore; Treasurer: Arthur Landrey; Librarian: Larry Watson; Historian: Stephen Saffron; Gospel News Editor: Dennis Calabrese; Auditors: Ether Furnier, Dwayne Jordan; Board of Trustees: Melvin Mountain, Dwayne Jordan, Anthony Brutz, Larry Watson, Stephen Saffron. The Trustees elected Brother Melvin Mountain as their chairman.

Five members of the Appeals Committee, who are Elders and are knowledgeable in appeal procedures, will be elected at every conference as the need arises.

Brother Joe Lovalvo explained that the General Church has sovereign rights over District operations but that Districts as well as Branches have the right to make recommendations which are usually honored unless there is substantial reason to do otherwise.

All the Elders voted to create a Mission Board. The following Brothers were elected: Ether Furnier, Peter Capone, Larry Watson, Stephen Saffron and Richard Christman. These Brothers elected Brother Ether Furnier as their chairman.

Brother Joe Lovalvo reminded everyone that all must submit to the ruling of the General Church until the ruling is changed, for which there are proper channels of procedure.

Questions arose concerning Pine Top, Arizona, Dallas, Texas, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. These will be answered at a future date.

Brother Joe Lovalvo made a few remarks pointing out the qualifications of the President of the Arizona District and his Counselors.

It was announced that our President of The Church, Dominic Thomas, had called and wished us success in our organization of the new District.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino, who had planned on being with us, could not make it. Many of the Brothers and Sisters who had hoped to see Brother Gorie were disappointed.

Brother Joe Lovalvo emphasized the financial responsibility of all working members to The Church.

Brothers Philip Damore and Ether Furnier were acknowledged for their work in the Gospel these past fourteen years in the Phoenix area.

And so, all those in attendance witnessed the birth of a new District: The Arizona District. May it grow in terms of membership, but more importantly, may the ties that bind us in Christian love grow stronger, that the world may look upon us and SEE the glory of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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## THE EVENING SERVICE

What a beautiful evening service! It commenced by the singing of hymns of praise and glory. Particularly enjoyable were the solos sung by Sisters Elaine Jordan, Pat Christman, Donna Ciccati, Brother Jim Lovalvo. Equally enjoyable were the songs sung by the various groups. When we ALL sang "We are longing for the gathering...", showers of blessings were received by the entire congregation. Talk about a heavenly choir—we had it in this service!

Brother Joe Lovalvo held us spellbound as he used *John, Chapter 18, Verse 23* for his sermon. He spoke on the early days of his life in The Church. His greatest day was the day that he was baptized along with his brothers Jim and Tony. He suffered persecution from his father for he felt that Joe was the "ringleader."

Then he spoke on Jesus, His magnetic power and the mystery of His grace; how He heard the voice of the blind man through the tumult of the milling crowd. What a King and what a personality; how He stood before high priests in humiliation; how He was mocked and scorned and spat upon; how He was condemned and crucified and little did the Jews realize they were crucifying the Prince of Glory.

Brother Joe asked us if we REALLY love Him and how much do we really love Him when we are put to the test. We all felt blessed to hear Brother Joe's inspirational sermon.

In conclusion, Brother Bob Watson thanked all who participated in the day's events. He mentioned the efforts of Brothers Dan Picciuto and Bob Ciarrochi in their contribution to this part of the country. Brother Watson invoked God's blessings in this new organization venture and was sure that the birth of a new District must be a beauty in the eyes of God.

This ended the day of June 7, 1975. May it gleam forever in the annals of our Lord!

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## THE SUNDAY SERVICE

Another spirit-filled service! We heard beautiful solos sung by Sister Grace Brutz and Denise Mazzeo plus vari-

ous groups giving their lovely renditions. We certainly enjoyed the assembling of so much talent.

Brother Jim Lovalvo was our key speaker today. He read from the *Book of Ezra* and went into an indepth sermon as he talked about the temple and all the precious materials used in the building of it. This subject was developed into the permanent building of the temple which must be in the heart of man unto the glory of God.

Brother Jim further added, — the Kingdom of God established on the day of Pentecost; briefly on the Apostasy; the gathering in of the house of Israel in these latter days; God's reign in Zion and not in the world; Paul before Agrippa.

He terminated his sermon with a special message to the unbaptized to "procrastinate NOT the day of your salvation."

From the day that he became an Elder, Brother Jim has been blessed with the gift of preaching. Today's sermon demonstrates that this gift is still very much with him.

After we sang a hymn, Richard Ackman arose and asked for his baptism. Feasting for the Saints when a soul surrenders to God! Brother Richard is the husband of Sister Barbara Ackman and the son-in-law of Brother Melvin and Sister Ruth Mountain.

Brother Philip Damore spoke on *Ezra, Chapter 2* and mentioned his role and others involved in the laying of the foundation of the Phoenix Branch fourteen years ago. He was radiant, and rightfully so.

At the closing of this very special service, all the Elders held hands while Brother James Campbell dismissed us with prayer.

Sister Frances J. Capone,  
Branch Editor, Phoenix

## JESUS CHRIST

Oh God, the miles walked beneath my weary feet cannot be consoled by my journey's end. The agony and pain in my heart seem to be the reflection of the weariness felt throughout my body.

Days and nights of hunger, haunting me, ever reminding me of my mortal state. No resting place to call my home, for I am ever on an endless search.

Within many young men, a desire is created to search, to conquer to overcome what is, and to make life anew. A desire to love and to be loved. To acclaim the gentle power of success. And I came to this world knowing these thoughts and wanting them for myself.

My friends and I have traveled miles along the Judean countryside. Through the deep and dark streets of Jerusalem, carrying a message peeling the shells of men, and exposing the beauty and sin that lies within them.

Mankind standing naked, shook the powers of Jerusalem. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stoned them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered my children together, even as a hen gathered her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

The fear of a light that could penetrate their very souls, change their ways of life and expose their every hidden sin and thought, was too much to bear. Mankind has not yet required the exposure of himself, but clings to the armour so safely surrounding him. I cannot blame this generation for the fear contained within them. I have given all, wondering sometimes if man is really worth it.

It is early night; my friends and I are walking to a garden. It is my very favorite place to be when I need to think. As I look around me, I can feel my heart sinking into the pain of reality.

I will never walk this way again as a mortal man. Now that I am here, I can sit and contemplate my past and my future.

I would like to lean upon my strength, and yet as I sit here I can feel my soul being wrenched, until the drops of sweat excreting through my pores feel as heavy as blood upon my body.

My loneliness cannot be overshadowed by my fear. Oh that I could lean my head upon my mother's breast, and rest my troubles within her love for me.

It is so beautiful here. A quiet stillness covers the shadows of the night; somehow, it comforts me. Perhaps if I sit here a while I can absorb some of the peace that surrounds me.

It is too late; my time has come. In the distance, I can hear the steady marching feet. As they march steadily closer, I can feel my heart pounding as though the army itself were marching inside of me.

As I stand here, almost paralyzed, I am in awe of the many soldiers sent for one man.

Could this be a dream? I am awakened into reality by the feel of a gentle kiss upon my cheek. As I turn, I behold the face of a dear friend, and know I have been betrayed by him.

In the midst of this confusion, I cannot keep back the tears that are welled up inside.

My friend, we have shared one another's lives down the long weary roads we have walked together. Through the seemingly endless days and nights we have cried and prayed together. Through feast and famine we have been together, and now for money I have been betrayed with a kiss. "Cursed is he that puts his trust in the arm of flesh."

My test has come. I can show my strength only by my silence. I must now stand alone.

By: Mary Ann Van Bree

## The Bible

The Bible is a book you'll like  
It teaches you to do things right.

It makes you want to be like Jesus  
To do as He did in the days of old  
He died on the cross to save my soul.  
He loves us all, so I've been told.

Gary Howard  
Age 7

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## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

### DO YOU KNOW YOURSELF?

(Part Two)

*By Robert A. Watson, Guest Editorialist*



It seems paradoxical that man can travel thousands and thousands of miles through space in order to traverse the moon and perhaps other planets, yet finds it impossible at times to charter the journey within. He is able to measure the distance he travels in miles, the time it will take him to get there. Yet, he is unable to measure the distance from that outer man to the man who lives within. He is unable to comprehend that God has given to man the ability to travel at such a speed that with one touch of that Divine energy he can immediately be transported within. He can chart and plot the most violent of

storms and develop the instrumentation to guide huge airplanes through turbulence safely to land. Yet the inner storms rage without being charted. The many institutions today are stark evidence of man's inability to cope with the stresses from within.

The journey within, however, is not one that will end. When we were born the journey began, when we die the journey does not end, we just continue to travel in another dimension. We leave behind the natural vehicle that has served us for earthly travel. We move out of this house of matter and clay. The real self, the inner man, the soul, the you, the composite of all we have done, said and thought travels back on the journey that takes it to the place where the original launching began.

#### *Surrendering to Christ*

In order to start really knowing yourself right now, yes today, look beyond your faults, and your limitations. Come to the realization that a house divided against itself cannot stand. If you will completely surrender yourself to Christ without making any demands, He has promised to come within and make his abode. He will drive out all fears, every shadow of loneliness will disappear. He will take the real you and bring it into perfect harmony with the total entity of life. This includes the removing of the sting from death, the instilling of a hope that burns with greater intensity than the heat that radiates from the sun.

If you have not dropped the buckets deep enough within the wells of the heart, mind, and soul, I urge you to do so. Don't punish yourself unnecessarily, don't tear down the house you live in by excessive use of anything that leads to deterioration. Why don't you take a few moments away from your job, your family, and friends and take the advice of the hymn that says, "Alone with God the world forbidden." In the quietness of these few moments rip off the masks, strip off all the pride, tear down every particle of self-justification, cut down the unsightly hedges of prejudice, bitterness, jealousy and hatred. Yes, let God have complete charge of your life. Let Him reach into your inner being and when you totally surrender, He will make something beautiful of your life. It may take a few journeys into solitude, but you will evolve into a person whose countenance reflects the evidence that God dwells within and that you truly know yourself.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Jephthah's Daughter

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a sad story which has a moral, "We must keep our promise no matter how hard it is."

There was a man named Jephthah, who was a mighty man of valour. He was the son of a distinguished Hebrew named Gilead. His mother was a stranger to the tribe. In spite of this, Jephthah became a great commander and believer in one God. He became head of a warring tribe when war broke out between the Ammonites and the Gileadites. He was asked to be commander of the Gileadites.

To give fresh courage to his troops, Jephthah made a public vow to the Lord. It was a reckless vow too. Jephthah said, "If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, then shall it be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the Lord's and I will offer it up for a burnt offering." He was willing to make any kind of promise to insure victory. Little did he know what was to happen.

The battle was soon over. Twenty of the Ammonite cities fell before Jephthah. Success was his. He hurried to Mizpeh where he had left his only daughter. The women and maidens had assembled to greet the victorious warrior with songs and dances. Who should come out from Jephthah's house but his beloved daughter! He never thought when he made the vow, it would be like this! He realized how cruel had been his vow when he saw his beautiful one, radiant and smiling before him. Her country was free! Her father was in command! She ran to her father. He cried out, "Alas, my daughter you have brought me very low and thou art one of them that trouble me, for I have opened my mouth to the Lord and I cannot go back." His daughter spoke courageously, "My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the Lord, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth, for as much as the Lord hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies even of the children of Ammon." Poor Jephthah, how hard all this was to bear. He kept his promise. The scripture tells us, "He did with her according to his vow". You may read this story in Judges, Chapter Eleven.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

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Wrinkled knees are always "in style" in God's House.  
Church Attendance Adds Up . . . to a better you.

### 1975 G. M. B. A. CAMPOUT

(Continued from Page 2)

Genaro. Our G.M.B.A. President, Brother Paul Palmieri; Vice President, Brother Don Ross; and Chaplain, Brother Lou Vitto, did very well in overseeing the camp functions.

The camp felt the blessing of God throughout the week. No big problems appeared and all worked together to associate with one another. New friends were made as the smiling faces of the young people could be seen everywhere.

The highlight of any Camp would have to be baptisms. What a blessed sight to see Saints and friends gather in great number at the water's edge as souls came to the culmination of a repentant desire.

Already plans are being made for 1976 Campout where the West and East meet at St. John, Kansas. Make plans to attend and pray that the Lord will watch over His people.

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

### The Bible

The Bible is a wonderful book. That many people know  
It states that God did bring, His precious love below.

The Bible is the precious word that many can embrace  
Where in our minds we store the wonders of His grace.

In the Bible we learn of a Man that talked in parables  
This Man, of course, is Jesus Christ our Lord

He didn't think that Satan was unbarrable  
The Bible is a great book! It never makes me bored.

*Stephen Mazzeo*

### Famous Israelites

The Bible has records of famous Israelites  
Such as Joseph, Moses, and Daniel  
The Twelve Apostles too,  
Also, David and Nathaniel.

It's really hard to name them all,  
There were many a famous Jew,  
And the most famous of them all  
Was Christ. Your Savior and my Savior too.

*Stephen Mazzeo*  
Age 12

### David And Goliath

David was a man of bravery,  
He fought the man of Gath.  
The giant was ten feet tall  
A great big man of wrath.

The boy went to the Philistine  
And aimed the sling for Goliath's head,  
He shot the stone with confidence,  
Then watched the giant as he fell dead. . .

*Daniel Mazzeo*  
Age 14

## "Go Ye Into All The World" LAY MISSIONARIES NEEDED

Jesus gave the command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15) The disciples obeyed — "And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." (Mark 16:29) Yet, the scriptures tell us, the House of Israel rejected the Gospel. Because of this rejection the Lord commanded Paul to go to the Gentiles. Paul was given the understanding that since the House of Israel refused the Truth, the Gentiles must be evangelized to keep The Church alive — until the House of Israel would one day be ready to receive the Gospel. (The parable of the tame olive tree, representing the House of Israel, and the grafting in of the wild olive branch, representing the Gentiles, illustrates this last point very well; see ROMANS 11:17-21 in THE BIBLE and Chapters 5 and 6 of JACOB in THE BOOK OF MORMON.)

Here are some scriptural references pertaining to and explanations of the preceding paragraph: In ROMANS 10:1-3 Paul states that Israel has rejected the Gospel. In ROMANS 11:1 and the first sentence of verse 2 Paul points out that God will not forsake His people, the House of Israel. How will the House of Israel be saved? — ROMANS 11:25 answers — "... blindness in part is happened to Israel, *until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.*"

So then, the House of Israel will rightfully reclaim the Gospel when the Gentiles are so ripe in iniquity that they can no longer retain it. We need only to look around us to see that the time of "fulness" for the Gentiles is not too far away. But does this mean that we will wait until the last moment to go among God's Chosen People? NO! We must be up and doing NOW — more than ever — endeavoring to take the word to the House of Israel, beginning with the Seed of Joseph (the American Indian). (See my article from the October 1975 issue of THE GOSPEL NEWS.)

In an effort to help our missionaries among the American Indians the Lay Missionary Program under the auspices of the GMBA has been set up to provide opportunities for Lay people (not in the ministry) to actively participate in the taking of the Gospel to the Red Man by providing means for the Laity to live and work on an American Indian mission under the supervision of a missionary.

For more information on the Program please write to me, Brother David Majoros at:

1006 Meadow Ave.  
Charleroi, Penna. 15022

## Ordination And Revelation

Such awe-inspiring meetings took place on Sunday, May 25, 1975.

Our morning service began with Brother Tony Lovalvo speaking to us from the Book of Enos. Brother Gorie Ciaravino continued and compared some of his own life with the life of the son of Enos. Our morning meeting was then closed.

Brother Dominic Moraco opened the afternoon service in prayer. Brother Louis Vitto followed him, reading from the 14th Chapter of Revelation. Brother Nick Pietrangelo then followed. His words, reminding us of the purpose and joy which was yet to come. It was the reason so many had come to visit Branch No. 1, in Detroit. It was the day that Brother Paul Vitto was to be ordained as an Evangelist in The Church of Jesus Christ.

After sacrament was administered, Brother Spencer Everett asked Brother Tony Lovalvo to relate a dream he had on December 18, 1974.

"The evening of December 18, 1974, I went to bed and it seemed that all of a sudden I fell asleep.

I dreamed that I was driving my car down this big highway. All at once I saw a man walking and he was asking for a ride. I never pick up anyone on the road when traveling, but there was something about this man that seemed familiar, so I stopped and let him in the car.

I said to him, "Where are you going?" He said, "I'm going to the same place you are going." I said, "But I'm going to an Evangelist meeting, you're not an Evangelist, are you?" He said to me, "I was an Evangelist a long time ago." As we were driving, he said to me, "If you will drive a few more miles, there is a person waiting at the next plaza, pick him up because I want him to go with us to this meeting."

We drove for a couple of miles and there on the curb as we entered the plaza was a man, a very well dressed man, but I couldn't quite make out who he was, until he got into the car. It was Brother Paul Vitto.

When I turned around to introduce Brother Paul to this man, he wasn't in the car anymore."

Following that the ordination began. Brother Ralph Leet washed Brother Paul Vitto's feet, and Brother Nick Pietrangelo ordained him into the office of Evangelist.

Immediately after that, Brother Philip Van Allsburg told us of a vision he had. Brother Phil said that when Brother Dominic Moraco opened the afternoon meeting in prayer, he saw Brother Paul sitting in a chair and Brother Ralph Leet washing his feet. There was a beautiful light shining down on Brother Ralph and a pair of hands resting on his head.

Brother Paul then stood and began to tell us of his prayer to God. Brother Paul said that he was concerned about becoming an Evangelist in The Church. So he prayed and asked if he might have his own personal experience that would verify that he was truly being called. In his prayer he asked that Brother Ralph Leet might be the one to wash his feet, and that Brother Jack Chambers would once again be in our midst. (Our brother had been ill and missing from our meetings for quite some time). Brother Paul ended by saying that both parts of his prayer were fulfilled.

As Evangelist Brother Paul Vitto begins the duties of his new office in The Church, I know the Lord will be with him. I would in closing like to use some of the words spoken by Brother Nick Pietrangelo which he used in describing Brother Paul; He is humble, hard working, loves the Gospel, and the Church.

I would have to say those are qualities all of us should be striving for. God bless you Brother Paul.

**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****The Beauty Of Jesus**

I just came from visiting my neighbor and there witnessed the beauty of Jesus. My neighbor showed me her little grandchild only three weeks old and we talked of the miracle that had happened just last week. Little Amber had a very bad condition in the eye and even after medical attention it seemed to get no better. There was an appointment to take her to the doctor again on Monday the 7th of July.

On July 6, Sunday morning, Mr. and Mrs. John Scott, who faithfully attend The Church of Jesus Christ in Roscoe Branch brought their little granddaughter, Amber Scott to the Church to be blessed. Brother Fred O'Lexa took the child in his arms during the morning service and asked God's blessing upon it. A wonderful spirit was felt.

That morning before going to Church the eye seemed to have worsened. Later that afternoon my neighbor, Mrs. Scott called me to come over. She couldn't wait to tell me what happened. After they brought Amber home from Church after being blessed, she fell asleep and when she awakened she opened both eyes bright and clear. She was completely healed. Praise God! This was verified by the doctor who examined the baby the next day.

Today as I saw this little child looking up at me I saw the beauty of Jesus shining forth and could feel God's love upon it. I couldn't help but think of the hymn "Let the Beauty of Jesus be Seen in Me." My thoughts went back to the time of my baptism, how wonderful it was and how we should retain that beauty of Jesus that it may always shine from us that others may come to know the Love of God.

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky  
Roscoe Branch

### Baptisms, Blessings At Youngstown, Ohio Branch

On Sunday, July 27, we welcomed the visit of Brother Harry Robinson. At the beginning of the service, Sister Dorothy Fortunato was brought forward by her father, Jim Fortunato, to be anointed. She has been severely afflicted for several months and needs the prayers of all the Saints.

Brother Robinson spoke beautifully on the Power in the atoning grace of God. "Rejoice in your salvation, and endure to the end. The real test is to be strong to remain in The Church, always to pray and faint not."

At the close of the service, as we were singing, "Just As I Am", Jim Fortunato walked forward and asked for his baptism. He was later baptized by Brother Ralph Berardino.

In the afternoon service following his confirmation by Brother A. A. Corrado, Brother Jim related a wonderful experience he had during the week, confirming his desire to be baptized. The Saints of Youngstown rejoiced at his conversion, as he has attended Church for many years. May he be blessed in his service to the Lord.

On Sunday, August 3, our morning service was opened

by Brother A. A. Corrado. He read from *Matthew, Chapter 11*, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." He spoke on the wonderful promises of God, if we obey His commandments. Brother Raymond Cosetti, visiting from Florida, followed stating, "Man was made for eternity, and we will live forever, one way or another." God's Holy Spirit accompanied these words.

At the close of the service, Clarence Gilliland asked to be baptized. Immediately following, Jackie Hickman, visiting from Jacksonville, Florida, requested her baptism.

At the close of the meeting, Clarence Gilliland was baptized by Brother Richard Santilli and Jackie Hickman was baptized by Brother Raymond Cosetti.

Our new Brother and Sister were confirmed in the afternoon service, Brother Gilliland by Brother Berardino and Sister Hickman by Brother Corrado. God's blessing continued when Sister Alice Gilliland asked to be reinstated into the Church. She expressed her desire to serve God, along with her husband.

What a wonderful day of blessing for the Saints of Youngstown. We praise God and thank Him from whom all blessings flow.

Sister Betty Gennaro  
Youngstown Editor

**Warren, Ohio Branch News**

On Sunday, July 27, the Warren Branch was blessed with visits from Brothers Dominic Giovannone, Joseph Bittinger and Richard Santilli.

Brother Dominic opened our meeting, speaking from the *17th Chapter of John* and also on the Day of Pentecost. He continued by stating, "A house divided cannot stand", and that we as The Church of Jesus Christ must be united so that God can open the windows of heaven, even to the extent that those who come forth with afflictions would be immediately healed. Brother Dominic also expressed his thankfulness that God had again allowed him and his wife, Sister Marietta, to visit from Florida. He concluded by exhorting us to love God with all our strength, mind and soul.

Brother Joseph Bittinger continued our service stating that he is convinced there are many people who want to serve God but are unable to become steadfast. We must receive His Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands which is necessary for the working of our soul's salvation on a daily basis. Serving God is the greatest joy there is in life. Salvation is what we live and work for everyday of our lives. Satan is very expert and strong and will constantly try every scheme to turn us in another direction. But as long as we serve God in spirit and truth He will give us the strength to overcome. He told us to search our own lives and see if God has opened any doors for us that we have not entered. He thanked God for that first open door, "The Church of Jesus Christ."

Brother Richard Santilli then spoke to us and stated that our faith must be tried and tested to see if we are worthy before the Lord and continued, "If we uphold His banner He will hold us up at the last day." He admonished us to uphold the things of The Church that we might be counted as loyal. He was thankful to be a part of this Church and to have a shelter in the time of storm, for



"through Jesus all things are possible and through the power of Christ we shall inherit eternal life."

During our testimony meeting many wonderful testimonies were offered praising God and three people requested to be anointed; Brother Dominic, Sister Mary Margaret Cain and Sister Rosemary Brown. After the anointing, Brother Dominic exclaimed his ill feeling had left him and glorified God.

We can truly say that our meeting was full of good words and we thank God for the inspiration in bringing forth of this manna for our souls.

Sister Mary Margaret Cain  
Assistant Editor

## Monongahela Branch News

A verse of a hymn reads, "There shall be showers of blessing: This is the promise of love; There shall be seasons refreshing, Sent from the Saviour above." We experienced these showers of blessing as our Branch hosted the Ladies' Circle Anniversary Meeting on Saturday, July 12. Following the afternoon meeting, Sister Dorothy Gandley was driving Nell Kohler home and they passed the Monongahela River where we baptize our new converts. The Spirit of God touched Nell and she told Sister Dorothy, "I want to be baptized right now!" A large number of Brothers and Sisters were contacted by phone and we met at the water's edge to witness the baptism of our new Sister. In attendance were Sister Nell's niece, Sister Darlene Large, and many visitors from various Branches of The Church. Brother Donald Curry led our Sister into the water and beautifully immersed her beneath the liquid wave. Sister Nell experienced that new birth and her countenance reflected all the love, joy, and satisfaction which comes when God's holy spirit touches an individual. Sister Nell, known as "Honey" to us in the Branch, was confirmed in our Sunday morning preaching service by Brother James Curry. Our sincere prayer is that God's love will continue to lead and guide our Sister and may she ever keep her feet grounded on that straight and narrow path which leads to the Tree of Life.

Our preaching service was opened by Brother Anthony Scolaro of Detroit. He made comments about the Ladies' Circle being a helpmate to The Church in their missionary endeavors and their financial help. Our Brother reviewed the life of Christ and read from *III Nephi* where the Lord appeared to the Nephites after His resurrection.

Brother Scolaro spoke of the mission of The Church, which is to go to the Seed of Joseph and tell them they are of the House of Israel. The Choice Seer will come to them and complete the work, delivering them from their condition and gathering them.

Brother John Griffith, in his closing remarks, reviewed the primary duty of The Church in carrying the Restored Gospel to the Seed of Joseph. Only then will God work in bringing the other tribes together, and finally all the nations of the earth will be blessed.

The showers of blessings continued in our Sunday evening M.B.A. meeting. Although a small number were in attendance, we had three visiting Sisters from the Windsor, Ontario Branch. We spent the evening relating experi-

ences of God's goodness through healings, dreams, visions and other blessings. Thank the Lord for His Spirit and His love for us. "There shall be seasons refreshing, If we let God have His way."

Brother Isaac and Sister Bonnie Smith and their family were most welcomed visitors in our Branch on Sunday, July 27. Brother Ike was the principal speaker in our morning preaching service and he spoke to us of our responsibilities in filling the shoes of those who have gone before us. He read verses of Scripture from the Book of Isaiah and also from the words of Paul to the Romans. The main thought was that we must yield our limbs as members of righteousness and become instruments in the hands of God. We also must have a desire to be used of God. Our Brother exhorted us to find our place in The Church and then play our parts well, even as the Brothers of old did. He spoke of the House of Israel being used by the Lord in these latter days. Brother Ike then likened us to an orchestra. Each individual must learn his part in The Church and be in tune with God. Each member has to be a part of the whole unit, each working to produce the harmonious music of The Church. Then the world will be able to recognize our song.

Brother Merdy Griffith reminded us that God has created a perfect way of life. We must walk in this way and serve the Lord in this perfect Gospel. We cannot deviate from His plan. Brother Merdy outlined the plan of God in carrying the Gospel to the House of Israel through the Seed of Joseph. Through Israel will all the nations of the earth be blessed. Our duty is to find our place in The Church, become united and be about our Father's business.

We've been happy to have Brother Dick Ackman visiting with us. He and his wife, Sister Barbie, are former Monongahelans who have recently moved to Arizona. We enjoyed Brother Dick's testimony and we are very thankful that God has called him into The Church. We feel that many prayers have been answered, both in Arizona and back here in Monongahela.

## Ohio District Spiritual Gathering Warren, Ohio

Brother Rocco Biscotti opened the gathering and stated this would be an evening of singing praises to God and that speaking would be according to the inspiration of God. Many hymns were sung and it did fill our hearts with joy. Brother Philip Jackson spoke to us briefly from *Mosiah 4:11*. He constrained us to remember the day we were baptized and gave our lives to God and to remember that first love we beheld in The Gospel.

The Youngstown quartet favored us with a couple of selections. Then Brother Biscotti admonished us to display the love of God. He was followed by Brother Elmer Santilli, who spoke further on the Scripture brought forth by Brother Jackson. He also spoke of the disciples going out two by two preaching the Gospel and the great miracles that were wrought by the power of God. They were told not to rejoice in their good works but to rejoice that their names were written in the Lamb's book of life. We who have made a covenant with God have our names written in this book and it can only be erased by ourselves. "Serving God is a full time job, but a wonderful and glorious job."

At this juncture some came forth to be anointed after which Sister Hufnagle and Sister Gibson sang a hymn.

Brother Biscotti asked Brother Corrado to relate the great blessing wrought by the hand of God on behalf of Sister Dorothy Fortunato of Youngstown. He related to us the events that took place before the blessing was bestowed and how he and many throughout The Church dedicated themselves to fasting and prayer and how it was requested of God that He use this experience to some benefit to her family. Truly a wonderful blessing was wrought by the hand of God and we do glorify Him for this blessing and that her father Jimmy Fortunato chose to make his covenant with the Lord that very day. Brother Corrado expressed his great joy at this blessing and stated that if we truly dedicate ourselves to the Lord, we can see the hand of God move.

Brother Joe Genaro led us in prayer on behalf of Sister Dorothy Fortunato and the many others who are afflicted.

Selections were sung by the Niles and Lorain Branches and also a duet by Sister Carla Dziak and Sister Leona Nardoizzi.

We also heard many wonderful words and experiences from Brothers Dominic Giovannone, Nick Ritz, Vince Gibson and Harry Robinson. Brother Harry was inspired to say he believed there was a gold vein of faith running through all the various Branches and that he did perceive that things in the world were growing more serious. "The foe is becoming more daring and God is preparing His people, and God will gain the victory, for the power of God is greater than all other powers."

It was very hard to close the meeting as the bounty of God's blessings could be felt in both the speaking of His word and in hymns of praise.

The quartet sang several hymns and the closing hymn was "There is Power in the Blood". We closed with prayer by Brother Frank Giovannone.

## Blessings In Lorain

During the early summer months we have been blessed with many visiting Brothers and Sisters from different parts of God's vineyard.

Sunday, June 1, Brother Dominic, Sister Dolores and Jeff and Becky Thomas were present for our Sunday School service. It was good to see our Sister Dolores doing so well.

The following Wednesday evening, we had in our midst, Sisters Inez Caldwell and Karen Milantoni from the Arizona District. Both Sisters testified how good God has been to them in their endeavor to work for the Lord.

Once again, on Sunday, June 15, we were privileged to have with us Brother Joe and Sister Suzie Maselli from California. They are truly a good example in the "Family of God." Brother Tom Everett was also with us this day. It was good to share our blessings with the Saints from other Branches and Missions.

Sunday, June 29, we had with us Brother Tony Corrado and his family and Brother Jerry Giovannone and his family. Brother Jerry opened our meeting in prayer and Brother Corrado read the 103rd Psalm. During the service, Brother Corrado spoke in "The Gift of Tongues"

and the Lord spoke through Brother Frank Altomare and said, "Draw near unto me. Straight is the gate which we should enter. I will watch you for the things that are coming and nothing will harm you." We can truly thank the Lord for giving us these experiences that help make and keep us strong in the Gospel.

Brother Rocco and Sister Angeline Biscotti were visiting with us on Sunday, July 13, also Brother Dominic Thomas and family along with Sister Alice Romano. Brother Ike Smith and his family from Arizona were with us on July 20. Brother Ike read from *Romans* 10:14-15. He spoke on how we should be instruments in the hands of God. We sang the hymn "I Ought To Do Something For Jesus." Brother Dominic Thomas then spoke, asking the question, "What can we add to The Church that would give a new or different sound? What would be good for us to do?" He said we should take what God has given us and develop it.

Also on this day, the Lord called another soul into His Church, Brenda Revercomb. Those who wanted to be anointed were called up front by the ministry and Brenda was one of them. When Brother Frank Altomare came to her and started to anoint her, he began to speak in "The Gift of Tongues." The interpretation was, "We know Brenda has felt the power many times and may she feel a portion of the Spirit and may the spirit of repentance come upon her." He then said, "Brenda, Brenda, look into the Lord at this time. He is looking upon you, His eyes are great, His eyes are calling upon you. The time is far spent." He then went into "The Gift of Tongues" again and the interpretation which was then given as the Lord spoke through him was, "The people remaining—Thus saith the Lord, repent, repent. The hour is at hand. Repent, for thus saith the Lord. I am coming. I shall gather my fold, but I shall destroy the wicked. I am calling them home, my people." Brother Frank then started to sing, "Oh that Will Be Joyful, to meet — to part no more."

We went down to the water's edge where Brother Frank Calabrese baptized her and we met that evening for the confirmation, which was officiated by Brother Joe Calabrese. Testimonies were also given to the Honor and Glory of God.

I pray that we will continue to witness the many blessings that the Lord would bring our way, if we remember to always pray and live each day closer to the Lord. We must continue to give praise unto Him for all things each day, even for the breath He gives unto us to live another day — to be able to live it for the Lord. May God bless you.

Sister Leona Nardoizzi  
Lorain Branch Editor

## Three Baptisms At Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch

The Vanderbilt Branch has been cheered and uplifted during the month of August by the baptisms of three new converts.

The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Milford Wade Eutsey, Jr. after he returned from the recent G.M.B.A. Campout where he felt the Lord's touch.

Milford was baptized on Sunday, August 17, by his

father, Brother Milford W. Eutsey, Sr. and was confirmed by Brother Emmett E. Dale.

On the following Sunday, John Anthony King also felt the call of our Lord. After a talk with Brother Joseph Shazer, he asked to be baptized at the Wednesday night M.B.A. service. Brother Joseph Shazer baptized Brother King and Brother George E. Fuller confirmed him.

Finally, on the next Sunday, August 31, Robert Charles Thomas also was moved to ask for his baptism. He was baptized and also confirmed by Brother Joseph Shazer.

May the Lord bless our new young members and make them a blessing to the Church and to others.

## This Is The Day That The Lord Has Made

How many times I've failed to acknowledge this, and how many times I've begun the day without glorifying His magnificence. I repent fully of my negligence, for without recognizing the "Miracle" of this new day is to deny our very existence.

Perhaps some may say "miracle" is too strong a word to describe this new day. No friend, for truly it is a miracle if we are alive in Christ. Among the vast thousands of souls in this world He chose to call us into His fold. He chose to open our eyes and awaken all our senses, to give light where only darkness dwelt and to reach into the depths of our souls and fill our cups to overflowing. Can we now deny the miracle of the glorious new day?

My lips seem insufficient to expound upon the song of praise within my heart, so with pen in hand I've tried to write a few simple words of verse to express a part of the gratitude to our Lord, for the rapture I now enjoy since I've become a part of the Restored Gospel, The Church of Jesus Christ.

I pray these few words will encourage us all to begin each new dawn as a new beginning, a new day of life, a miracle.

### A NEW DAY

Thank you Lord for this new day of life you've given unto me,

May it be used to help another to find the road to Calvary.

Let me not spend the hours of this day breeding idle discontentment,

Leaving others with memories of me that reflect only resentment.

Let me not labor in works of darkness that would cause another to stray,

Let me live in light that I might be an instrument in their hand today.

No matter how small or meager be the task, let me not conceal your light in me by letting others see only my carnal mask.

Let my hand be outstretched to all those who pass my way.

Let this treasure chest be opened wide to share with others the miracle of this new day.

Sister Barbara O'Savage  
Roscoe Branch

## Niles, Ohio Branch Continues To Grow

Sunday, August 3, was a day of rejoicing for the Niles Branch including visitors from Aliquippa, Pennsylvania; New Orleans, Louisiana; and California.

The highlight of the day's activities was the baptism of Denise Devorich. This followed a stirring sermon by Brother Ron Genaro on repentance and baptism.

Brother Russ Martorana baptized Sister Devorich and Brother Peter Molinatto confirmed her. A beautiful spirit prevailed throughout the day and everyone went home rejoicing.

## Windsor, Canada News

The month of July has brought us teachings on faith. God said, "whatsoever things persuadeth men to do good is of me." Book of Mormon teaches, God tries our faith. If we believe, he will show us greater things. Reviewed Church of Alma. Hard times, yet joyful, sober minded. As many as would hear, he taught. We were encouraged towards testimony. Let the Lord be our strength. Those oppressed, think on their blessings.

Brother Bob, Sister Wilda Collison and family have moved and taken their transfers to Fort Pierce, Florida. May we honour their departure with a prayer.

Dear Lord Jesus,  
We search deep within our soul,  
To have that kind of mind,  
That keeps us forever to be thine,  
We think upon our brother near,  
And know to thee he is made dear,  
Our sister rich with love for thee,  
Her trust for you, to hear her plea,  
Please keep us in thy loving care,  
Our blessings from thee we need to share.

Sister Didi Collison  
Branch Editor

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the following parents on the arrival of their new born child. New arrivals have been:

Anthony Michael to Corado and Elaine Caterina of New Brunswick, New Jersey,

Holly Lynn to Kenneth and Gloria Keeley of Niles, Ohio,

Michael Anthony to John and Karen Buffa of Sterling Heights, Michigan,

Alethea Evelyn to Clifford and Sharon Warner of Glassport, Pennsylvania,

Deanna Ann to Alexander and Barbara Ann Cristello of Fort Pierce, Florida; and

Daniel Jacob to Robert and Alice Nicklow of Glassport, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

*KING - KELLER*

Mr. Dell Edward King and Miss Willma Lee Keller were joined in holy wedlock on Saturday, August 9, 1975 at the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Frank Morle of Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan, officiated at the wedding ceremony.

The newlyweds will reside in Perryopolis, Pennsylvania.

*PEZZENTI - FRANTINO*

Mr. Paul Thomas Pezzenti and Miss Karen Marie Frantino were united in holy matrimony on August 16, 1975. They were married in the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Ralph Berardino officiated at the wedding ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Betty Gennaro, organist; and vocalists, Ken Frand and Barbara Bie.

The couple will reside in Boardman, Ohio.

*SELTZ - ROSS*

Mr. Richard Michael Seltz and Miss Karen Renee Ross were united in holy matrimony on August 28, 1975 in the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Joseph Ross, father of the bride, officiated at the ceremony and was assisted by the bride's uncle, Brother John Ross. Brother Ken Staley and Sister Patricia Giannetti, the vocal soloists, were accompanied at the organ by Sister Sharon Staley.

The newlyweds will make their home in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

*MARY PAROLISE*

Sister Mary Parolise of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch passed on to her eternal reward on July 19, 1975. She was born on March 27, 1894 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on May 20, 1928.

She leaves to mourn her loss three sons, three daughters, 18 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were officiated by Brother Sam Sgro.

Sister Mary was a very great blessing to the Branch for many years. Her beautiful testimonies will be sadly missed by all.

*ARTHUR DELLA LUNA*

Brother Ulderico (Arthur) Della Luna passed on to his heavenly reward on Wednesday, August 6, 1975. He was a member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Arthur was born on February 10, 1891 and was baptized into The Church on August 24, 1952.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, one daughter, four grandchildren and one brother in Italy.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother A. A. Corrado and assisted by Brother T. D. Bucci.

Brother Arthur was a faithful Brother of the Youngstown Branch. He will surely be missed by all.

*ARTHUR NICKLOW*

Brother Arthur Nicklow of Leisenring, Pennsylvania passed on to his eternal reward on August 24, 1975. He was a member of The Vanderbilt Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was born on June 3, 1905 and was baptized on March 9, 1930.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Joseph Shazer.

Surviving our Brother are five sons, one daughter, fifteen grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one sister.

Brother Nicklow was a faithful member and was loved by all the Saints.

*FLORENCE LOMBARDO*

Sister Florence Lombardo of Branch No. 4, Detroit, Michigan, went on to her heavenly home on July 18, 1975. She was born on April 25, 1879 and was baptized on April 25, 1949. She was 96 years old last April.

Brothers Dominic Moraco and Leonard Lovalvo officiated at the funeral services at the Frank Calcaterra Funeral Home.

She is survived by three sons, one daughter, two stepsons, one stepdaughter, 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Sister Florence was the oldest member of the Branch. She was always very faithful and loved The Church very much. We will miss her presence very much.

*ELIARIO MERCURI*

Brother Eliario Mercuri, a member of the Niles, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his heavenly reward on August 26, 1975. He was born on March 9, 1884 and was baptized into The Church on March 27, 1932.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Joseph and Ronald Genaro.

He is survived by his wife, one son, one daughter, two stepsons, 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

# The GOSPEL NEWS

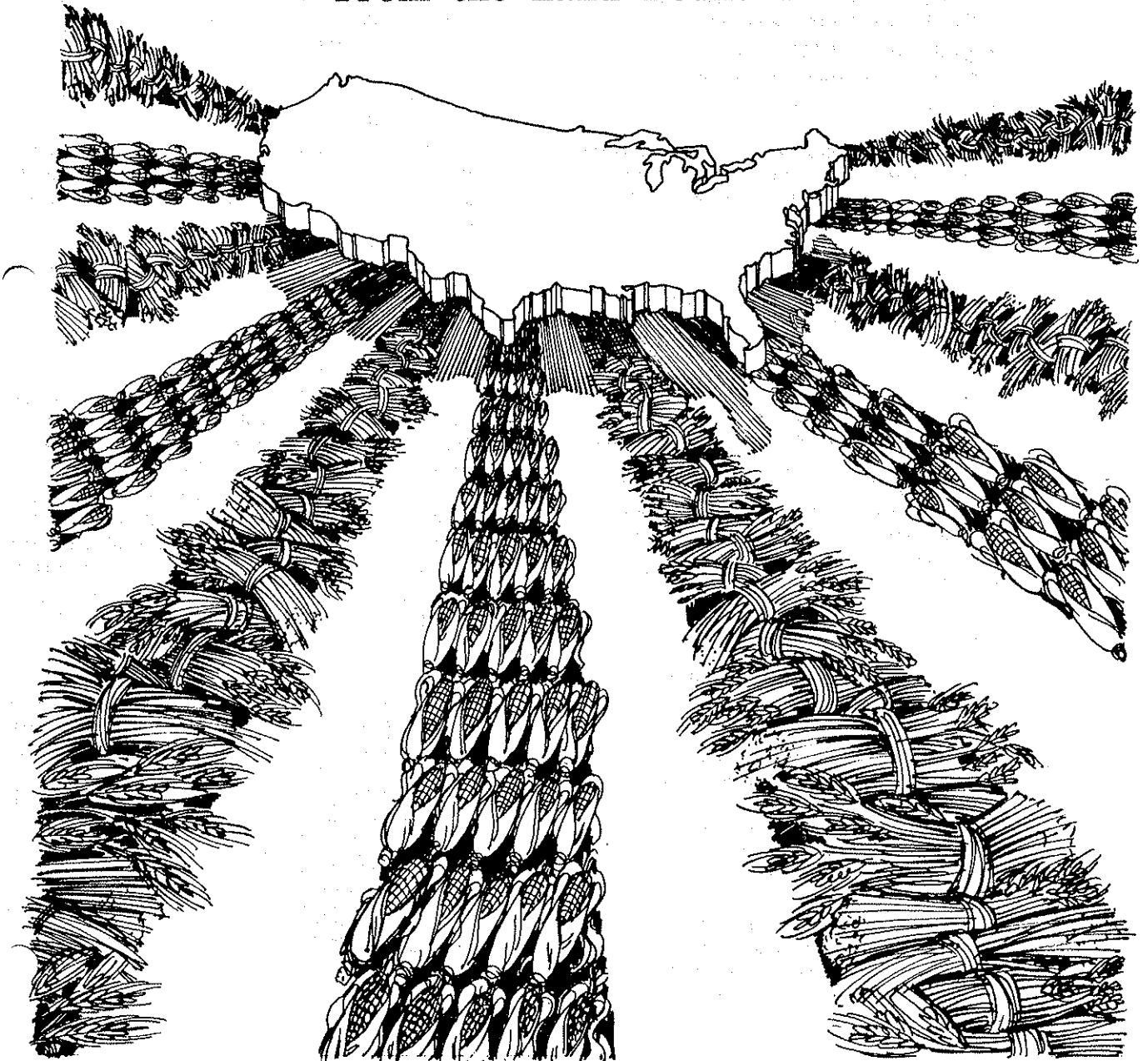
*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

November, 1975

Volume 31, No. 11

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## From the Land Bountiful.



## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

By Joseph Bittinger

This article consists mostly of items of business taken from the minutes of the Annual General Conference held in Atai Otoro Center, Abak, Nigeria, November 14, 15, and 16, 1974. Since it takes several months before the Parent Church receives their Conference Minutes, I shall only mention those transactions and reports that I consider to be more enlightening and interesting to our readers.

The opening session convened on Thursday, November 14, at 10:00 a.m. by singing hymn No. 15, "Twenty-Third Psalm". Brother Ufot James led in prayer. Then sang hymn No. 21, "Let The Sun Shine In". Brother Jimmy Umanah expounded the scripture with a golden text verse *St. John* 15:10 — "If you keep my commandment you will abide in my love."

All Church Officers were present except the First Counsellor, Brother Jonah Umoh, who was reported sick.

A good number of Elders from the various districts were present, except Lagos and Calabar.

Building of the Church Office at the Center: Since the progress of this work has not been reported well, it is resolved that the Committee should see to it that the work is in a rapid progress; and, Branches and Missions failing to give their quota should do so for the completion of the work.

The Conference by motion requested that the Secretary write a letter of thanks to the Commissioner of Education, Okuka Emmanuel A. Essien, for all his assistance to the Technical Secondary School and for his actions to get the Customs Department to accept delivery of items without payment of import duty.

A resolution was passed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Parent Church: "We the members in The Church of Jesus Christ, Ikot Ekeng Afaha Obong have received your letter and check for ten Naira. We also thank Pastor E. U. A. Arthur and Brother Ebong who helped us to have the check cashed. We have but small words to express our feelings of pleasure over your help. May the Almighty God enrich you and your families in Jesus' name. Amen."

The Conference praised the efforts of our brethren of Obinkita Arochukwu to acquire land for the building of the Church. A motion was passed accepting the apology of the people of Umopara Church and delegated Brother E. U. A. Arthur in company of some other brethren to visit the Church endeavoring to strengthen the work there.

Brother Arthur reported visiting some Branches encouraging the brethren to follow the law and order of the Church; that many souls have been baptized and confirmed into the Church; that God had healed many through prayer and the laying on of his hands; and that he had endeavored to keep peace and harmony amongst the brethren.

Brothers Edem A. Ebong and George F. Arthur reported of their visits to many Branches for spreading the Gospel; that they also encouraged the people to adopt and follow the law and order of the Church in their worshipping of God; that many souls had been converted and baptized into the Church; that they visited Ikpa Ibiono

Mission to encourage the members and endeavoring to clear up a misunderstanding with an Elder.

Brother Samuel N. Umoh reported that many converts and baptisms had evolved due to the appreciation of the doctrine of the Church.

It is encouraging to read the good reports of our Elders in the Nigerian Church preaching the Gospel and baptizing many repentant souls. We read that the Angels in Heaven rejoice over one sinner that repenteth. How wonderful it is that the Ministry of the Church through preaching the Holy Scriptures are able to convince many souls to believe in Jesus Christ.

Brother E. A. Ebong made a report of the Mission Day Celebration staged in the Center, that the students paraded from the school compound with magnificent songs to the Church yard for service. Choirs from several Branches of the Church were in attendance rendering songs of praise unto God. Brother E. U. A. Arthur addressed the congregation with inspiring words of steadfastness from the *Bible*. Brother E. A. Ebong gave the history of the Church and the actions of June 26, 1961 and the establishment of the School.

The Principal, Mr. P. U. Iniodu thanked the Priesthood for the invitation and privilege conveyed to him and made the following report:

That the ministry as individual parents should assist the school in the students' education by teaching them to give honor and glory to God in their daily activities, since the children learn and practice what they see and hear from their parents. They should be taught to pray in the morning and evening and to develop this practice both at home and at school.

He asked the Conference to request the Parent Church for at least two hundred copies of the *Saints Hymnal* for use in the School.

He complained of the need and lack of accommodations for the Matron and reminded the Ministry of the levy of 5.00 (Naira) from each Branch, which was decided in the meeting of the Works Committee.

He made a donation to help defray the expense of food for the Conference. The President, Pastor E. U. A. Arthur, on behalf of the Priesthood, thanked the Principal for his information and kind donation to the Conference.

President Arthur thanked the Assembly for their self-sacrifice for the service of the Lord. He thanked the people of Atai Otoro for their care of the distant brethren

(Continued on page 4)

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION authorized under 39 USC, 4354; (P.L. 86-682) Sec. 132.22 PSM of The GOSPEL NEWS published monthly at Monongahela, Pa. for the 12 months ending October 30, 1975.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor are: Publisher—Bethlen Press, Inc., Ligonier, Pa. Editor—Paul Palmieri, 319 Pine Drive, Aliquippa, Pa. Managing Editor—Joseph Ross, No. 2 Ross Drive, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

2. The owner is The Church of Jesus Christ with Headquarters at 6th and Lincoln Streets, Monongahela, Pa.

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 preceding the date shown above was 1000.

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Lucetta Scaglione, Office Manager  
The GOSPEL NEWS

## GREETINGS FROM ANADARKO, OKLAHOMA

First of all I will tell you of all the company we had from June 14 to July 14, 1975. Brother Alex Robinson, sons, daughter and Roger Schroeder and Kay Parrish from St. John, Kansas, Brother Tony Santilli and family of Youngstown, Ohio, Brother Russ Martorana and family of Niles, Ohio, and Brother Bert Miller and family of Warren, Ohio. Our final visitors during this month were Brother Joe Calabrese and family of Lorain, Ohio and their grandson Tommy Smith of Arizona. During this month we had a total of 26 Brothers, Sisters and their children. We certainly had a wonderful time having fellowship with all the Saints.

We introduced each to many of our Indian friends. We all would attend Church services at Rock Springs, Wichita Indian Church. Each time we had an Elder there on Sundays, our Elders would be given time to exhort the Scriptures. Brother Joe Calabrese had the full time of preaching as their pastor could not be there that day. Brother Joe preached on the "Restoration and The Choice Seer" and was well received by the Indian congregation. It was so heart-warming that after the service everyone of the Indian men went to the platform and embraced Brother Joe. All the Indian ladies made sure they shook hands and told him how much they enjoyed the message. Many, many times since then these Indian people would ask us about our Church. Many times they would say, "What we have heard, we believe." Although I talk about this little Indian Church most of the time, this has not been our only contact with Indians or the white man.

There are so many things I would love to tell you. But maybe some of our visitors can enlighten you a little more. One weekend here a group of Creek Indians came from Eastern Oklahoma for a Campout. Brother Bill Crall was asked to have the first sunrise service and he read St. Luke 9:1-6. These people know we are different and seem to want to learn more about the Restored Gospel. This is kind of hard to believe, but almost every Sunday at one of the meetings their Pastor, Mark Standing, will preach on one of our beliefs. The good Lord is speaking here in Oklahoma.

This Indian Church is mainly Wichita Indians, but, within the congregation there are about five other tribes represented.

I would like to tell you about an amusing situation. As I would look around at the faces of the people while Brother Joe was preaching, the little Indian children would hold their ears. But, holding ears can work both ways, as a couple of white boys were sitting in front of two of the main Indian singers, these boys would hold their ears, also.

We sing a few English Hymns and a few Indian Hymns. You, my Brothers and Sisters should hear "Amazing Grace" sung in the Wichita language.

May God Bless each of our Brothers and Sisters. Our good Lord has certainly blessed us here. Whenever any of you travel through Oklahoma, please stop.

Your Brother and Sister in Jesus Christ,

Brother Bill, Sister Evelyn Crall,  
Louis and Sara.

Please note address:

William and Evelyn Crall

Route No. 1, Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

## OUR WOMEN TODAY —

### LADIES' UPLIFT CIRCLE CONFERENCE

The Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Imperial, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, October 4, 1975. Sisters were present from Canada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington, D. C. areas.

The Imperial Circle took charge of the devotional time by presenting a program titled, "Faith of Our Fathers". They sang hymns and read the scriptures numerating different things that happened to our Fathers of old which caused them to exercise great faith. Mabel Bickerton began the meeting by giving her testimony and remarked on the subject of Faith. If we have faith, as a grain of mustard seed, we can go through many trials that we might encounter in life. We will continue to have faith in God in the future for all things.

The conference business then began by the roll call of officers; reading of the minutes of the 55th Anniversary held at Monongahela, Pennsylvania; the delegates reports; and the treasurer's reports.

From the Indian Missionary Fund money was donated to the General Church Indian Missionary Fund; towards the purchase of a station wagon for the Muncey Reservation; and for three water coolers for San Carlos Reservation. From the General Fund money was donated to the African Relief; for improvement in the church building in Italy; and towards the Book of Mormon Concordance Fund.

The projects for the next six months are to continue sending layettes and to raise funds for the Book of Mormon Concordance.

The answer to the questions, "What are the different gifts by the Spirit of God unto men to profit them?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Moroni 10:8 & 9*, and "What things did Alma and his fellow laborers do who were over the Church?" was found in *The Book of Mormon, Mosiah 26:28*.

A special thanks was given to Sister Carmella D'Amico of Rochester, New York who sold 116 Cook Books.

The March 6, 1976 General Circle will be held at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, July 10, 1976 at Warren, Ohio, and October 2, 1976 is open.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in testimonies and singing. Brother Frank Giovannone of Warren, Ohio, Brother James Moore and Brother Robert Bufington of Imperial, Pennsylvania honored and praised the Sisters for the help they are giving the General Church especially in the missionary field. A circle was formed and a special prayer was offered in behalf of Brother James and Sister Eva Moore who are planning to make their home in Atlanta, Georgia.

A vote of thanks was given to the Imperial Circle Sisters.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## OHIO AREA M.B.A. ENJOYS FIELD TRIP TO ONTARIO, CANADA

The Ohio Area M.B.A. enjoyed a trip to Six Nations Indian Reservation over the Labor Day weekend. Besides representation from Ohio, we had Brothers and Sisters from Michigan, Pennsylvania and Canada. Most of us arrived at midnight, Friday. After a good night's sleep, we were up early Saturday for breakfast. We then had a short meeting at the Church briefly summing up the plans for the day. The weather was cool and wet but it didn't stop the fellowship and enjoyment we had planned for this trip. God was so good, and His presence remained with us.

Saturday morning we were taken on a tour of the Reservation. We were able to see much as we drove around and one beautiful site in itself was the Grand River. As we climbed to the top of the hill to view the River, you realized how beautiful and wondrous God's creation really is.

After the tour, we had lunch and then gathered at Church for an afternoon meeting. We let the Spirit of God lead us as we had a blessed afternoon of prayer, testimony and singing. That evening we had a meeting and we met many of the Indian Brothers and Sisters for the first time. There was singing from different groups and some beautiful testimonies. After the meeting we socialized with the Saints and prepared our heart and mind for the Sabbath.

Sunday morning's meeting was held at an auditorium a few blocks from the Church. The Lord was with us all during the meeting and you could just feel the Love we held for one another. One incident that stays with me is when Sister Susie, an Indian Sister from the Reservation, sang a few songs giving honor and glory to God. She is elderly and is not too well, but thanks be to God, for the comfort He gives unto her. We all gathered in the rear of the auditorium for a very good dinner, which was prepared by the Sisters there. The afternoon was left open to visit with one another. The night meeting began with singing at 7:00 p.m. and with the testimonies, preaching and singing of that meeting, it all went on to about 10:45 p.m. As it was raining outside, we had "Showers of Blessings" inside.

Our purpose of going to Six Nations was to be able to work, but things did not work out that way at all. On Monday morning as we were getting ready to leave, we began straightening out the Church meeting area, as this is where the Brothers slept and we wanted to get pews back in order and we just began cleaning everything, upstairs in the apartment where the Sisters slept as well. We sort of had a "general cleaning", so we did get some work in after all.

We met outside the Church building, took a few group pictures and then formed a circle as we sang "God be With You 'til We meet Again", and we then closed in prayer.

Thank God for a wonderful opportunity to be able to meet with the Saints at Six Nations. God be with you all.

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

whom they lodged in their different homes. He sent greetings to our Brothers and Sisters of the Parent Church in the U. S. A. for all their well-doing towards the Nigerian people. Then he wished God's blessings and protection for all. The Conference ended with prayer at 2:15 p.m.

The Sunday General Service opened at 9:30 a.m. with hymn No. 58, "Holy, Holy". Brother Osoh led in prayer. Brother P. U. Ikpo read the scripture from *II Corinthians* 3:7-18. Brother E. A. Ebong expounded verse 17—"Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." The service closed with prayer by the speaker.

The purpose of this column is to acquaint our readers (at home or abroad) with the functions, progress and needs of the Nigerian Church and School, both spiritual and financial. A very urgent need is for the building of a Mission House, that Missionaries or Teachers going there will have a place to live.

There is much work awaiting us (the Parent Church) in Nigeria and Africa. Jesus said, "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (*St. John* 4:35.)

## God's Greatness

O the goodness of God!  
Who has prepared a way  
For man who has sinned  
For that endless day.

O the wisdom of God!  
He saw man's plight.  
They were cut off  
From the path that was right.

O the mercy of God!  
He sent us His Son  
That man might receive,  
His mercy and pardon.

O the greatness of God!  
He delivers His Saints  
From the clutches of Satan  
And from sufferings and pains.

It's by the grace of our God  
And not by our merit  
That we should receive  
The power of His spirit.

O then we must say,  
All Glory to God  
For the price that was paid,  
This we read in His word.

Jesus came forth  
To redeem man on earth,  
He had long gone astray,  
But receives a new birth.

Bro. Frank Mazzeo  
from 2nd Nephi 9th Chapter



## THE GOSPEL NEWS

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### LET US GIVE THANKS

The harvest season is with us again and we want to welcome it with joyfulness and thanksgiving.

President Gerald R. Ford will again formally proclaim the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day and to be observed with prayer, solemnity and the giving of thanks to Almighty God for His continuing blessings and bounties.

Many countries all over the world also observe harvest festivals and the offering of thanks to the Hand of Providence.

### A TIMELY REMINDER

The season of harvest and ingathering serves as a timely reminder of how much we depend on God for our every-day needs. We are also stirred to renew our gratitude and appreciation to God who gives so freely and liberally to the human family.

We are very fortunate here in America in that our crops continue to be bountiful. Indeed, the United States Department of Agriculture has reported that our harvests have exceeded their predictions of early spring. It is on the basis of this report that our Federal government has lifted the ban on the export of grain to Soviet Russia, Poland and other interested countries.

What is more, U. S. Agriculture Secretary, Earl L. Butz has noted that our high level of food production has been a determining factor in our nation's gradual recovery from the economic recession that has persisted for so many months.

As we observe another national day of thanksgiving, may we also pause to note the plight of many people in the underprivileged areas of the world.

### A WALK FOR HUNGER

In Southwestern Pennsylvania, several thousand young people will be participating in a 10-mile Walk for Hunger at 34 locations selected by Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. Not only will they indicate their concern about a major world problem, but they will also be raising an expected \$100,000 for world relief. Each youth garners sponsors who agree to contribute an amount for each mile he or she walks. May God richly bless and reward them.

This event comes nearly a year after the World Food Conference convened in Rome. As a result of the Rome conference, a World Food Council has been established with American John Hannah, former president of Michigan State University, as chairman.

The council is arranging a priority system of "Most Seriously Affected" countries, those hit hardest by famine or drought, to which food can be transported speedily. A world food reserve is to be established along with a communications network.

The threat of famine may not be completely abolished, but at least the peoples and governments in the more affluent societies are beginning to show their concern by cooperating more closely to combat it.

May God bless and reward all who are concerned and for their efforts to reach out to the underprivileged wherever they are. Surely, this is pleasing to God— "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (*Matthew 25:40*)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Rebekah, The Wife Of Isaac

Dear Girls and Boys,

Our last story was about Abraham, Sarah and their son Isaac. This story is an interesting one about Rebekah, Isaac's wife.

Abraham sent his servant Eliezer, to Haran to find a wife for Isaac among his relatives. As the servant went on his way, he prayed to God for guidance in choosing the right maiden for Isaac. As he rested beside a well, he decided if a maid comes to the well and not only offers me a drink, but offers to water my camels as well, I will know she is the one. Soon a beautiful maiden came and did these very things. Eliezer was happy about this and more so when he learned she was Isaac's relative. With her father's blessing, Rebekah left with Eliezer and his camel train for her new home. Soon Isaac and Rebekah were married.

After twenty years twin sons were born to Rebekah and Isaac. Their names were Esau and Jacob. Esau, the first born, would be his father's heir but before the boys were born the Lord told Rebekah that the elder would serve the younger. Jacob was smooth of skin and liked to tend the flocks. He was his mother's favorite. Esau was rough and hairy and was happy as a hunter. He became his father's favorite.

When Isaac was old and blind, nearing the end of his life, he decided it was time to pass on his blessing to his first born, Esau. This blessing was a spiritual gift. A birthright is the earthly possession which clever Jacob had already received from Esau, when he sold him bread and a pottage of lentils.

Rebekah planned a scheme for Jacob to receive his father's blessing. She told Jacob to go kill two goats from the flock and she would dress and cook them. Then he could serve them to his father. Isaac had already sent Esau to find a deer for his favorite meal. Rebekah and Jacob were busy preparing the feast. Jacob was worried because he knew his father would feel he was not the hairy son. But Rebekah had a plan. She took pieces of hides of animals and fastened them on Jacob's arms and neck to make them feel like Esau. Also she had Jacob put on his brother's clothes so Isaac would recognize the odor of the woods.

When everything was ready Rebekah placed the dish of meat in Jacob's hand and sent him into Isaac. Her plan worked. She heard the words of Isaac's blessing; "May God give thee the dew of heaven and of the fatness of the earth and plenty of corn and wine. Let peoples serve thee and nations bow down to thee. Be lord over your brothers and may thy mother's sons bow down to thee. Cursed be everyone who curses thee and blessed be everyone who blesses thee."

The deed was done and none too soon, for there was Esau coming over the fields. Things were not too pleasant for the little family when Isaac and Esau realized how they had been deceived. Jacob had to flee his brother's wrath and Rebekah had to make plans to protect her favorite son. Jacob went to Pandanaram to live with his mother's relatives. It is thought Rebekah died while Jacob was there, because we read no more of her.

Next month I will tell you about a very scheming young lady named Delilah.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## God And People

God and His world are so good to me  
But in the coming years  
Plenty of danger and killings will be  
It seems that nobody cares.

God has tried His best for us  
We all know this to be.  
Although we try, everything goes wrong  
The world should be peaceful and free.

Pollution and noise is all about us  
But there's just not enough love.  
Not all people even believe in God  
Or understand that He is above.

*Joyce Coppa*  
Age 12

\*\*\*

## MOTHER

*By Dora Rossi*

Mother has brought us into this world so fair,  
With all its blessings we were able to share.  
The teachings about God and His Son,  
She caused our minds to think upon.

With all the daily chores we had,  
She was always ready to remember God,  
At meal time, bed time and daytime too,  
Prayers to our Maker each took turns to do.

I pray that I could but be as strong,  
The days I'm allowed to belong,  
On this earth we walk and strive  
For the heavenly home to abide.

There where the faithful Saints await,  
Those of us who have yet to be as great.  
Many trials we all must go through,  
Then comes the time to say adieu.

She has gone to her heavenly place,  
We know she will rest by God's grace,  
Memories of her sincere duties,  
Will never leave our memories.

**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****Cape Coral Mission News**

Brother and Sister J. Constantine were fully blessed when their daughter Jacquelyn Hickman, from Jacksonville, Florida, was baptized August 1, in Youngstown, Ohio while they were vacationing in Ohio. Sister Jacquelyn was baptized by her uncle, Brother Raymond Cosetti and confirmed by Brother A. A. Corrado. We are always happy to see new converts render themselves to God. It was good to be in the services of our Lord and we can say our cup runneth over with His blessings. We ask you to be mindful of Sister Jackie in prayer as she is the only member in that large city. We ask God to use her to bear witness to this wonderful Gospel that some day a Church will also be established in that city.

All here at Cape Coral have returned from their summer vacations: Brother and Sister J. Velardi from California and Ohio, Brother and Sister R. Bartuccio from Cleveland, Ohio and Michigan where they also attended the wedding of their granddaughter at Sterling Heights.

Please remember us in prayer also and visit with us whenever you are in this beautiful land of sunshine.

We thank God for all the Brothers and Sisters who write all the wonderful articles in the Gospel News. It is inspirational, comforting and connects us to all parts of the world with our Church and the dear Brothers and Sisters to give each other the added strength to press forward in this Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is so precious to all of us whom have come and dined.

Regards from the Brothers and Sisters of the Cape Coral, Florida mission.

**Weekend Of Blessings  
At Glassport**

The Glassport Branch was honored to have Brother Rocco Biscotti and his companion visit us during the weekend of August 30-31, 1975. We had a special meeting Saturday evening and we were pleased to see many visitors in our midst. There were ten members of the priesthood present including two Apostles — Brother Biscotti and Brother Sam Kirschner; three Evangelists — Brothers Fred Olexa, Paul Palmieri, and John Ross; and five Elders — Brothers Bob Buffington, Bucky Kendall, John Ali, Alma Nolfi, and Pete De Piero.

Brother Rocco opened our meeting by requesting we sing "Longing for the Gathering." Brother Fred opened in prayer. Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky from Roscoe sang a solo, "Precious Memories."

Brother Biscotti then spoke of God's kindness and goodness. He told us about many miracles he has witnessed over the years performed in God's name. The blind were made to see, the deaf to hear, and the lame to walk.

Brother Rocco read a dream which was had by Sister Biscotti in 1967 in which the Saints were told, "Be ready for the coming of the Lord". He stated several times, "If we live in righteousness Satan will have no power over us."

In closing, Brother Biscotti advised the Elders of the Church to be fearless and rebuke the devil but be sure

you're right with the Lord, referring to Acts 19:15. He advised those that are not baptized to learn to pray and to the Saints — Love one another to the best of your ability.

Brother Sam Kirschner spoke briefly, warning us that time is short and we should be ready at all times to meet the Lord and be judged.

Brother John Ali made some closing remarks and Brother John Ross closed in prayer.

The blessings of God carried over into our Sunday meeting as we had three Apostles present — Brothers Biscotti, Kirschner, and Joseph Bitteringer.

Brother Bitteringer spoke from John 15:1-9 on "the true vine." He also spoke from Matthew 25:14-28, telling us to put our talents to work. Brother Biscotti followed and told us once again — "Love one another and always be of one accord."

The afternoon meeting was a fitting climax to our weekend. Brother Bob Buffington from Imperial made some opening remarks then we had three ordinations. Brother Larry Ali washed the feet of Brother David Nolfi and Brother Biscotti ordained him a Teacher; Brother Alfred Nolfi washed the feet of Brother Tom Lindy and Brother Buffington ordained him a Deacon; Brother Bob Nicklow washed the feet of Brother Gerard Valenti and Brother Bitteringer ordained him a Teacher.

The Spirit of God remained with us as many gave inspiring testimonies and several experiences were told pertaining to the ordinations. Our meeting ran well past the regular closing time but we were still reluctant to leave as the blessings of God were truly abundant.

We wish to thank God for the many blessings showered upon us during these two days and we pray that He will guide our newly ordained Brothers, so they can fulfill the offices they have been called into and be of service to the Branch and to Him.

**Rochester, New York  
Branch News**

On May 18, 1975 we had a surprise visit from Brother Paul Benyola and family from Lockport, New York. The meeting was opened by singing "All Hail Immanuel." We were then led in prayer by Brother Ansel D'Amico.

Brother Ansel chose for his text Malachi 3:7 and spoke on the ways men can rob God. We rob God by not attending meetings or neglecting our duties within the Church. If we prove God however, He will open up the storehouse of abundance.

We then sang "Give of Your Best to the Master." Brother Paul Benyola spoke on that topic. He emphasized that we should give our best to the Master just like those of old did. He brought out as an example Abel who was highly accepted by the Lord because he gave his first and best fruits of his labor to God.

The meeting concluded after we had testimony and sacrament. A wonderful spirit prevailed all during the meeting.

On July 19 and 20, 1975 we had the privilege of having Apostle Paul D'Amico with us. The Sunday morning service was opened with the hymn "Brighten the Cor-

ner Where You Are." Lydia and Elizabeth D'Amico then sang a duet, "Somebody Bigger than You and I."

Brother Paul read from the 28th chapter of 3rd Nephi. This part of scripture deals with the desire of the three Nephites to remain on earth to administer unto the people. Brother Paul related many experiences regarding the three Nephites manifesting themselves unto various Brothers and Sisters. Brother D'Amico also reminded us that it was 113 years ago in July that the Church was organized and that we must still press onward. He then spoke for a few minutes in Italian.

After sacrament was administered we went into the ordinance of feet-washing. A wonderful spirit of peace and love was felt during the meeting.

The Presiding Elder Ansel D'Amico gave a few concluding remarks reminding us of our blessings from God and how we should in turn try to be a blessing to someone each day. The closing prayer was said by Brother Melvin Mountain, Jr.

A week later Brother Paul Francione, Nick Francione and Sister Josephine D'Amico came to Rochester along with part of their family. Dwaine and Marian Marinetti from Tucson, Arizona were also here visiting.

Brother Paul opened the meeting and chose for his text the 46th Chapter of Alma. He spoke on Moroni's title of liberty and how precious it is even today. Brother Paul also pointed out that Moroni remembered God first and wrote it first on the title.

Brother Patsy Marinetti followed and spoke on the history of America and the importance of our freedom. No king or other power could take away our God-given freedoms. God is our king and we are free to worship Him as we wish.

Brother Ansel D'Amico spoke in Italian saying that God should come first in our lives and if we put him first, everything else would be added unto us.

After we heard the testimonies of our visiting Brothers and Sisters, sacrament was administered. We were then dismissed in prayer by Brother Gentile.

## Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch Hosts Visitors

Sunday, July 20, Sterling Heights Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ welcomed visitors from Pennsylvania and New Jersey and also many from the area Branches. After singing a few hymns, a special prayer was made in behalf of Brother Louis Vitto's nephew, Ronnie, son of Brother Paul Vitto. He had been in a serious accident and suffered numerous cuts and bruises and a severe concussion which impaired his memory. (He has since been released from the hospital and is at home but is still somewhat confused.) May all the Saints throughout the Church, pray for this young man that he may be healed and that he may be led to glorify the Lord.

Rosemary Szufnar sang "Through It All", after which Brother Paul Palmieri from Aliquippa, opened in prayer and was our first speaker. He stated that, as Brother Joe Ignagni entered the Church, beaming a big smile, he asked our Brother his name, and said that God wants us to be a happy people. We must also be humble and serve

God twenty-four hours a day, not just the few hours we are in the Church. We must believe in God and serve Him because we have the desire, not because we are compelled to do so. He asked, "How long must the Lord wait for us to commit our lives to Him?"

Sister Patty Giannetti from Aliquippa, sang "The Way That He Loves", after which Brother Joe Ross from Aliquippa, spoke. After praising our building, he asked, "But what is a building without people" — When we are in it, it becomes the House of God because His Spirit is here. God's temple is in our bodies, and when we defile the temple, we grieve the Lord. He wondered how God can love us more than we love our children. Amazing, isn't it, The Way That He Loves? He asked that we keep our temple clean and leave no room for the devil and the seven unclean spirits. Brother Joe stated that there is a difference between a Christian and a Saint. A Christian believes in God and a Saint possesses the Spirit of God.

Brother Don Ross from New Jersey, was our next speaker, stating that God never forgets man, and continued on how man must become humble to serve God, using as an example, the Pharisee and the Publican, Paul on the way to Damascus, and the man in the tree, who had to come down to meet Jesus. We are to reflect on the past, look at today, and live for tomorrow.

We then had three anointings and the Spirit of God's presence and His love, was felt by all.

Brother Lou Vitto said that we must have compassion on our fellow man, and that humility is very apparent in The Church of Jesus Christ. We were dismissed with prayer by Brother Pete Giannetti from Aliquippa.

We sincerely enjoyed the presence of these people in our midst, and wish to extend an invitation for them to visit us again. We trust they received the same blessing that we did.

## Kent, Ohio News

Meetings have been continuing in the Kent area, for which we praise God. Since April 2, 1975, we have held twenty meetings in the area, including both Sunday meetings and mid-week scripture studies. We have enjoyed a wonderful spirit of fellowship in gathering together to partake of the wonderful words of life from the *Bible* and *The Book of Mormon*. Brother Joe Manes and Brother Raymond Cosetti have worked very hard to bring meetings to the Kent area for which we do thank God.

On August 17, visiting us were Brother Nick and Sister Lillian Manes, and Sister Sarah Manes, Brother Richard and Sister Annabel Santilli and Brother Elmer Santilli. Many wonderful words were brought forth by all our Elders present and we wish that space would allow to recount it all. Brother Elmer Santilli led our meeting in speaking and brought forth word from the scripture, Romans 1:7-16 of which the 16th verse stands out most in our mind, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." The priceless beauty of the Gospel and the power in the blood of the Lamb, seemed to be the theme of all those who spoke. Brother Elmer instructed us that we should search the scriptures, that we should "study to show thyself approved" and thanked God for the love of the Brothers and Sisters that regardless of where we

gather we can be assured by scripture that "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst."

Brother Joe Manes spoke briefly and expressed his joy at having so many Brothers and Sisters visit us and expressed his thankfulness for the Gospel and that truly there was "Power in the Blood." He also recounted what a wonderful experience it was to attend GMBA Campout this year and reported that there had been six baptisms.

Brother Richard Santilli then followed and put forth the question, "Where do we want to spend eternity?" He continued by stating that God has promised that all those who would serve Him would receive a place in eternity.

Brother Manes spoke briefly again and brought forth a few of the thoughts at the GMBA Campout. He stated that the question was asked, "Do we feel free in our hearts?" For we should feel free for Christ has set us free. He warned that we should not look to the left or the right but look only unto Christ for His blood will never lose its power. Brother Manes brought forth another thought: If we are not part of the solution then we are part of the problem and he encouraged us all to be a part of the solution and do our part in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Our meeting was then opened to testimony and a wonderful spirit prevailed throughout the meeting. Please remember our small group in the Kent area that the Lord would be our constant guide and that His will be done and He would lead us in all things, to His honor and glory.

## Lorain, Ohio Branch

### The Spirit of God Continues to Move

The Lord never ceases to bless His people! Many who were at the past GMBA Campout recall the evening meetings when the Spirit of God was so strong you could almost see His presence. So it was Sunday, August 17, after campout in the Lorain Branch.

On the way home from camp on Saturday, Kelly Warden made it known to Brother Joseph Calabrese that she wanted to be baptized. So, after the good news got around to different Brothers and Sisters, we were all looking forward to the Sunday meeting.

On Sunday, Brother Joe began by preaching on baptism and the importance of making your covenant with the Lord. Much was said and you could feel the good Spirit. At one point, Sister Mary Edwards arose and said she wanted to come back home and she was immediately restored to fellowship.

After some anointings took place, the ministry asked if anyone else would want to be anointed. Jo Ann Palacios went up front being touched throughout the meeting and felt to be anointed for strength. As she sat down, Brother Frank Altomare began speaking under the spirit, which was confirming the Lord's calling for her. She then asked for her baptism. "The Spirit of God like a Fire was Burning," and we were truly being blessed. After the meeting was over as we prepared to leave the building and meet at the waters, Kathy Warden asked for her baptism.

To get to the baptismal site at the water's edge, we had to walk down a narrow pathway and down a little hill.

As we saw the three new Sisters come on through, one after another with the white robes on, you could hear different ones saying, "They look like three angels". Surely they did appear this way, for they wore such beautiful smiles and their faces were all aglow. They were all baptized by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

That evening we met for the confirmations and a testimony meeting. Sister Jo Ann was confirmed by Brother Frank Altomare, Sister Kathy by Brother Joseph Calabrese and Sister Kelly by Brother Frank Calabrese.

There were many experiences by different Sisters telling of these baptisms which took place. May God bless our new Sisters and ever be their guide and company.

Through the month of August we have had Brother Lou and Sister Adeline Ciccati and family from San Diego, California, Brother Harry and Sister Marie and Sean McGuire, Brother Jim and Sister Jeanette Velardi from Florida visiting in our Branch. They have held membership in our Branch at one time or another. We also had Brother Dominic and Sister Marietta Giovannone of Florida and Brother Tom Everett and Sister Alice Romano of Detroit, Michigan and Brother Rocco and Sister Angeline Biscotti with us. God bless you all.

## Niles Receives Blessings From Visitors

On Sunday, August 17, 1975, we had just returned from a beautiful week at GMBA Campout and had the privilege of having some of our Brothers and Sisters visit our Branch. We had visitors from several states, east to west and north to south.

Our morning meeting was opened by Brother Russ Martorana who read Matthew 11:28-30 where the Lord said "Take My Yoke Upon You." He also spoke of the importance of our baptism and our promise to the Lord. Brother Ron Genaro followed and continued with the same trend of thought. We should not short-change ourselves with God and only in Jesus Christ can we find rest, not in anything the world has to offer.

In our afternoon fellowship meeting we had the privilege of having Brother Lou Ciccati and family from California and Brother Dominic Giovannone from Florida. Brother Lou encouraged us to get a good grip on the word of God and to get involved in the things of the Church. Many wonderful testimonies were given and all received a portion of the Love of God we felt at the campout.

We also wish to welcome Brother Paul Holan; who was baptized at the campout. Please continue to pray for us in Niles and we shall pray for you.

## Aliquippa Branch News

### Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

The Aliquippa Branch wishes to congratulate Michael and Eva Ondik on their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary which they celebrated on May 11, 1975. They were married in 1950 by Brother John Ross in West Aliquippa, Pa. They have one son, Joel. We wish them God's blessings in their future years together.

### Vacation Bible School

The Aliquippa Branch held its eleventh Vacation Bible School from June 23 to June 27. The session re-

for five days and the theme for the lessons was "The Brave Ones." Sister Mary Tamburrino was the director. Sister Joyceann Jumper was the pianist. Sister Mabel Bickerton wrote the lessons and composed all the music for the Bible School. The teachers of the various classes were as follows:

Nursery Class: Sister Sabina D'Antonio, Sister Mary Ross.

Primary: Sister Vicky D'Antonio, Sister Sarah Palmieri.

Intermediate: Sister Ruth Jumper, Sister Janet Gibson.

Junior: Sister Joann Gibson, Sister Philomena DeLuca.

On Friday, June 27 the children presented the program. The crafts were viewed and refreshments were served following the program.

### **Bell, California Branch Welcomes Three New Members**

The Bell Branch and visitors were richly blessed during a two-day gathering, Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27.

The theme of the services was "Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?". The sons and daughters of the Saints of Bell Branch were especially touched.

Three young members had fasted and prayed during the week-end for the young people of the Branch.

A wonderful highlight of the services was the baptisms of two young men, John Fallovolita and his brother, Stephen, who are also grandsons of the late Brother Rocco Meo.

Brother Tony Picciuto baptized John and Stephen. Brother Leonard Lovalvo (Modesto Branch) confirmed Brother Stephen, and Brother Vincent Scalise confirmed Brother John.

May the Lord bless and sustain these two young Brothers and make them useful in the Church.

The two-day gathering surely was a time of rejoicing and upliftment to all in attendance.

The Bell Saints were additionally blessed the following Sunday, August 3, when Santos Zamora entered the waters of baptism.

Brother Harry Marshall baptized Brother Zamora and Brother Joseph Capone confirmed him.

Young Brother Zamora's parents are also members of Bell Branch and may all three of them prove to be good laborers in the Lord's service.

### **Lake Worth, Florida Branch News**

Friday evening, July 25, 1975, at the Lake Worth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ 27 children demonstrated their singing ability to friends and parents at the culmination of a week of Bible School. Each child was

given a certificate indicating his participation and attendance to the Vacation Bible School.

Sisters Nancy DiFede and Linda D'Orazio showed their expertise in organizing and directing this highly successful VBS 1975.

It was an exciting week filled with busy, wonderfully noisy children each bringing his cup to be filled and hopefully it was.

Each day began with a prayer circle of love followed by very enthusiastic singing. A planned Bible lesson was taught after which the teachers and students enjoyed a snack of cookies and punch supplied daily by volunteers. The projects began shortly after.

The children cut, glued, sanded, painted, sewed, etc. All other interests were transcended for at least an hour and a half while students and teachers were absorbed in these crafts. Sometimes the children worked with astonishing speed and other times one wondered if anything would be completed. After 5 days of careful and often tedious efforts their fruits were ready and welcomed for examination and admiration by their parents. There were bean bag dolls; key chains; wooden wall plaques; wall key and message holders; pictures that were made soft to the touch with an abundance of cotton; vases, measuring wall tapes, and so much more.

At the conclusion of the program Sisters Linda and Nancy were presented with gifts from the Bible School which expressed gratitude for their time and energies they shared willingly and unselfishly.

As punch, coffee, and cake were being served, children and parents collected the treasures that filled the Sunday School room.

We are grateful to our Lord for every opportunity we have to work in harmony and peace.

The following are those who facilitated in VBS: Kindergarten Class taught by Sister Beverly Schutte with Sisters Tina D'Orazio, Barbie DeBellis, Ann Rad and Josie Jasmin assisting. The Primary Class was taught by Sister Linda D'Orazio with Sisters Terry Naylor and Angie Moccio assisting. Sister Nancy DiFede had charge of the Intermediate Class and Sister Letti Obradovich instructed the Teen Age Class. Michael DiFede accompanied the chorus on the piano.

### **Fort Pierce, Florida Branch News**

Our meeting this August 17, was a particularly memorable one. Three of our Elder Brothers were visiting in other parts of the Vineyard. Brother Charles Smith so very afflicted he could barely walk, and Brother V. J. Lovalvo who had lost his voice carried on the meeting in the best way they could.

Brother Charles Smith despite his pain and agony you could see in his face started the service with the Scripture from Isaiah 53rd chapter. The theme—BELIEVE. What a wonderfully inspiring message he brought to us. It seems the more afflicted this Brother is the more he puts his heart and soul into bringing the message to the Saints.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo although he could hardly speak

then followed with "who had believed the report concerning Christ and who believed the restored Gospel. As belief gets stronger Faith takes over, Faith becomes real."

Brother Charles Smith was alone because Brother V. J. Lovalvo left to be with Sister Mary Lovalvo who is suffering much pain and not able to attend meetings. Brother Smith called Brother Michael DiNapoli our oldest member of our branch, and Brother Lou Pandone to the platform. Our testimony meeting was opened by these two Brothers giving their testimony. A very moving and spiritual moment.

Brother Carl Romano, Sr. and Sister Sally Romano were so overcome with the good news they had received of their granddaughter Kathleen Pastorelli of Branch No. 3 Detroit having been baptized at the Campout. This is what the Saints pray for that their families give their lives to God. What rejoicing when one of our own gives up the worldly ways.

Our Branch has been blessed with the addition of two new families. Brother James Campagna and Sister Josephine Campagna have moved to Florida and transferred from Michigan. Brother Robert Collison and Sister Wilda Collison and their six children have moved from Windsor, Canada, bringing their transfers with them. We know we will all be blessed with their fellowship.

The Tampa Mission reported the transfer of Brother Duane and Sister Maria Lowe from Greensburg, Pennsylvania to Tampa. Also Sister Maria Gianzante from Sterling Heights, Michigan to Tampa.

Brother William Tucker blessed Brother Alexander and Sister Barbara Cristello's daughter Deanna Ann Cristello. We hear they are having very nice meetings there with quite a few visitors attending. Brother V. J. Lovalvo thinks one day this will be a thriving and welcome Branch to our Church. The Mission has grown and prospered in the short time it has been established.

Most of our Brothers and Sisters who have been visiting have returned and we are enjoying our meetings and the fellowship of one another.

We felt blessed to be in the service of our Lord. Pray for us that we keep our hearts turned to God and that He will bless and increase us in numbers and in Spirit.

### Sterling Heights Branch

Sunday, August 24, we welcomed in our midst, several visiting Elders, including Brother Gorie Ciaravino and Dominic Thomas. Brother Frank Vitto led in the opening singing, and Brother Dominic Moraco led in prayer. John A. Buffa and wife, Karen, presented their young son to be blessed and the infant, named Michael Anthony, was blessed by his grandfather, Brother John Buffa.

Brother Joe Milantoni, from San Carlos, Arizona, took charge of the meeting and used as his text, the *46th Psalm*. David, though he often fell from Grace, called on God to be his refuge, to provide peace and security. Brother Joe stated that baptism is only the beginning in our lives, it opens the door and gives us a feeling of love, and a relief from tension and anxieties. He told of seeing a vision of Christ and heard Him Say, "You must love Me and follow Me, and serve Me in righteousness". His prayer was that the Apache, in time, will stand up and thank God for the Gospel.

Brother Thomas continued on the same theme, "God is our refuge". Because God gave His Son, we must give something in return, we must love one another, and we must give up everything for God. He stated that we must be real Saints, not pretend Saints. When the Lord said "be still", He meant for us to listen to Him, to move beyond ourselves and to place our lives in His care.

A short testimonial was held for those who had been restored to the Gospel, and for the other visitors.

Brother Vitto Buffa was anointed, after which Brother Thomas mentioned that the teachings of Christ were well represented this day, the blessing of an infant, the breaking of bread and the pouring of wine, and the laying on of hands.

We were all blessed with these visitors and invite them back again.

On Sunday, September 7, we had as our guest speaker, Brother Frank Morle. Inasmuch as we had planned feet washing, Brother Morle spoke on the Ordinance of Feet Washing, and stressed the point, Why do we do the things we do.

As the bread was being broken in preparation for the Sacrament, the Spirit of God descended and Sisters Yolanda Spada and Carmella Barczak from Branch Three, asked to be reinstated in The Church of Jesus Christ. Then Pierina DiFalco, who could not lose the chains that bound her, was prayed upon by the Elders, she then asked for her baptism. Sister Florence Tonachella spoke in tongues, and it was interpreted by Brother Frank Morle as meaning, "Action is needed here." The day was far spent and there was not enough time for feet washing.

We held evening services and Sister DiFalco was confirmed. We then had our feet washing service, after which refreshments were served. A wonderful evening of fellowship prevailed.

Sister Pierina DiFalco has the honor of being the first convert in our new building.

### Ft. Pierce, Florida Branch

September 7 was a glorious day for the Saints of Ft. Pierce. There was a feeling of the presence of the Lord in our meeting this day. We could feel the inspiration and the blessings as soon as we entered the Church. Brother Charles Smith opened the service with the Scripture from the 66th Chapter of Isaiah, 1st verse, "Where is the house built for me?" "Where is my rest?" Brother V. J. Lovalvo continued with the theme that the Lord is more interested in a Spiritual house.

Our afternoon service continued with the same spirit. The testimony of the Saints was very touching and beautiful. Sister Mary Glover after being anointed was instantly healed of a numbness in her hip she had had for quite some time. Sister Mary Lovalvo who had been confined to her home for two months with terrific pain, unable to get her proper sleep was also eased of her pain. Brother Anthony Arcuri related as the Sisters were being anointed he saw a bolt of lightning come down over the Sisters' heads.

We went home filled with the blessings of God. Our cup overflowed with The Spirit and the presence of the Lord in our midst and the love shown for one another.

## Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 3 Welcomes Another Convert

The Saints of Detroit Branch No. 3 happily received into membership Mary Therese Coppa, although her baptism took place at Muncey, Ontario, Canada Mission. On Sunday, July 20, she was baptized by Brother Mario Coppa and confirmed by Brother Silver Coppa.

This cheering and uplifting event was witnessed not only by the Muncey Saints, but there were over 30 members of the several Coppa families present. What a wonderful and blessed family reunion it turned out to be.

God bless Sister Mary and her husband, Brother Adam Coppa as they serve the Lord together.

## Baptisms At Tampa, Florida

The Tampa, Florida Mission was blessed with two baptisms on Sunday, September 7, 1975. Brother Alexander Cristello and Sister Barbara Ann Cristello were baptized by Elder William H. Tucker.

It was a beautiful day as the Saints in Tampa welcomed our new members. May God Bless our Mission.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to thank all of you who prayed for me in my recent car accident. I thank God that I am completely healed and my unborn child was not hurt in the accident.

Since the accident my new son was born completely whole and healthy.

God bless you all,  
Yours in Christ,  
Sister Alice Nicklow

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Toby Lynn to John and Patricia Bucci of Youngstown, Ohio; and

Brian Raphael to Jack and Terry Chester of Sterling Heights, Michigan.

## — WEDDINGS —

### THOMAS - HALL

Mr. Larry Earl Thomas and Miss Glenda Hall were united in Holy Wedlock on June 14, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. Brother John R. Thomas officiated at the ceremony.

The couple will reside in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

### CONGER - PALERMO

Mr. Joseph Bruce Conger and Miss Linda Sue Palermo of the Sterling Heights, Michigan Branch were united in holy marriage on August 23, 1975 at the bride's home.

Brother Lou Vitto officiated at the ceremony.

### CROOKS - CONTI

Mr. Robert Crooks and Miss Claudette Conti were united in holy wedlock on September 20, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan.

The couple were united in marriage by Brother Paul Vitto. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene Amormino.

The newlyweds will reside in Warren, Michigan.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### CHARLES EDWARD THOMAS

Mr. Charles Edward Thomas passed on to his eternal reward on September 20, 1975. He attended The Church of Jesus Christ in Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. He was born on January 14, 1916.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother John R. Thomas at the Edward B. Minerd Funeral Home, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife, six sons, four daughters, twenty-three grandchildren, three brothers and seven sisters.

### HERBERT S. BERG

Brother Herbert S. Berg passed on to his heavenly reward on August 6, 1975. He was a member of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch. He was born on February 26, 1909 and was baptized on June 23, 1929.

Brother Frank Mazzeo officiated at the services in the New Brunswick, Branch.

Left to mourn are his wife, one son, one daughter, three grandchildren, one brother, and two sisters.

### HARVEY BRAENDLE

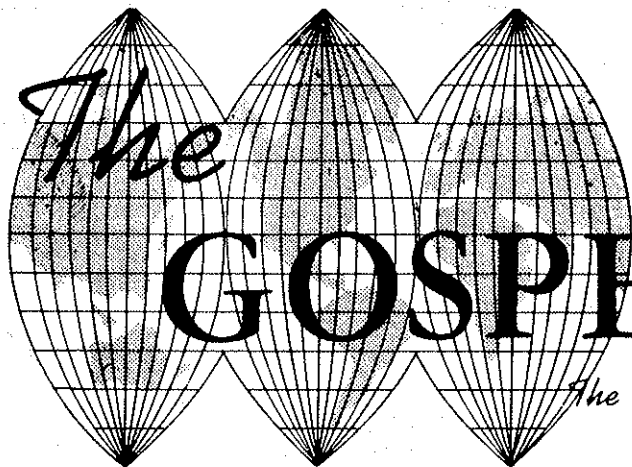
Brother Harvey Braendle passed on to his heavenly reward on September 22, 1975. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan. Brother Harvey was born on August 18, 1895 and was baptized into The Church on August 24, 1952.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his loving wife, Sister Ruth Braendle.

Funeral services were held at the Windsor, Ontario Branch in Canada. Brothers Alan Henderson and Spencer Everett officiated.

Brother Harvey was a very quiet and sincere man; he loved The Church with all his heart. He will be greatly missed.





# The GOSPEL NEWS

*The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.*

December, 1975

Volume 31, No. 12

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.



## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THESE TROUBLED TIMES

There is no thinking person  
Who can stand untouched today  
And view the world around us  
Slowly drifting to decay  
Without feeling deep within them  
A silent, unnamed dread  
As they contemplate the future  
That lies frighteningly ahead . . .  
And as the "Clouds of Chaos"  
Gather in man's muddled mind,  
And he searches for the answer  
He Alone can never find,  
Let us recognize we're facing  
Problems man has never solved,  
And with all our daily efforts  
Life grows more and more involved,  
But our future will seem brighter  
And we'll meet with less resistance  
If we call upon our Father.  
And seek Divine Assistance . . .  
For the spirit can unravel  
Many tangled, knotted threads  
That defy the skill and power  
Of the world's best hands and heads,  
And our plans for growth and progress,  
Of which we all have dreamed,  
Cannot survive materially  
Unless Our Spirits are redeemed . . .  
So may our prayer this Christmas  
Be that God may dwell again  
In human hearts throughout the world  
And bring Good Will to men.

Helen Steiner Rice.

## BROTHER MOSES E. AKPAN AMONG OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS



Brother and Doctor Moses E. Akpan, born at Atai-Otoro, Abak in Nigeria, recently was listed among the Outstanding Educators of America, American Men of Science and Personalities of the South and Southwest. Dr. Akpan came to the United States in 1961 for further studies following several years of teaching experience as headmaster, Annang Peoples' Schools in Abak Division. He was one of those who played an important role in the re-establishment of The

Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria, with headquarters in Abak Division, in 1960.

Dr. Akpan earned his B.A. degree in History and Political Science from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio in 1964. His M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Political Science with cognate field in Education were earned from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois in 1966 and 1969 respectively. Dr. Akpan has taught for nine years on the college and university levels in the United States, starting with graduate teaching assistantship at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois in 1964-66 to the present position as Professor of Political Science and Chairman, Department of Social Sciences at South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, South Carolina. In the summer of 1969, Brother Akpan served as the Director, Advanced Civics Institute for High School Teachers at Southern University in Baton Rouge. During the 1972-73 academic year, he served as the Director of the Teacher Training in Developing Institutions Fellowship Program at South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, S. C.

In 1973-74, Brother Akpan directed a joint social studies-history program between South Carolina State College and the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Akpan has served twice on the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education visiting teams for evaluation of teacher education programs at institutions of higher learning in this country. In 1973 and 75 respectively, he served as a consultant to the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. Dr. Akpan is a recipient of several honors and awards, among which are the following: Member, Phi Kappa Alpha — National Political Science Honor Society; Pi Gamma Mu — National Social Science Honor Society, Pi Delta Kappa — Educational (Professional) Society; Delta Sigma Rho — Tua Kappa — Alpha Forensic; Capital University Scholarship 1962-64; Eastern Annang County Council Scholarship 1961-66; Southern Illinois University Graduate Teaching Assistantship 1964-66; South Carolina State College Research Grant 1971; United States Department of Agriculture Research Grant 1972; and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Research Grant 1973.

Dr. Akpan is the author of many pamphlets, articles, book reviews, proposals and books, among which are the following:

### ARTICLES:

"African Strategies Toward Southern Africa", *African Studies Review*, Vol. XIV (Sept., 1972), 234-266.

"Civic Education of Black Youths", *Political Science Journal* (March, 1973.)

### PAMPHLETS:

*An Exploratory Study of Socio-Economic Conditions in Selected Counties of South Carolina*, (April, 1975) published by Clemson University.

*Attitude of Black Youths Toward Integration and Black Awareness* (May, 1975) South Carolina State College.

### BOOK REVIEWS:

The New Algeria by Joacheim Joestin, *Daily Egyptian*, Carbondale, Illinois. Lepold Seda Senghor and the Politics of Negritude by Irving Leonard Markorvitz, *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. LXIV (June, 1970), 653-654. Emerging Nationalism in Portuguese Africa: Documents, by Ronald H. Chilicote, *The Perspective*, Vol. I (September, 1972), 172-173. The Organization of African Unity After Ten Years — by Yassin Ayouty, *The Perspective* (September, 1975.)

### BOOKS:

Southern Africa: Its Problems and Prospects in John Wilmer, *Africa: Teaching Perspectives and Approaches*, Tualatin, Oregon: Geographic and Area Studies Publications, 1975. *African Goals and Diplomatic Strategies in the United Nations*. Contracted with the Christopher Publishing House, Quincy, Massachusetts for release in early 1976.

Brother Akpan is married to Sister Martha M. Akpan of Nigeria. They are the parents of four children: Samuel, 15 years; Ifiok Charles, 9 years; Ofonmbuk Brice, 6 years; and Ini Obong Linda, 3 years. Brother Akpan has been instrumental in the initiation of The Church of Jesus Christ's Comprehensive Secondary School at Otoro, Nigeria by the Parent Church in this country. He expresses his due appreciation to the Parent Church members for supporting this valuable project and other missionary activities in Nigeria. Finally, Brother Akpan wishes to pass his warm greeting to our Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria.

## God's Way

God's way  
Is the right way  
It will never cause harm.

God's way  
Is the best way  
Though WE may make the way wrong.

God's way  
Is the right way  
It will lead us safe, home.

Georgianna Howard  
Age 13

## ISRAEL, THE CHURCH AND THE AMERICAN INDIAN

It is clearly defined by any person who has embraced the Gospel under the restoration that the prime responsibility of The Church is to further the successful completion of the house of Israel to their original spiritual state.

Since we recognize the literal falling away of the authority of the Gospel, we must also accept the restoration of that same authority which has come to rest within the confines of our Church. Therefore, it is not only important but imperative that we very maturely accept the awesome responsibility of this authority. We must admit to and become the wild branch of the olive tree and be about the serious business of saving the basic tree itself.

To accomplish this, we must first realize who we are; what the limits of our commission are; and what our plans to assure the completion of God's plan to Israel are.

It is the established belief and faith of our Church that the house of Israel will once again be restored and established spiritually as they once were naturally many years ago in Egypt through the tribe or seed of Joseph. We recognize the offspring or seed of Joseph to be the American Indian; therefore, it is well understood why we place emphasis and concern upon him as a nation of people. It is our primary responsibility to make him totally aware of who he is and where lies the destiny of his people.

In accepting this responsibility, we must, under the inspiration of God, formulate a program complete enough to afford the success to which God and his Church are entitled—anything less than this is not acceptable.

During the course of the General Board of Missions Meeting of September 27, 1975, and the General Church Conference of October, 1975, a committee of six members of the priesthood were authorized to function as "The American Indian Committee." The following members were elected to form this committee:

1. James T. Grazan — Pennsylvania
2. J. Fred Olexa — Pennsylvania
3. Anthony Scolaro — Michigan
4. Joseph Lovalvo — California
5. Richard Christman — Arizona
6. Robert Watson — Arizona

Each member is dedicated to the cause of this body, and we feel confident will work with diligence to insure its success.

We will work very closely with the respective District Mission Boards and will be directly responsible to the General Board of Missions in all that we do. In addition, we will work with each established mission that is engaged in American Indian work; and our territorial responsibility includes all areas of the Americas, North, Central, and South.

The future of this endeavor is quite challenging and can only be successful if we remain within the framework of the Spirit of God and His direction and within the authority of The Church. Without the assistance of both of these, we can in no way hope for success.

The era of trial and error methods are over. We are aware of what The Church's responsibility in the great plan of God is. Therefore, we must proceed with calculated haste and pray for mature commitment to move into this new work convinced of its necessity.

Our hope for the future is to penetrate new areas that are yet uncharted as far as the restored Gospel is concerned. We would hope to see the day soon arrive that no Indian location on our land can say that they "did not know" because they were never told.

We are also very much aware that this program is only as successful as the people who support it. Therefore, we make a plea and appeal to all our people who are dedicated to this work to exercise your right of membership and become involved. We sincerely request your help and support by your personal involvement. There are unlimited opportunities in this field of service, and we would enjoy hearing from you with some of your feelings and suggestions. Since we seek total success, we, the committee, do not pretend to have all the answers to all the questions. We need you! If you have had certain ideas or approaches to this work, write to us. Let us know how you feel. It is impossible to determine just how God may work through His people. We have certain ideas and programs of our own; but before we proceed too quickly, we would much prefer to seek God's advice through His people.

One of the most important areas of this endeavor, of course, lies with the missionary himself. This is a field of total commitment within the person dedicated to the love and success of the Indian cause. If the idea has crossed your mind to serve God in this capacity of a missionary for The Church to the American Indian, do not hesitate. Please make us aware of your desires. Only God knows the plan for the future of us all; however, we are convinced that we as individuals must make the first step. This work is not limited to the ministry alone but is designed to incorporate all segments and people of The Church. We will hopefully initiate a complete lay missionary program which will include willing members as well to work in this area.

As the work with the American Indian progresses and unfolds, we may hope and pray for complete success for The Church only through much fasting and praying by the people of God. This is a prerequisite, and the main ingredient of the entire idea itself. Without this, we dare not even try. Please consider this most important work when you approach the throne of our great God that together we may all taste the beauty of working with God's people to His successful pleasure.

James T. Grazan, Chairman  
American Indian Committee

### Note of Thanks

We wish to thank all our brothers, sisters and friends who prayed for my wife, Sister Ann Lovalvo during her recent illness and surgery.

May God bless and reward you for your love to us.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

by Joseph Bittinger

In the most recent communication received from Brother Edem A. Ebong he informed me that his health has greatly improved. He says, I leave everything to God in prayer as we are advised by our Hymn No. 497, "What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear, What a privilege to carry everything to God in Prayer..." "I am sure all my troubles and stumbling blocks shall be removed in the name of Jesus Christ."

He also stated that the cost of living continues to rise making the poor man to be poorer, the rich, richer while the thin grows thinner.

He was planning to visit The Church in Calabar and spend a few days with them the latter part of August, to help and encourage them in their service to God.

We were very happy to hear the good report that The Church work is moving well, on the 8th of August 1975, 120 souls from the various stations in the Abak Division were added to the Church by baptism.

We thank and praise God for these humble souls that were willing to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and make their commitment unto Him by baptism into the Restored Gospel, The Church of Jesus Christ.

Also in a communication received from Brother George F. Arthur sometime ago he stated, "I have been visiting various Branches and Missions both within and outside Abak divisions. I visited Obinkita-Arochuku, Mbiambong Ikot Udofia, Itu, etc. to teach the Brethren our Faith and Doctrine and administer Communion and Baptism to many."

Keep up the good work Brothers and God will bless you abundantly. Jesus said, if we use the talents He gave us, the Lord will say unto us, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"... *St. Matt. 25:21.*

Brother John Ross has shipped the 200 copies of the *Saints Hymnal*, to be used by the students of The Church of Jesus Christ, Technical Secondary School, as requested by the Principal Mr. P. U. Iniodu.

We have discovered that the people of this area of Nigeria, are very avid singers of Gospel Hymns.

## MEXICO CITY THE GOSPEL IS RESTORED

It was Mexico City week at the Tijuana Mission. The cement floor had been repainted and huge bouquets of lilies stood at the front of the Church. Also, flower arrangements of many colors lined the book case at the side.

The excitement grew as Brothers and Sisters came early eager to greet our returning missionaries and to meet the new Saints from Mexico City. We expected the two men who were to be ordained as Elders, the following week and their wives, but were pleasantly surprised to see four young people with them also. One of these young people had been baptized when he visited Tijuana previously.

After singing some hymns all those from Mexico City were lined up in front. We all sang a welcoming song for them. Everyone, starting with the children, made a line and went up and greeted each one. Some smiled, some said, "God bless you", and others just wept as they embraced each other. It was a touching scene.

Brother Odilon and Brother Antonio were invited to sit with the Elders and take part in the service. Looking in front at the four ministers plus the two to be ordained we had to thank God for what He had done in Mexico.

The singing was really beautiful but it was no place for anyone who had a headache with about 120 people singing with all their hearts. We had enough volume to fill Yankee Stadium.

After the meeting some of the Sisters made lunch for those who were visiting from Mexico City.

The following Friday was another busy day. It started off with four baptisms. Three of them from Mexico City (young people) and the fourth was a young woman from Tijuana whom we had known for many years and who was related to these from Mexico City. We now have 16 members in Mexico City plus many visitors.

As we arrived at Church the following Sunday, we found Brothers and Sisters at work having started early, chopping and preparing food. Inside the Church more flowers were added to the ones already there. Others were already in their seats knowing how crowded it would be later on. Some Saints came from San Diego, Anaheim, Modesto, San Fernando Valley and Phoenix. By count there were 28, the largest group being from Anaheim.

Music was the first order of the day. The children started it off including a verse in one of the Indian dialects. They then recited the articles of faith of our Church. Following them were the young people's choir, then the regular choir, the group from Mexico City and the Tijuana men's group. Not to be outdone by all this good singing Brother Joe Lovalvo produced two English hymn books and put all the Americans on the spot. They really sang very nice.

Next came the serious business of ordaining. There were four to be ordained Deaconesses, one Deacon, and two to be ordained Elders. It was good to see the American Brothers and Sisters take part in the feetwashing.

The Ministry made a circle around those to be ordained. Each prayer was beautiful and from the heart.

When the new Elders were asked to express themselves, there was no doubt that God had called them to be preachers. Their words flowed easily and a good spirit prevailed.

Brother Joe Lovalvo who presided over the service closed the meeting with a few remarks to the 175 adults there.

Brother Ramon Anaya, our Elder from Sinaloa, came for the occasion. It was the first time all seven of our Mexican Ministers were together at one time.

The Mexican Sisters of Tijuana prepared food for everyone. That not only included the 175 adults but a great number of children. It was a very good meal and we were proud of all of them.

Those ordained were: Odilon Mora and Antonio Or-

(Continued on Page 6)

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### THE PRINCE OF PEACE

The Christmas Season will soon be with us again, marking the anniversary of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ in the humble city of David, Bethlehem of Judea, nineteen centuries ago.

The Holy Scriptures contain many beautiful and stirring prophecies heralding the birth and reign of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

One of the most notable of these prophecies was recorded by the Prophet Isaiah about seven centuries before its eventual fulfillment.

Let us note the eloquence and beauty of a portion of Isaiah's account of his remarkable vision of the coming of the Son of God.

#### NOBLE TITLES

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." (*Isaiah 9:6,7*)

We cannot help but rejoice over the noble titles prophetically bestowed upon the Holy Child Jesus. The advent of the Son of God literally fulfilled this ancient prophecy.

As The Prince of Peace, our Lord truly brought peace to many people during His many travels throughout Israel. His spoken word and gentle touch brought conversion to many who were entangled in sin, healing to many more who were burdened with incurable diseases, those who were blind, or deaf, or handicapped in any other way. Surely, there is room here to refer to the Lord's notable stilling of the tempest that raged over the Sea of Galilee simply by declaring, "Peace, be still."

How beautifully the Lord addressed his Apostles in the upper room, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you..." (*John 14:27*)

#### WONDERFUL PEACE

This wonderful peace was truly manifested in the lives and ministry of these holy Apostles who carried on the work of their Master. The Church prospered, "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own: but they had all things common... neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, and laid them down at the Apostles' feet; and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need." (*Acts 4:32-35*)

A similar condition prevailed among the people living on this land whom the Lord Jesus visited after His resurrection. Upon their conversion to the Church that He established, they began to enjoy peace. "There were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another, and they had all things common among; therefore there were not rich and poor, bond and free,... and there still continued to be peace in the land... because of the love of God which did dwell in the hearts of the people... and surely there could not be a happier people..." (*4th Nephi, Chapter 1*)

The Lord Jesus verily is, "The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end..." (*Isaiah 9:7*)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Mary, Mother of Jesus

Dear Girls and Boys,

At this season of the year what woman in the scripture do you think of? Yes, you are right, the Mother of Jesus. She stands apart from all women, none has been so honored as she. The angel said of her, "Blessed art thou among women."

In the beginning she was an obscure young lady. One day an angel of the Lord came to her and said, "Fear not Mary, for you have found favor with God." The angel continued to tell her she had been chosen to be the mother of God's Son and she was to name him Jesus. Mary lived in the city of Nazareth. She became engaged to a good man named Joseph. They both were descendants of King David but were poor, humble people. Joseph was a carpenter.

One day the ruler of the land gave a decree that all the people should go to the city of their fathers to be taxed. Mary and Joseph were to go to the city of David or known as Bethlehem. Other families from Nazareth journeyed to Bethlehem also. By the time Mary and Joseph got there the little city was overcrowded. They tried to get a room at the inn but it was full. They could not find a place so took shelter in a stable. That night Mary gave birth to her son who had been promised by the angel Gabriel. She called the baby Jesus. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and used a manger for his bed.

The people on earth did not know that God's Son was born that night. But the angels knew it and sang for joy. In the fields near Bethlehem, shepherds were caring for their sheep when suddenly an angel appeared in beautiful light. They were frightened. The angel spoke and told them the good news. Then a multitude of angels appeared praising God. The shepherds were told where to find the baby. After the angels were gone back to heaven, the shepherds said, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us."

The shepherds hurried to the city and found Mary and Joseph. There in the manger was the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes just as the angel had said. Mary remembering the message from the angel and the events that had just taken place said nothing but kept it in her heart.

Soon after this, Mary and Joseph took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord at the Temple. Next month I will tell you this story and about the prophetess who was there.

King Herod, the ruler of Judea, was a wicked man and tried to find Baby Jesus. When Joseph heard of this he took Mary and the baby and escaped to Egypt. They

stayed here until an angel of the Lord came and said the king was dead. They returned to their home in Nazareth. Here their child grew and became strong and was filled with wisdom, for the Spirit of the Lord was upon him.

When Jesus was twelve years old, he went with Mary and Joseph to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. They traveled with a large group of people. After several days stay, they prepared to return home. But Jesus remained in Jerusalem. His parents thought he was with their friends. After two days they began to wonder where he was and asked their relatives and friends. By this time they were worried and returned to Jerusalem. They found Jesus sitting with the doctors of the law, discussing and asking questions. All were astonished at his wisdom. Mary asked, "Son why hast thou dealt with us? Behold thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing." Jesus replied, "How is it that you sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Mary kept these sayings in her heart. Jesus returned home with his parents and continued to grow in size and wisdom and gained favor with both God and men.

We do not read about Mary again until Jesus is a man, and they attended a wedding together in Cana. Mary knew her son had great power. She said to the servants of the house, "Whatsoever he saith unto you do it." This was the beginning of His great miracles.

Jesus' trial and crucifixion was a sad time for Mary. Nothing is written about Joseph so we assume he died some time before this. Mary was in the procession that followed Jesus to the cross. Heartbroken, she stood there with others. At her side were Mary Magdalene and the wife of Cleophas. Also standing near was John, the Beloved Disciple. When Jesus saw John and his mother, he said, "Woman behold thy son." Then to John, he said, "Behold thy mother." From that hour John took Mary to live in his own house for he knew Jesus wished him to care for her.

Mary appears again after the resurrection. The last mention of Mary is when she was gathered with others in the Upper Room in Jerusalem. There is no record of her death. She has left a beautiful example of Motherhood and we understand the scripture, "Blessed art thou among women."

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

### MEXICO CITY THE GOSPEL IS RESTORED—

(Continued from Page 4)

tega (Mexico City) Elders; Sara Mora and Dolores Ortega (their wives) Deaconesses; Piedad Reyes (Tijuana) Deacon; and Sister Estrada and Sister Celestina Lopez (Tijuana) Deaconesses.

For those who work in Mexico it seemed like history was being made. How can words describe the deep joy they felt. Just thinking about the Gospel being in Mexico City and even further south is enough to make tears brim in grateful eyes and the heart to cry out "Praise the Lord".

Yours in Christ,

Brother and Sister Perdue

## GREETINGS IN JESUS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in Jesus, Lord and Savior of all who keep the testimony of love. Life without challenge is not worth living, and faith without trials is like a hidden gold undiscovered. God wants a tried people who are fit for His Kingdom. We are the children of light. When our light shines, we witness on behalf of the Kingdom of God and those who are in darkness see the glory of the Lord and bless God for us; but except the light shines, how can they see?

The Gentiles have been a poor show to the light of God. While manifesting self holiness they have not attended to the weightier matters of the law which Jesus said are truth and mercy.

The Gospel was restored that man may again show the light of God and manifest indeed the neglected parts of the law, truth and mercy. In 1952 a probation officer of the city of New York tried to place a young boy of twelve in some religious organization for adoption. Mr. Carro, the officer, said, "I tried for one whole year to no avail. There was not much that I could do for him." The Catholics, Protestants and Jews did not want him because they did not recognize the boy's denomination. He is not of us, so to speak. This was very unfortunate because had they cared, the course of history would have been changed. You see, the boy's name was Lee Harvey Oswald. The life of President Kennedy, Oswald and Jack Ruby would have been spared. Much anguish could have been avoided had someone cared.

When a child's father does not care, and a mother does not play that needed part, then who does care? What was done with Lee Harvey Oswald is being done daily now to many like this boy. In our day we may not suspect what can happen tomorrow. Many tears will not help once things happen, nor solve problems. I pray that I may not be overbearing to you, whom I love in Christ Jesus, but such things can happen to us unless we are willing to practice what we preach. Remember the disciples coming to Jesus and saying, "... we forbade him because he followeth not us." — because he is not one of us, so to speak. Jesus said, "Forbid him not, for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name that can lightly speak evil of me." *Mark 9:38, 39.* "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." *John 13:35.* By the love of God we can best serve and make our modest contribution to our faith, and by practicing love when addressing others.

Most Christians have something in common, including Judaism. By the love that God gave us, we will be able to win a lasting brotherhood among men of good will. We have fellowship with those who believe in a true living God. We have no fellowship with unbelief. Ours is the destiny to build an enduring Kingdom of God on earth, which will draw all men of good will together, into one fold, led by one shepherd, Jesus.

There is an untiring criticism against all religions. Some are due to the divisions that exist among them and some are due to the fact that some members do not live up to their claim. Oddly enough, this attitude is also among the inter-religious community with some justification. However, we must remember that only the man who does nothing does not commit blunders, and only those

who say nothing can altogether avoid talking nonsense. The critic often reaches inverted conclusions. They may notice only the nonsense and failures and overlook the wisdom and the good.

We find some degree of comfort that the critic offers nothing but criticism. During the Jewish concentration camps, Leo Baech (who was then 70 years old), a Rabbi and Professor of Languages in Jerusalem, and a German professor of philosophy who was in sympathy with the Jews were both hitched to a cart. They were to drag from one end of the camp to the other a large boulder. They were to unload it and load it again and continue this day after day. Baech was asked later if this was not utterly intolerable to him, to have his human dignity trampled underfoot in this manner. With his somewhat cool and yet singularly stirring voice he answered, "As a matter of fact, we were doing very well. We discussed the things we had in common, and learned a great deal from each other. The fact that we believe in one living, invisible, yet lovable Father, Creator of all things, we are hitched to the same carriage. Must we not discuss the things we have in common and therefrom learn from each other? Leo Baech survived the war, but refused to leave Theresienstadt, as long as there was one deportee who might need his assistance. The Jewish community believe that his escape was a miracle amidst the prevailing unfathomable horrors. God is so distant, yet so close to man the creature. So very near to all of us, so understanding, so forgiving, so compassionate, so loving and longsuffering. Alas, how could we escape damnation if it were not so, seeing we are so imperfect and evil. Who ever has a spiritual hearing, let him hear the will of God and keep it. Who ever has spiritual eyes, let him see the glory of the Lord of the universe.

Under the Nazis, the Jews witnessed the greatest holocaust in history, but those who lived, saw the greatest miracle as well, in the formation and survival of the Jewish state. The greatest miracle is yet to come. Those who truly believe in God shall see eye to eye. Then they shall know their living Redeemer, Jesus of Nazareth. The believing Gentiles and Jews shall be one fold and one shepherd. What a glorious day it shall be, when man will no longer be judged by his nation, color or creed, but we shall be the children of God. Are you living with this blessed hope in you? What are you doing to bring this about? Begin by giving your life to God and make him King in your life. Start in a small way and grow in righteousness.

May God add His blessings is my prayer,

Mark Randy

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**Peace  
On Earth**

## AN EXPERIENCE OF BROTHER GIUSEPPE LO RICCO

*As related to Brother Dan Casasanta during his recent missionary trip to Italy.*

From time to time, we visited a sister who lives forty miles away from my home. One particular time when we went to hold a service with her, she wouldn't let us go home before having lunch with her. It was about 12:30 P.M. when we left her house for home. From the sister's house to the bus stop was 1/4 mile. When we arrived at the bus stop, it was 10 to 1:00 P.M. While waiting there, a small car came by with a man driving and he asked us if we wanted a ride to the next town. I told him we would be pleased to ride with him.

From the sister's house to our house, we would have to pass approximately eleven or twelve towns. We started out, passed the first, second and third town. We have to pass an airport before we reach the town of Reggio.

My wife remarked to me, "We are at the airport," and when she said that, we looked down and saw that we were traveling in mid-air. While in the car, we began talking of the Gospel and the things of the Lord to the driver. We passed Reggio and three or four more towns.

Before we arrived at Cannetello, I said to the driver, "If you want to keep going, we'll get off at this town and walk the rest of the way home."

"No," he answered, "I'll bring you straight to your house."

I wondered how he knew where we lived. He stopped right in front of my door and I invited him in. We offered him something to eat, but he said he didn't care for anything.

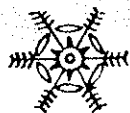
We asked him what we should pay him for this trip. He said, "Are you going to pay me? I was born with a shirt. In the house of my Father, there are many mansions."

Then I told him, "All we can say is thank you very much. If you are interested in this conversation, we want you to come back."

He answered, "Yes, I will come back again." But as yet, we have not seen him again.

My wife and I still could not quite comprehend what had happened. From the town where the sister lives to our town ordinarily takes us two hours traveling by bus. This time we made it in thirty-five minutes. We didn't know exactly how we traveled. The ride was so smooth.

A sister of the Church who lives across the street came and asked us if we had been to see the sister yet. We answered her that we had been there, and told her of the man who drove us home. When we told her the story, she said, "Could it have been an angel of the Lord?", and began to cry. At this point, we finally realized what had happened—that it had to be a divine personage who assisted us.



## BUT FIRST!!

In the last Chapters of *Genesis* we read of the envy and hatred of the sons of Jacob for their younger brother, Joseph. So great was this malice that they sold Joseph into Egypt. God did not forsake Joseph, however, and in time he became a great ruler in Egypt.

The scriptures tell us that Jacob's family suffered from the great famine that ravaged the world at that time, so Jacob sent his sons to the storehouses of Egypt for the corn they needed to live. The story goes on to explain how Joseph received his brethren, sent for his younger brother, Benjamin, and then finally revealed his identity to his family. *Genesis* 45:5 reads, "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither; for God did send me before you to preserve life." The seventh verse of that Chapter reads, "And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance."

After Jacob's (or Israel's) death Joseph's brothers were afraid that Joseph would seek revenge on them for the great evil they had done to him; but Joseph comforted them with the words, "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them. (*Genesis* 50:20, 21).

This well known story of the saving of Israel's household from famine is a type and shadow of the latter day work yet to be done among the House of Israel and other peoples scattered throughout the world. Just as Joseph was the instrument by which Israel and his family were preserved, so it will be in these, the latter days, that the Seed of Joseph or the American Indian, will bring salvation to the other tribes of the House of Israel. America will become that great storehouse of spiritual corn to which the House of Israel will look for spiritual food. It will be Joseph once again that will nourish and comfort his brothers—but this time with food that never lets the consumer be hungry again.—The Pure and Unadulterated Gospel of Jesus Christ.

But first!!—in order for all this to happen, Joseph must receive the word! Thus The Church of Jesus Christ is increasing her efforts in the American Indian mission fields. To serve as a help to the missionary work the Lay Missionary Program was designed to give lay members of The Church the opportunity to experience at first hand the great work of The Church. For information on the Lay Missionary Program and how you can become involved write to me, David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Ave., Charleroi, Penna. 15022.



## Peace

As Christmas settles over the land, be at peace with yourself, . . . discover true joy.



## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### News From Kent, Ohio Mission

On Sunday, September 7, the Brothers and Sisters from the Kent area held their first meeting in their newly-rented building. Brother Joseph Manes welcomed all the visitors of the Ohio District and also Brother Dominic Thomas, President of the Church and Brother Rocco Biscotti, President of the Ohio District.

Brother Thomas, the first speaker, used Revelation 14:6 for his text. He said that every member of the Church is a missionary and a proclaimer of The Gospel and we should all strive to spread the truth. This is the everlasting Gospel that is to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue and people.

Sister Dolores Thomas favored us with a hymn, "My God Thou Seest Me."

Brother Frank Calabrese spoke next stating, "It is the power of God unto salvation that the world needs and only this power can change the heart of men and women. The world is in dire need of this Gospel and the Lord has commissioned this Church with the task of bringing souls unto The Gospel."

Brother Belzoner Brown then sang "Yes, We Trust the Day is Breaking."

Brother Mario Milano expressed his joy at the beauty of the words brought forth and felt the key word would be devotion. Devotion is dedication to God's service. He reminisced on past experiences while working in the Kent area. He also stated that we have a Gospel to preach, a testimony to bear, and a command to obey.

Brother Biscotti expressed his gratitude for the grace God had towards Sister Dolores during her recent illness and the blessing that was felt in the beautiful hymn she sang. He encouraged us not to hide our talents in our service to the Lord. He expressed gratitude for Brothers Joe Manes and Raymond Cosetti for their endeavors to help the Kent area. He instructed all to be about our Father's business and encouraged us not to be dormant and the work would grow.

Brother Elmer Santilli was thankful that someone took time out to preach the true Gospel Restored to his parents. He stated, "It is not he who sows or waters, but it is God who gives the increase, for God is the same yesterday and forever." Three Sisters were anointed for their afflictions and a wonderful spirit was felt. Truly we did receive manna from the word of God which brings much rejoicing to our souls.

Brother Manes concluded the meeting by extending an invitation for all to visit the Kent Mission. Meetings will be held the first and third Sunday of each month. A day well spent was closed in prayer by Brother Russel Martorano of Niles, Ohio.

### Blessings At Branch No. 2 Detroit

On August 17, 1975, Branch No. 2 held a District evening meeting to hear testimonies of song and praise that was felt at the recent GMBA campout. The enthusiasm of the Saints filled the building to overflowing as the spirit of God seemed to permeate the service.

After much glorious singing we had the confirming

and giving of sacrament to our newly converted members. Sister Carman Buffa who was baptised earlier in the day by Brother Frank Morle was confirmed by Brother Joe Milantoni and also Brother Pete and Sister Eleanor Buffa, who were reinstated, were confirmed by Brother Reno Bologna and Brother Frank Morle respectively. Assisting in the confirmations was Brother John Buffa, the brother of Brother Pete, who like the rest of the Saints had prayed for many years for the Buffa family to obey the Gospel.

During the meeting Sister Donna Amormino testified that she felt the spirit of God amongst us and asked if the ministry could offer a special prayer for her mother.

The new converts, Brother Pete, Brother Philip, Brother Michael, Sister Eleanor and Sister Carman Buffa, Brother Kenny Henderson and Sister Kathy Pastorelli, then came forward and sang the campout favorite, "I'm Free". After which each expressed themselves on how God interceded upon their life.

We were also blessed in having the opportunity to have visiting with us Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantoni who were on their way home from the camp. Brother Joe, who was the guest speaker for the meeting, opened by expressing that the desire and goal of the recent camp was to enrich the spirit of God within our souls. Expounding on the Scriptures to us found in the *third chapter of Helaman*, Brother Joe started reading with the 24th verse:

"And it came to pass that in this same year there was exceeding great prosperity in the church, insomuch that there were thousands who did join themselves unto the church and were baptised unto repentance."

Stating that we as Saints of God have the opportunity to speak for the Church. That we the people of God stand for that which is good, that which is Godly. The way that is good is walking hand in hand with the Savior. Brother Joe urged each and everyone of us to become the missionaries of the Church. Pointing out that so many opportunities are available whether it be at school, place of occupation, friends, etc., if we only make use of them. Brother Joe then went on to say for us to imagine what the Church would look like as in the days of *Helaman* as the 25 and 26 verses read,

"And so great was the prosperity of the church, and so many the blessings which were poured out upon the people, that even the high priest and the teachers were themselves astonished beyond measure.

And it came to pass that the work of the Lord did prosper unto the baptizing and uniting to the Church of God, many souls, yea, even tens of thousands."

Certainly those who spread the Gospel won't find it easy, whether it be out on the mission field or out our front door. But all in all, with all those that we come in contact with, there will be somebody ready and wanting to hear and taste of this Gospel.

In concluding Brother Joe thanked God for the opportunity to be working in the vineyard of Christ; because the Church must become our life, Joy, and Salvation; that we should all promote the Gospel to better this Church, because God has given us, his children, the dignity to be among the numbered.

Brother Gary Carlini

## Baptism In Youngstown, Ohio

On Sunday, September 21, 1975, our morning service was opened by Brother Richard Santilli. He read from *Rev. Chap. 14*, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth."

Following this we sang the hymn, "It is Morning in My Heart", during which Harry Tims arose and asked for his baptism. Brother Harry was blessed in the Church many years ago, and now has returned to serve the Lord. His calling was a blessing to all of us. He was baptized by Brother Ralph Berardino and confirmed by Brother T. D. Bucci.

Brother A. A. Corrado then spoke on the words of the Apostle Peter, taken from *Acts, Chap. 2*, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Visiting our Branch this day were Brother Keith and Sister Jane Ardinger, of the Dallas, Texas Mission. They were here for the occasion of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Brother Bill and Sister Theresa Gennaro, the parents of Sister Jane. Also visiting us were Brother Anthony Costarella, his wife, Mildred, and daughter, of Pensacola, Florida.

We praise God for another day of blessing.

## Another Baptism At Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch

The Vanderbilt Branch welcomed another member to the fold on Sunday, October 5. Clarence A. Smith attended the Sunday meeting with his wife, Sylvia, while he was home on leave from a tour of duty with the United States Marines.

Brother Smith was baptized by Brother Emmett Dale and confirmed by Brother Elmer R. La Rew. His testimony is that he felt God's calling about three months earlier while in the service of his country.

Many visitors were in attendance also from West Elizabeth, Greensburg, Washington, D. C. and the state of Virginia.

Brothers Milford Eutsey, Emmett Dale, Joseph Shazer and Elmer La Rew led the service, dwelling on the resurrection of Lazarus and the love of God.

The blessing of God's Holy Spirit during the day will long be remembered.

While Brother Smith serves as a soldier for his country, may the Lord strengthen him to be a good soldier for Jesus Christ.

## Ordination In Metuchen, New Jersey

On April 27, 1975 a wonderful day was spent in the Metuchen Branch, as Brother Tony Vadasz was ordained an Elder for the Branch. Our morning meeting was opened by Brother Dick Lawson, who was visiting from the McKees Rocks Branch. He spoke from the 46th chapter of *Alma* concerning the "title of liberty". Brother Joe Arcuri followed speaking in conjunction to Brother Dick's words.

In the afternoon meeting, Brother Tony was ordained. Many visitors were gathered from many of the surrounding Branches. The immediate family of Brother Tony was also in the congregation.

Brother Dick Lawson washed the feet of Brother Tony, showing much humility, and Brother August D'Orazio, visiting from the Edison Branch, ordained him as an Elder.

An experience was had by Sister Stella Arcuri, a Sister of the Branch, during the anointing of Brother Tony. All in all, it was an enjoyable and blessed meeting to all those who attended.

An experience of Sister Stella Arcuri during the ordination of Brother Anthony J. Vadasz as an Elder:

Brother Anthony was sitting in a chair and all the Elders present formed a circle and held hands while Brother Nathan Peterkin offered prayer. I saw Brother Anthony dressed all in white and circled about by a ring just around the chair where he was sitting. I received such a blessing in this that I knew that the Lord was in our midst.

Paul Risola, Editor  
Metuchen Branch

## News From Lorain, Ohio Branch

On Saturday, September 27, the Mission Board met in Lorain and many Brothers were present from different parts of the Church. Some of the Brothers and their companions visited for the Sunday meeting and the Lord truly did bless our service. We had with us Brother Paul D'Amico, Brother Jim and Sister Thelma Campbell, Brother Pete, Sister Eleanor, Brother Bill, Sister Janet, Brother John and Brother Mike Buffa.

Brother D'Amico opened by preaching on how thankful he was for all the Lord had done for him throughout his life. He read from the Third Chapter of John, and stated, "Ye must be born again." Brother Campbell also spoke, telling of an experience of his first born son being healed of a disease.

Also we witnessed another soul come unto the Lord, Brother Frank Palacios, Jr. We met at the Black River Reservation where Brother Joseph Calabrese baptized him. That evening we met for his confirmation and this was done by Brother Frank Calabrese.

On Sunday, October 5th we had with us Brothers Dominic Thomas, Reno Bologna, Dominic Moraco and Mario Milano. Sister Rose Palermo from Cleveland, and her daughter and granddaughter also met with us. Brother Dominic Moraco opened by reading from the 23rd Psalm, and Brother Reno followed. He said, "To wait upon the Lord is to serve Him with the commandments that He has already given, and not to sit and wait for the Lord to come to you." Remember, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Brother Thomas then spoke, and said, "We should be a voice sounding out the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

On Sunday, October 12, once again we were truly blessed. Before we had several anointings, the Lord spoke through Brother Frank Altomare and said, "Thus saith the Lord, They must believe first before they can be healed. Blessed are they that believe. I will heal them."

We thank God for what comes forth to us as His people. We should live to be more faithful each day and live each day for the Lord.

Sunday, October 6, we had with us Brother Alfred and Sister Josephine Dominico from California, Brother John Buffa, Brother Jon Genaro and Sister Karen Pandone. Brother Dominico opened by reading from I Corinthians, Chapter 2, verse 9.

A special prayer for the sick and afflicted was offered.

Let's continue to work for the Lord and pray for the Church and all the Saints throughout the vineyard. God Bless you All!

## Gathering of Rochester And Lockport Branches

On August 3, 1975 Rochester and Lockport had their Semi-Annual Gathering. We also had a carload of Sister Robinson's family from West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania.

We had community singing, and a short duet was sung, "He Will Not Forget" by Sharon D'Amico and Keith White of New Jersey.

Brother Paul D'Amico chose for his text the first chapter of *Genesis*, "In the beginning God created the heaven and earth and darkness was upon the earth and God said "Let there be light." The world was in darkness for 1,260 years. After 500 years of the apostasy came the falling away of the Gospel, until 1820. God began to work upon Joseph Smith to bring back or restore the Gospel. The axe is laid at the root of the tree and the tree that doesn't bear fruit will be cast into the furnace of fire. Would you exchange the Gospel of Jesus Christ for anything in the world?

We sang Hymn No. 386, "When The Angel Moroni". Brother Henry Berardi spoke in Italian tongue emphasizing the freedom and liberty we have in America. Let us be more obedient in keeping His commandments.

Brother Perry Simone gave his testimony how he started The Church in Rochester and Lockport.

After we sang Hymn No. 405, "Redeemer of Israel" the meeting was opened for testimony to our visiting Brothers and Sisters.

The Presiding Elder, Brother Ansel D'Amico, was the last speaker. He stated that his parents left them no earthly inheritance but left them the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ. We should prove faithful to our calling, that at the end we may hear those beautiful words, "Well done enter into my joy, receive the crown of eternal life."

We sang "Lead Me Gently Home, Father" and the meeting was closed with prayer offered by Brother Gus Giansante.

Lunch was served and a wonderful time was had by all.

On August 24, 1975 we had Brother and Sister Vincent Gibson from Cleveland, Ohio as per the Evangelist Schedule. Following community singing, Brother Gibson chose for his text *Isaiah* 26 and *Moroni* 7. "Thou will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee." He spoke on faith, hope, and charity. Charity is the greatest gift of all. Charity never fails. Wherefore, cleave to charity for it is the pure love of Christ and endureth forever. We must be the light of the world and the salt

of the earth. We must nourish the word of God as a good seed; it will be a part of us that no one can take away.

We sang "Love Lifted Me." Brother Patsy Marinetti spoke on the life of Moses, that he chose to be a servant instead of a king. We should hold on to the Rod of Iron, and it will give us strength to serve God.

We sang "I Surrender All." The meeting was then opened for testimony, and sacrament was then administered. Brother Ansel D'Amico, the Presiding Elder, gave the concluding remarks. The love of God is represented in the Holy City Jerusalem. We must have the pure love of God in order to inherit the crown of eternal life. We were dismissed in prayer by Brother Melvin Mountain, Jr.

## News From Hopelawn, N. J.

Today, Sept. 21, 1975, we witnessed the ordination of Brother Frank Banyacski to the office of Teacher and Brother Leonard Benyola to the office of Deacon. Though the day was cloudy outside with periods of heavy rain we were provided with blessings from on high in our church building.

We heard from the scriptures from *Romans* 12 verse 4 and 5 "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ and every one members one of another." And we also heard the words from *Moroni* chapter 3 pronouncing the manner in which we ordain Elders and Teachers. Brother Mike Feher, washed the feet of Brother Frank, and Brother Ralph Mercurio, washed the feet of Brother Leonard. During this time we sang the hymn, "We're Not of the World"

Brother Joe Perri offered the prayer prior to the laying on of hands, thanking the Lord for this beautiful occasion, and beseeching that the Divine Spirit may be felt, and that our new officers may be staunch, firm and faithful, for their responsibility is a great one, and that their minds may be enlightened, and they might be as the four sons of Mosiah, and a blessing to the branch.

Brother Frank was then ordained by Brother Joe Perri, and in his prayer, he besought that the new teacher might teach the everlasting gospel, that the angel has flown, and the words may be spread throughout the world.

Brother Leonard was ordained by Brother Julius Kovacs, and in his prayer, he remembered, how some few months ago, we had despaired for his life, in his illness, and now he was guided to do service unto God as a Deacon of The Church.

We then sang "More Like the Master." The Spirit of our Lord was felt in our midst.

The testimonies we heard were especially gratifying and pleasing to the soul this Sabbath day. Brother Tony Vadasz of the Metuchen branch made a few brief comments on communication. "Communication between God and the individual soul," since this seemed to be the main theme in our testimonies. "This communication can be broken by us and not by God. So let us keep our communication line open at all times."

Our day was complete and fulfilled, with our "feet-washing" ordinance.

Sister Helen Kovacs  
Branch Editor

## Greetings From North Edgecomb, Maine

Donald Snowman was converted into the Gospel of Jesus Christ in North Edgecomb, Maine on July 12, 1975. Brother Frank Zaher took Brother Snowman into the waters of baptism and Brother Richard Onorato confirmed him into The Church.

This is the first baptism in Maine outside of the Onorato immediate family. There was great joy in Maine this day. God bless the Maine Mission with great work in the future for the Lord.

## Kent, Ohio

Another soul was added to the work in Kent, Ohio. Sister Marilyn Strunk committed her life to the Lord on Sunday, October 5, 1975.

Sister Strunk was baptized by Brother Joe Manes and the ordinance of "laying on of hands" was attended to by Brother Rocco Biscotti.

We pray that God will add many souls to the Kent Mission.

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Antonia to Gordon and Cynthia Ciaravino of Detroit, Michigan,

Brian Matthew to Daniel and Sherry Bukowski of Erie, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### ARCURI - KOVACS

Brother Philip Arcuri and Sister Ruth Ellen Kovacs were united in holy marriage on Saturday, October 4, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn, N. J.

Brother Joseph Arcuri, the groom's brother, officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were rendered at the organ by Brother Philip Benyola and a duet by Sisters Theresa Vadasz and Jennie Schmitt, and a trio by Brother Kenneth Lombardo and Sisters Joyce Feher and Mary Ann Ensana.

The newlyweds are residing in Edison, New Jersey.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### CONSOLATO BENEDETTO

Brother Consolato Benedetto passed on to his heavenly reward on October 18, 1975. He was a member of the No. 4 Branch, Detroit, Michigan of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was born on November 21, 1897 and was baptized into The Church on September 28, 1930.

Left to mourn his loss are his wife, one daughter, two grandsons and two sisters.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul Vitto, Frank Vitto and Leonard Lovalvo.

Brother Consolato was an ordained Teacher in The Church and was a pillar of Branch No. 4. We will all miss him very much.

### FILOMENA ROSSI

Sister Filomena Rossi passed on to her heavenly reward on July 21, 1975. She was a member of the Aliquippa, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on September 5, 1888 and was baptized on December 11, 1927.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Anthony Ross and John Ross.

She is survived by seven children, all of whom are members of The Church, 18 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and one brother.

She will be greatly missed.

### VIOLET WHITFIELD

Sister Violet Whitfield passed away on September 18, 1975 at the age of 79. She was baptized on August 11, 1968 and was a member of the Monongahela Branch. She is survived by her husband, two children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Idris Martin. May God grant to her family the comfort of His Holy Spirit in this hour of sorrow.

### KATHERN B. SCHADE

Sister Kathern B. Schade, 53, passed from this life on Sunday, September 21, 1975. She was a member of the Monongahela Branch. Sister Schade was baptized on November 24, 1963.

Left to mourn her passing are her husband, four sons, two daughters, and 12 grandchildren.

Brother Idris Martin conducted the funeral services. Musical selections were sung by Malcolm and Valarie Bright.

Our prayer is that God would comfort her loved ones.

### ELIZABETH FERGUSON

Sister Elizabeth Ferguson, a member of the Monongahela Branch, died suddenly on Saturday, October 4, 1975. Our Sister was 68 years old and was baptized on July 14, 1957. Survivors include two sons and eleven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother John Olexa.

Sister Ferguson will be missed by the Brothers and Sisters of our Branch, as she was a very faithful member. She had attended the Ladies' Circle General Conference at Imperial, Pa., earlier in the day and within a few hours after she returned home, the Lord called her.