

# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

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## WHO GETS THE CREDIT?

"There is no limit what can be accomplished if you don't care *who gets the credit*."

The year 1975 has ended! Did we do what we set out to do on January 1, 1975? If we didn't have the success we thought we should have, perhaps we should consider some changes.

What are we going to do in 1976? Where are we going? Do we wait for the "Choice Seer" to do our work? John said in *Revelation 14:6*, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to *every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people*."

I do not believe anyone who has obeyed The Restored Gospel has any problem with the above Scripture. We all believe it; further, we all know that the Gospel is to go back to the "Seed of Joseph." But, for some reasons, we have not been able to accomplish the purpose of the Restoration.

The Lord gave His commission to this Church and the message is loud and clear—the world needs the truth today more than ever before. Reform is needed in every phase of our life, government, school, law enforcement, homes, and **ESPECIALLY RELIGION**.

It is evident that we must place a greater emphasis on reaching people for Christ than ever before! We can, "if we care not who receives the credit for things we *should* do. The year 1975 is over and can never be recalled; however, it did serve a purpose. It has stirred us to recognize that more has to be done.

Plans have been made to make the balance of the Seventies more productive. In *missionary areas*, new committees have been formed to allow for greater far reaching efforts by The Church. The *Indian Missions Committee* is charged with increasing activity among the Seed of Joseph anywhere in North and South America. The *Foreign Missions Committee* is exploring ways of strengthening our established mission fields and expanding the work till the whole world has heard the Gospel Restored, duplicating the apostolic church of Paul's time "which was preached to every creature under Heaven." *Col. 1:23*. The *Domestic Missions Committee*, and the *Program and Missions Development Committee* are all busy developing a system to obtain maximum concentration in all fields.

With all our emphasis on missionary work, we cannot forget the stronghold of The Church—the *Branches, Missions and Districts*. We must strive to make these three the springboard for all endeavors of work for The Church.

We must strengthen our Sunday Schools for our future Church; our M.B.A.'s for our young people's development; and our Ladies Circle for their input. There exists a need in our Districts, Branches and Missions to unite and move The Church to its prophesied success. Who gets the credit? The Church of Jesus Christ.

It is time we put off our human tendencies to support only things that give "I" the credit. Let us work united for the betterment of each other, and above all, for the cause of Christ. Regardless what area of work you are in, let us support each other and not worry "who is going to get the credit."

There is no doubt that anyone could point out our needs, but since I have this opportunity, I would like to share a few thoughts I have.

We need more meetings for fasting and prayer. God is waiting to bless us, if we are ready to receive. We need an attitude of total support for **ALL** areas of our Church. We can all be workers in different ways, so long as it is done for the honor and glory of God and His Church. We need more respect and more obedience to those in authority.

Our main object since the Gospel is Restored is to bring the Gospel "to every creature under heaven" and "bring it back to the 'Seed of Joseph.'" This can be accomplished if we all unite and work for The Church and *we don't care who gets the credit!*

Editor

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*Happy New Year*

*from the*

*Gospel News Staff*

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"And I would, my brethren, that ye should Know that all kindreds of the earth CANNOT BE BLESSED unless HE SHALL MAKE BARE HIS ARM in the EYES OF THE NATIONS."

"Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to MAKE BARE HIS ARM in the EYES OF ALL THE NATIONS, IN BRINGING ABOUT HIS COVENANTS AND HIS "GOSPEL" UNTO THOSE WHO ARE OF "THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL."!! 1 NEPHI 22: 10:11

• • •

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Brother John Mancini. I was baptized 1973 into the Gospel Restored. I have believed the words of *The Book of Mormon* with respect to the gathering of the House of Israel and the first work of The Church, the work among the seed of Joseph. We have been called by the Almighty to do this work and in doing so all nations, kindreds, tongues and people of the earth shall be blessed.

I am at present Editor of the Indian Missions Committee. I wish as editor to keep The Church informed on the actions of the committee and the divine work of the Restoration of the House of Israel, in particular, the work among the seed of Joseph. Many times in the past, due to lack of communications many problems have arisen causing much confusion. I shall endeavor as the Spirit directs me to keep The Church informed on this matter of the work among the seed of Joseph. But I can not do it alone, The Church needs people to accomplish its work. So at this time I would like to solicit any and all views to enrich this article. If at any time you have had an experience or whatever spiritual enlightenment on this work, I would like it for publication. Within the walls of this article we would like to instill DESIRE, HOPE, EXUBERANCE to initiate ACTION to fulfill our latter day responsibility to the seed of Joseph.

Let us together accept this work and move in harmony with the Spirit to accomplish its end, which is the salvation of the world. Let us become alive, young, old, middle aged, arise and arouse our faculties to this marvelous work and a wonder. To accept this work with full purpose of heart we must understand it. This too, I believe is a goal of this article to endeavor to illuminate the word of God to more fully understand this work. Also within its walls we would like to initiate some positive, constructive ACTION to fulfill our latter day responsibility. To include this we are including the Lay Mission Report to fulfill the Action part of our endeavors.

In conclusion I would like to say that we wish this article to be an informative, inspiring directive and foremost, fruitful in the First Work of The Church (The Seed of Joseph).

My Address:

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Brother John Mancini  
Editor of the Indian  
Missions Committee

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## LAY MISSIONARY PROGRAM

Many members of The Church of Jesus Christ fear The Church's emphasis on the taking of the gospel to the Seed of Joseph, or the American Indian, because they feel that to increase the Indian work is to decrease the Gentile work. However, just the opposite is true! As The Church obeys God's directing to go to the Seed of Joseph, more power and authority will be allotted to the Church in going to the rest of the world. When the Seed of Joseph, as a nation of people, embraces the gospel, then the greatest work of all will begin—that of going to the other tribes of the House of Israel; and God will NOT sidestep the Gentile Nations.

*II Nephi* 30:3-8 gives a step-by-step breakdown of the series of events leading to total world evangelism. The passage points out that after the gospel is received by the Lamanites and the scales begin to fall from their eyes, then "...it shall come to pass that the Lord God shall commence his work among all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, to bring about the restoration of his people upon the earth." Notice in this 8th verse that God uses the word "all"—not just "some" or "a few" but "all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people,..." That includes the Gentiles too.

Also read *III Nephi* 16:10-15. The Lord knows the hard heartedness of the Gentiles. Yet He is merciful. In *III Nephi* 16:13, 14 God says, "But if the Gentiles will repent and return unto me, saith the Father, behold they shall be numbered among my people, O House of Israel. And I will not suffer my people, who are of the House of Israel, to go through among them, and tread them down, saith the Father."

God could not speak in a clearer fashion to the Gentile people or to The Church of Jesus Christ. The way to provide salvation for the entire world is by taking the gospel first to the American Indian. Everything will fall in line after that.

If you, a lay member of The Church of Jesus Christ, feel that you cannot play an active part in the taking of the gospel to the house of Israel simply because you are not an ordained minister, you are mistaken. Through the Lay Missionary Program of The Church you can be provided such an opportunity. For information write to David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Ave., Charleroi, Penna., 15022.

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

### NIGERIAN CONFERENCE CLOSING REMARKS:

The Priesthood passed a motion that the President should give closing remarks and thank the Parent Church for all that they have been able to do.

Brother E. U. A. Arthur on behalf of the Priesthood thanked the members of the Parent Church for (a) giving us a school, now in session and equipped it with an electric generator and metal cutting saw and (b) giving relief aids in cash to Branches and Missions of The Church in Nigeria. He thanked Sister Mable Bickerton and the Ladies Uplift Circle for the task she has taken in translating the Saints Hymnal from staff notation to solfa notation for our use. He also thanked the members of the African Committee for the endeavors they have made to keep the flag of The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria flying in a brighter color. He further thanked the Parent Church for honoring all our requests without turning us down. He gave thanks to all at the Conference—Secretaries, Traveling Elders, Elders and all Officers for the love they have had in making the Conference a success. He ended his speech by glorifying God for His merciful kindness to us, and said, may the blessings of God abide on each and everyone who helps in the growth of the Gospel work, both in America and in Nigeria.

We are very happy and delighted that the October 17th-18th General Church Conference held at Greensburg, Pa., has approved the request of the African Sub-Committee, submitted through the General Church Missions Board, to solicit funds to build the Nigerian Mission House. As soon as the required funds can be raised, the construction can be started.

This project is long overdue, hopefully the construction can be completed in sufficient time to accommodate our Church representatives scheduled to visit the Nigerian Church and Comprehensive Secondary School in the year 1976. We thank God for this progressive movement. The lack of convenient accommodations at the Atai Otoro Center, has been a great handicap to the missionaries since the establishment of The Church in this area 14 years ago, and the School formally opened January 24, 1972, with additional expansion annually. It will eliminate many miles of travel back and forth in order to conduct business at the Center, conserving the operating expenses. It will accommodate any Technical Staff from the U.S.A., as requested by the School Principal, Mr. Peter U. Iniodu for qualified Teachers having technical skills to teach in the school. There exists a great need that the students be given religious instruction.

We are hopeful that upon completion of this project to have a much greater participation by the Parent Church in the Nigerian work. This work deserves much more participation by the Parent Church than it has been able to provide thus far.

Thank God for some of the young Brothers in the Ministry who have expressed considerable interest in the African work, when the opportunity is available to them.

Speaking in behalf of the African Sub-Committee, we wish to thank each and everyone who have contributed in any way to help the Comprehensive Secondary School. Whether financial, material collected, or any physical involvement, it has been most graciously appreciated by

(Continued on page 4)

## SOME THOUGHTS

By Ether M. Furnier

*"The first shall be last, and the last shall be first."*

This is a statement made by Jesus himself as recorded in *St. Matthew* 19:30. No doubt, throughout the years, *Bible* readers have had many different thoughts as to what Jesus meant when He uttered these words. The teachers that I have been exposed to in The Church of Jesus Christ have claimed that "the first" refers to the Jews or Israel, and "the last" refers to the Gentiles. This seems very logical to me since we know that Jesus came to His own, and told them not to go by the way of the Samaritans, or the Gentiles. It is recorded that He came to His own, and His own received Him not. This certainly does not imply that none of the Israelites accepted Him, since we know that His very own Apostles were Israelites and He had many disciples among the House of Israel. However, as a nation they rejected Him and called for His crucifixion. After this rejection, God used Peter and Paul among others to present the Gospel to the Gentiles in great manifestations of power.

Also in *Romans* 11:7, it states, that, "Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded." So we see an election according to grace among the Israelites that Jesus first came to. "Election" seems to imply a privileged few among the nation were not blinded; and, therefore, were given spiritual vision and understanding to accept the Gospel of Christ. Up to this point we see that Israel was first, and the Gentiles were last. It is interesting to note that the first were but a few elected by God, to fulfill His purpose, but the last came in with greater numbers. Now let us look at the second part of Jesus' statement which was a reversal in the order of election.

After the 1260 years of apostasy had expired, God restored His Church by the way of the Gentile (who was last) but now is given the privilege to be first. We all know that after an abundance of excitement, and arduous missionary work had produced many Gentile converts, that the work finally settled down to a few among the vast number of Gentiles; and it seems that history has repeated itself, and there has been a Gentile election of grace in the Restoration, but the rest were blinded. As God used the Israelite ministers to carry the Gospel to the Gentile, now He is using Gentile ministers to carry the Gospel to Israel. This is the mission of The Church of Jesus Christ today.

Certain scriptures trouble our people when they hear this kind of a message. Such as, "blindness in part has happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" (*Romans* 11:25). This seems to be interpreted by some as meaning that a vast number of Gentiles must obey the Gospel before Israel can be delivered. I am satisfied that God has revealed to me that the "fulness" spoken of, as pertaining to the Gentiles, does not pertain to numbers, but rather to iniquity. The *Book of Mormon* speaks of a time when the Gentiles shall become "fully" ripe in iniquity, and then God will fulfill the covenants He has made with Israel. If we take the word "fulness" to mean numbers then it would seem that, when Israel begins to be gathered that there would be no more Gentiles converted, since their fulness had come in.

Another scripture that is used in support of a great Gentile conversion taking place before the conversion of

the seed of Joseph is Jesus' statement to His disciples before His ascent into heaven: "Go ye therefore unto all nations." If we stop to really analyze the situation, we will remember that the Jews were told not to go by the way of the Gentile, and their tradition even before that statement was made, was to separate themselves and have nothing to do with the Gentiles. There was a barrier to be broken down, and Jesus was telling them that the Gospel of salvation now was for every kindred, tongue, and people. It wasn't long afterwards that God sent Peter and Paul to the Gentiles. In fact, to my knowledge, neither in the *Bible* or the *Book of Mormon* is predicted a great wholesale conversion of Gentiles, before the seed of Joseph is converted. Does this imply then that we are wasting our time trying to convert Gentiles? NO! A thousand times no! Elijah thought that his ministry had become fruitless, and in his discouragement God spoke to him and said, "I have reserved unto myself 7000 elect, that have not bent their knee to Baal." The same applies today; it looks as though our Gentile ministry is fruitless, but God has yet many elect to come in, and these are those for whom we should fast and pray, that God would direct us to them, or they to us. This is our Gentile mission along with our mission to take the pure, unadulterated Gospel to the seed of Joseph. The Choice Seer has his work cut out for him, to convince the seed of Joseph of the Gospel that has been taken to them by the restored Gentile Church.

NOW THE STAGE IS SET for the Gospel to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Now out of the New Jerusalem shall the great evangelistic crusade begin, and they will say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the house of the Lord", etc. NOW shall all nations flow into ZION, and the tree will begin to bring forth much good fruit unto the Lord for a long time, until the end shall come. (See *Jacob 5:76 and 77*)

Brothers and Sisters, the discouragement that comes from our frustrations in not being able to convert the Gentiles today is a tool of Satan. He wants us to feel that we have failed, because he knows that a discouraged people is a weak people. "Ye fearful Saints fresh courage take, the clouds ye so much dread; are great with mercy and shall break with blessings on your head". If we will seek out the elect among the Gentiles, and be faithful in our mission to Joseph in righteousness, we will not be discouraged. The last of the Moses era is dead, and it is time for the Joshuas to stand up. What did God say to Joshua? "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law (Gospel of Christ) which Moses my servant (our late Brothers of the Moses era) commanded thee; turn not from it to the right hand or the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest; as I was with Moses so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee".

PUT YOUR TRUST IN THIS PROMISE. GOD CANNOT LIE.

God bless you all.

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO . . .

(Continued from page 3)

the Committee. The School continues to have many needs and may we help as the Lord continues to bless us abundantly. Thanks again, God bless everyone.

"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. *Ecclesiastes 11:1*

## PRECIOUS MOMENTS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to share a blessing with you I received a few weeks ago. After visiting with a family from The Church one night, I awoke the next morning very early around 4 o'clock. I could not go back to sleep with thoughts of our conversation upon my mind; the young people, and the work there is to do in The Church. There are many young people in our branch who we have not seen for some time.

I felt inspired to get up and write a letter to one of the young people I was talking with the night before. After writing the letter I felt to pray, which I did. After praying, these are the words that came to me which I wrote down:

## PRECIOUS MOMENTS

Dear Lord, Sunday in church our Brothers talked of the pillars in Thy Church, Those who are always there, rain or shine, or whatever life may bring, How they love and serve Thee, so faithful. As they testify, pray and sing. I can see many called into the gospel, And many take that call very lightly, While some put on the full armour you gave them, And they shine for you very brightly. In thinking of my own life, I remember the time you showed me in a dream, How the shoes you gave me had become neglected, were dirty and unclean. How I cried and looked to my Mother and asked her what had I done, To those shoes she had given me? (She represented The Church of Thy Son.) Oh Lord, it is such a serious thing, And there is so much to do, For truly the *Scriptures* tell us, The laborers they are few. Please Dear God, help the young people, Revive that seed that was planted there many years ago, Use us if you see fit Lord, To nourish it and help it to grow. It hurts us to see "Precious Moments" Of loved ones not used to their best, For we know if we prove faithful You've promised eternal rest. Dear Lord, Bless Thy Church here below, Bless Thy Ministry called to labor for you, Help them bring back Thy wandering sheep, Give us each something useful to do.

AMEN

Surely there is much to do in the name of the Lord. How true the hymn we sing, "Wasted Years, Wasted Years, Oh how foolish." One day after praying for strength for the day, the thought came to me very strongly, how we must work while we can for the Lord, as this is our time to work while in this life, as we have eternity to rest if we prove faithful.

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky  
Roscoe Branch



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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### I FOUND THE ANSWER

By Phil Van Allsburg, Guest Editorialist

Modern times have brought us many comforts, inventions, conveniences and many heartaches. With all of our modern ways of life, we need unity in God more than ever before.

Modern comforts have brought us more obstacles in trying to serve the Lord, and live a more righteous life daily for the Lord.

I've heard it said, "Where have the gifts of God gone?". Brother Thurman Furnier once told me that the gifts of God haven't gone anywhere, we have.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo spoke to Branch No. 1 a little while back on a Wednesday night on the topic in *IV Nephi, Verse 2* "... and there were no contentions and disputations among them, and every man did deal justly one with another." As our modern language has it, "they had it all together."

#### Unity And Faith Bring God's Power

Brother Nick went on to read, "And there were great and marvelous works wrought by the disciples of Jesus, insomuch that they did heal the sick, and raise the dead, and cause the lame to walk, and the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear; and all manner of miracles did they work among the children of men; and in nothing did they work miracles save it were in the name of Jesus." (*Verse 5*) If we have the unity and the faith, He has the power.

If God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, as scripture tells us, then He has not gone anywhere with the gifts, we have gone somewhere with our unity and faith.

In July of 1934, V. James Lovalvo in a prayer meeting for the benefit of the Ministry of The Church of Jesus Christ had a vision. He said, "I beheld in vision a large book with a black covering, and on the cover of this book, written in large letters of gold, were these words: 'Where is the first love that I have put in your hearts?' Then the book opened and a voice bade me read, and this is what I read, 'Wo, wo, unto the Saints who do not labor; but blessed are ye who seek diligently the Kingdom of My Father through prayer and fasting'".

#### Fasting And Prayer

Fasting and prayer is the answer if we want the gifts. If we fast and pray diligently to be in unity, then we will be pleasing in God's sight and He will bestow the gifts abundantly upon His children.

Forty years ago the gifts of God were abundant in The Church of Jesus Christ and so was unity and faith. It seems over the years too many modern things have stood as obstacles in our way of serving the Lord in unity. I know that as Brothers and Sisters, we can't all meet together to fast and pray. But why don't we try something to help our Brothers in the Ministry. Why can't we fast and pray on our own every Monday of 1976. If we pray that God would direct our Ministry and help them, then we would be in unity in God's eyes even though we weren't together physically to pray together.

We are all part of the same family, The Family of God. As modern times tell us, *A family that prays together stays together.*

May your light shine bright for Jesus.

Editor's Note: The October 1975 General Church Conference recommended fasting and prayer monthly throughout the Church.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Delilah, A Scheming Woman

Dear Girls and Boys,

Delilah was a Philistine who lived in the Valley of Sorek. Samson went to see Delilah. Delilah was determined to find out the secret of his great strength so that his enemies could conquer him.

Samson was the son of Manoah. His parents were a Godly pair. Samson was a Nazarite and his strength was in his hair. One day, on his way to Timnath, he was attacked by a lion which he killed with his hands and another time he killed a bear. With a jaw bone of an ass he slew a thousand Philistines. In another incident the Philistines shut the gates of the city Gaza intending to keep Samson inside and kill him in the morning but at midnight he went out and tore away the big gates. He took the posts, bars and all, and carried them to the top of a hill. All these things were told to Delilah and she desired to know about Samson's amazing strength.

Day after day Delilah tried to find out what made Samson strong. Three times he suffered himself to be bound with green withes, with new ropes but each time he released himself. He pretended his strength was in these. Finally one day he confessed to Delilah his strength was in the locks of his hair. He said if they were shaved he would be as any other man. He said that before his birth, he had been consecrated to God and he had kept the Nazarite vows, one of which was that his hair would not be cut.

Delilah was happy and as Samson slept on her knee, she called for a man to shave seven locks of his hair. When Samson awoke he discovered too late that Delilah had deceived him. She did not love him as he was led to believe. She was a cruel enemy. She wakened him and said, "The Philistines are upon thee, Samson." Poor Samson! He knew his strength was gone! His enemies put out his eyes and led him to Gaza, bound in fetters. He was thrown into prison.

A great festival was held in the Temple of Dagon to celebrate their victory over Samson's capture. He was brought out before the people to make sport for the Philistines. He was placed between the two chief pillars which supported the roof. Samson asked a lad to guide him and let him feel the pillars and lean on them. Samson prayed to God for strength just once more. He pushed the huge pillars and the great house fell on him and all the people. So the dead he slew at his death was more than he slew in his life time.

But where was Delilah? Had she gone to spend the 1,100 pieces of silver she received from the lords of the Philistines in exchange for Samson's secret? Or could she have been at the great festival and perished along with hundreds assembled there? No one knows but from this story, we know she was an evil, scheming woman.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## Our Women Today . . .

### DETROIT DISTRICT CIRCLE

Saturday, October 25 the Ladies Circle chartered a bus for a trip to Muncey, Ontario, Canada. We sang several spiritual songs enroute, and had a pot-luck lunch upon arriving.

After lunch we entered the church proper and enjoyed community singing. Sister Mary Criscuolo opened the meeting and Brother Mario Coppa opened in prayer.

Two members present have been in the Gospel for over 50 years, one said she had been in the Church 54 years and another 60.

The group who came on the bus sang "There is a River," after which the Muncey group sang "Wait and Murrur Not," and "God's Children." Collection was taken for the benefit of the Muncey mission.

The meeting was left open for testimonies. Brother Sam Cuomo sang "23rd Psalm" and spoke of his blessings.

Brother Joe Batalucco read a poem entitled "An Indian Prayer". Brother Arthur Maness told how he had heard the voice of God speak to him in the Indian language, and he thanked the Ladies Circle for making this day possible. Brother Coppa also expressed his thanks.

A special prayer was said for the sick by Brother Coppa.

We were dismissed in prayer by Sister Lombardo. The Spirit of God flowed from one to another and we were all uplifted and full of joy at having spent some time with the Saints in Muncey.

Sister Hazel Zoltek

The following was written by the late Alma B. Cadman January 19, 1948 while visiting the Saints at South Gate, California. As he wrote he was beholding and meditating on the glories of nature and especially the beautiful flowers.

Oh glorious nature wonderful thing, without thy God,  
thou would never have been.

In thy virginity, pure and good, from the hand of  
God, behold thou stood.

Fair and bright, no sin in sight, angels sang of thy  
glorious might. No death, no decay, no sin within  
to vex thy God when He walked there in.

But after the fall, what a terrible plight. Man and the  
woman in their hasty flight.

Gone from His presence, in grief and in sin. Man and  
the woman a strange life begin.

Angels will praise thee in ages to come. Of the glori-  
ous creation from His hand it came.

In the Garden of Eden, with flowers so bright. The  
man and the woman glorious in His sight.

When man and the woman began to repent, Angels  
from heaven to earth were sent. Revealing to  
them the redemption plan. The atoning blood,  
Christ the infinite man.

*Alma B. Cadman*

# M. B. A. Highlights

## G.M.B.A. CONFERENCE REPORT

BY JAMES D. GIBSON  
G.M.B.A. Editor

The Semi-Annual G.M.B.A. Conference was held on November 8, 1975 at the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg.

The entire day's transaction of business was under the able direction of Brothers Paul Palmieri, Don Ross, and Lou Vitto; the G.M.B.A. President, Vice-President and Chaplain respectively.

All those in attendance were asked to participate and seek the Lord's blessing throughout the day. It is to be noted that the day's business and transactions were well conducted with cooperation by all.

There was a large number of young people in attendance. It is good to see their interest and concern, for we have always maintained that they (the young) are the M.B.A. and The Church of the future.

Also, we would mention that a chartered bus from the Atlantic Coast brought many anxious and lovely people. It has been our past experience to note the great opportunity we have to meet with those we know and love and have not seen for weeks or months. I wonder, is it possible that any other people can have this anticipation?

The following items were brought forward for the Conference consideration:

1. LESSON PLANS — A complete set is now in the G.M.B.A. Librarian's possession. Sub-titles for the Book of Ether will be handled by Brothers Tom Ross and Bill Colangelo.
2. LAY MISSIONARY PROGRAM — This program is under the direction of Brother Dave Majoros. In his absence Brother John Mancini reported there have been 15 to 20 applications sent out, but only a few have responded. Those interested should contact their Area M.B.A. Presidents and he will handle the details.
3. MISSIONARY BROCHURE — The brochures are ready to print and will be published by the same company that handles the publishing of the *Gospel News*. Approximate cost is \$600.00 for 3,000 copies.
4. BOOK OF MORMON CONCORDANCE — This project is still in transaction. Brother Paul Whitton would like to have at least one but preferably two copies of the original papers compiled by Sister Sara Vancik and her mother, Sister Sadie Cadman. They are too valuable to be lost or destroyed. The original papers number 5,000 and Nick Francione will possibly be able to assist in this venture.
5. COLORING BOOKS — A pictorial work of The Church to be done with crayons by the young people. The Conference was not to vote on the acceptance or rejection, but if the assembly would be willing to defray the printing expense. The General Church had already accepted its use by The Church. There will be

10,000 copies printed, and they will be sold to all interested Branches for 75c each. The Committee in charge of this project are Brothers Alex Gentile, John Ross, Jr., and Joseph Ross. More information will be sent to all Locals.

6. PAY-AS-YOU-GO PLAN FOR MEALS — It was voted to raise the cost of meals at the Conference from \$1.00 to \$1.50 for adults and 50c to \$1.00 for children under 12 years of age.
7. "76" G.M.B.A. CAMPOUT — Brother Joseph Ross reported on two campsites for 1976. They were Rock Springs Ranch and Wheat State, in Kansas. The GMBA Activities Committee suggested Wheat State Camp, near Wichita, Kansas. The general body approved the recommendation. The Camp dates are July 24 to 31, 1976.

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All officers present gave their reports with those being absent being read by the Corresponding Secretary. (See details of all officers' reports, including Area Presidents in the G.M.B.A. Conference Minutes.)

Plans for a trip to Hill Cumorah the coming year will be considered in the near future.

The forthcoming May, 1976 G.M.B.A. Conference will be held in the Ohio Area. All are asked to attend and support your M.B.A.

## A QUESTION IS ASKED

Does everyone have faith?

The *Book of Mormon* states in *Ether* 12:6: "I would show unto the world that faith is things which are hoped for and not seen."

Sounds pretty deep doesn't it. Let us put it on a simple everyday basis. When the average person walks out of his home he HOPES that he will return safely.

If he for one moment did not have that hope, logically he would not leave his home, unless forced. Faith gives him courage to leave and venture forth. Without some type of faith man could not function.

The extent and types of faith are again another subject. Here is just one example; faith grows by trusting and believing. The more you build your trust and belief in God, the greater your faith will be.

Diana Thompson

## NOTE OF THANKS

I would like at this time to thank all my Brothers, Sisters and Friends in Christ for their thoughtfulness during my recent surgery and convalescence. I appear to be well on the road of recovery and I know the Lord has heard your many prayers in my behalf.

Your Brother in Christ

Brother Bob Dyer

## A TESTIMONY OF BROTHER ANTHONY LOMBARDO

My three sisters and one brother were baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ soon after Brother Ishmael D'Amico came to the Detroit area and spread the Gospel. I could not believe that I would need anything else since I was still of the Catholic faith, and, because of this, I did not believe their testimonies regarding the Restored Gospel.

I refused to believe them until my first wife died. She was of the Protestant faith and we had been happy serving God in our own churches. But when she died, it seemed as if my world came apart. It was then that I started to investigate The Church of Jesus Christ, visiting the various branches in the Detroit area for about six months. One Sunday night, a group of Saints were gathered in a living room and they began to inquire of me just how I felt about The Church. I said that I could not understand why this was the True Church and they replied that no man could tell me, only God.

Not too much later, in a Wednesday night meeting, as an elder was closing the service in prayer, I had a vision. I saw a large field, in the middle of this field a giant pole which was so tall seemed to reach neverendingly into the sky. I felt good about this experience, although I was not at that time sure of its meaning. I feel now that the pole in this vision stood for the word of God.

About a month later, God blessed me with a dream. In this dream, it seemed as if Brother Fred D'Amico picked me up as if I were a baby. He carried me to Bell Isle, the particular site where people were baptized at that time in Detroit. He crossed the bridge to get onto the island, turned around, and dipped me into the water. As he did this, I woke up.

I asked for my baptism a week later at the Detroit Divine Street Branch (Branch No. 1). When I asked, Brother Tony Pietrangelo inquired of the ministry who was to baptize me. Brother Jim Lovalvo said that the Spirit of God told him that Brother Fred D'Amico was to perform the baptism, thus fulfilling my dream.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Anthony Lombardo

o-o-o-o

## Give Thanks

How often have we taken for granted, that which we received? How often do we forget to thank the Lord?

Little things that seem everyday things, but, without the help of the Lord, we would have not.

To arise in the morning, to be able to rest at night, to see the break of dawn, or the first star of evening, to hear the laughter or cry of a child, to find food on the table to eat, to be able to hold a job to support our families, to be able to assist the elderly.

Those are a few of the little things we take for granted. Would all of these things be given to us without the help of the Lord? I think not.

How beautiful a day is if we but thank the Lord for our night of rest, thank Him for the break of dawn, thank Him for the ability to arise from our beds, pray for those who cannot arise.

Say to yourselves every day, "Have I thanked the Lord enough this day?" I honestly believe no one can thank the Lord enough.

If each of us in our own humble way, thanked Him for the breath of life, and the little things we take for granted, this world and all its misery would be a better place to live.

God Bless everyone.

Sister Margaret Abbott  
Cleveland, Ohio Branch 1

## A MINISTER MUST—

- know the Gospel of Christ.
- enjoy your work — preaching, teaching, visiting and missionary work.
- be sold on our Church and its beliefs.
- be happy in the knowledge of God.
- be prayerful — Fast and pray.
- be honest and loyal and have absolute sincerity.
- be trustworthy.
- be genuinely interested in the congregation.
- be able to express himself plainly, positively, and with deep conviction.
- have the courage of conviction and stand by the principles of Christ.
- have a sense of responsibility.
- be punctual and keep his promises.
- love people — all humanity.
- be humble and respectful.
- be able to smile in the face of reverses.
- know how to lose graciously.
- be able to accept criticism.
- control his temper and other emotions.
- have confidence and enthusiasm and initiative.
- have a positive attitude and always think in terms of spiritual success.
- be patient and long-suffering.
- know how to compliment and make others feel important.
- be able to make decisions.
- know how to give advice and also to take advice.
- have an open mind in order to recognize the other persons views and opinions.
- know how to be pleasantly critical.
- have a feeling of service to others.
- have, above all, peace of mind.
- have faith, hope, and charity.
- be a cheerful giver.

Brother Joseph Lovalvo

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

Greetings in Christ. Teach me humility, my Lord. Make my life a fruitful field. In my heart I've hidden your word.

My will to yours each day I yield. On August 31, Lisa Deules of San Jose filled our hearts with joy when she yielded to Jesus in baptism at our Modesto Conference of August 30. On September 21, our foster daughter, Calene R. Culwell also was baptized.

This made us very happy and rewarding to raise two foster daughters and seeing the first one willing to come to Christ.

There is a special feeling in baptism, only those who have such an experience can truly understand.

Well writes the Psalmist, "O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in Him." *Psalm 34:8*

Have you tasted? Have you seen? What do you see of God; what does he really mean to you? Think on these things. You cannot taste and see unless you truly desire and hunger after it.

The peace of God be with you.

Mark Randy

## Baptism In Dallas, Texas

Miss Mary Elizabeth Wild was baptized and confirmed in The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, August 24 by Brother George Benyola. Sister Mary has had a sincere desire for the last two years to become part of this wonderful Gospel. She has been blessed with several experiences that convinced her that The Church of Jesus Christ was truly different from other churches she has known. Just prior to her baptism, the Lord came to her in a dream and said, "The Church of Jesus Christ is My Church, and this is The Church I want you to join."

On the same day, we were privileged to have Sisters Martha Laird and Mary Clements from McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania visiting with us. Sister Martha contributed to the wonderful Sabbath we had by relating a dream she had the night before. In her dream she saw a clothes line filled with baby clothes, and in particular, she saw a bonnet hanging on the line in a very meticulous and perfect way. It was expressed that the bonnet represented Sister Mary Wild's baptism, and the feeling was that the baby clothes represented future baptisms in the Dallas area. May God grant this to be so.

There was an added blessing when Kimberly Yvonne Wild, the second daughter of Bill and Bonnie Wild and the granddaughter of Brother Doug and Sister Pat McClellan was blessed in the Church. The Dallas Mission has been meeting at the Texas Power and Light Building located on the corner of Inge and Lockwood Drives in Richardson, Texas since February of this year. We ask for your support by remembering us in your prayers for God's strength and guidance.

Sincerely,

Brother Hank Ardinger

## News From Mexico City



Sister Mora

Sister Crispina Garcia Mora is one of the early converts in Mexico City along with her son, Eugenio Mora, who recently was ordained as an Elder.

Sister Mora has been blessed with eight children, 76 grandchildren, 84 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren. The Lord has also blessed her with a long life; she is now 86 years of age.

## New Mission, Tucson, Arizona

On September 13, 1975 our Tucson Mission was established by Brother Robert Watson and Brother Phil Damore from the Phoenix Branch. Brother Jake Christman is our Presiding Elder with Brother Richard Christman and Brother Anthony Brutz assisting.

Sister Denise Kocuba is our Secretary. As of now we are 11 members and pray that God will bless our little mission here among the Mexican and Papago Indian people, and cause that many souls may come to know the Restored Gospel.

At the present time, we are meeting in our homes until the Lord provides us a place of worship. We would appreciate your prayers and support and extend to all to visit our mission.

Sister Grace Brutz  
Mission Editor

## Ordinations At Detroit Branch No. 2

We would like to share a most beautiful day with you. On Sunday, September 21, 1975 we at Branch No. 2 had scheduled our feet washing service and also the ordination of two Brothers: Brother Jan Veltman as Teacher and Brother Joe Cotellesse as Deacon. It's difficult to convey the wonderful spirit that was felt and some of the other great blessings we received that day.

The meeting was opened by Brother Paul Francione who read in *St. John 13 Chapter* about the ordinance of feet washing. He further read about Stephen and the others who were set aside to assist the Apostles. The feelings of the Apostle Paul as found in *Ephesians Chapter 4* regarding all the ordained offices and their purposes were also stressed.

During the ordinances it seemed as though a beautiful spirit was enjoyed by all. As we meditated and while the Brothers and Sisters washed one another's feet, Brother Domenic Moraco was moved to exclaim that surely God must be pleased with this beautiful sight and he was certain that He would answer whatever our request might be at that moment. At this point Brother Alex Gentile felt to pray to thank God for the beautiful Spirit that we felt; and while praying, Brother Fred Straccia spoke in the tongues. Brother Reno Bologna was so overcome that he could not contain himself. After the prayer we began to sing the hymn "The Spirit of God Like A Fire is Burning". After which Sister Carmen Buffa testified that on

February 17, 1975 that her son Danny was blessed and during that meeting she saw a white figure outlining Brother Alex Gentile and while we were singing the above hymn, she once again saw this same white figure outlining Brother Alex Gentile.

Brother Joe Cotellesse's feet were washed by Brother Joe Straccia and he was ordained by Brother Reno Bologna. Brother Jan Veltman's feet were washed by Brother Reno Bologna and he was ordained by Brother Alex Gentile. During the ordinations all the Elders present formed a circle around the Brothers and truly a great blessing was felt. After this a number of Brothers and Sisters, who were afflicted, were then anointed by the Elders. While Brother Frank Morle was anointing Brother Paul Francione, who has been afflicted, Brother Fred Straccia again spoke in the tongues.

As we were about to dismiss, Sister Clara Gentile related an experience she had some time ago where she had seen Brother Jan Veltman being ordained into an office; but at that time she did not know to what office, so she thanked God for allowing her to see this dream come to pass.

When God manifests Himself to His Church as He did that day, we are left with praise and thanksgiving on our lips for being a part of His wonderful Church restored in these the last days. It is our hope that as you read this account that you too may have felt a portion of the little bit of heaven that we felt that day. May God bless our newly ordained brothers that their service to The Church and to our branch might be filled with great blessings and accomplishments. May the peace of God be with you all.

Brother Paul Francione

## Baptisms At Sterling Heights

October 12 is known all over the United States as Columbus Day, but it was God's Day at the Sterling Heights Branch of Jesus Christ. Five souls asked for their baptism.

Our speaker for the day was Brother Norman Campatelli. He spoke on the three Hebrew children and how they refused to bow to the idol, and were thrown into the fiery furnace, and how Samson disobeyed the Lord and went into another land where he was deprived of his physical strength.

Brother Louis Vitto elaborated on the same subject, after which the Spirit of God descended and Tony DiFalco asked for his baptism. He is the father of four children who were recently blessed in The Church, and husband of Pierina, the first convert in our new church building. Three more followed in rapid succession, and one called Brother Louis Vitto after arriving home.

The Lord's Supper was again postponed until the evening service, and the five converts were baptized in the afternoon.

At the night service, there was a wonderful circle of Elders present and there were several testimonies relating to experiences concerning these new Brothers and Sisters. Brother Paul Vitto spoke, relating how Christ was baptized by John. The same spirit prevailed throughout the meeting, the same feeling of exhilaration that we had all felt throughout the day.

Confirmation followed. Brother Tony DiFalco, who was baptized by Brother John Buffa, was confirmed by Brother Carl Frammolin, Helen Geanfini, Sister of Brother Tony DiFalco, was baptized by Brother Paul Whitton and confirmed by Brother Nick Pietrangelo, Brother Joe Oliveri, son-in-law of Brother Sam and Sister Theresa Palermo, was baptized by Brother John Buffa and confirmed by Brother Tony Gerace, Karen Buffa, daughter-in-law of Brother John Buffa, was baptized by Brother John and confirmed by Brother Louis Vitto. It was she who called Brother Vitto after going home.

Jerry Boeberitz, who has attended our services for about two years, alternating between Branch One and Sterling Heights, came forward after the Benediction and asked for his baptism. He was baptized by Brother Paul Whitton and confirmed by Brother Spencer Everett who was instrumental in bringing Brother Jerry to The Church. Brother Jerry awoke early Sunday morning and his mind was very troubled. He arose and prayed to God, then opened his *Bible* to the verse "Let not your heart be troubled". This was his sign, and led him to put on the Armor of God.

We know that Jesus never fails, and we enlist the prayers of all who might read this, to join us in praying for our new converts.

## Baptism in Perry, Ohio

On Sunday, October 5, 1975 Sister Marilyn Lee Strunk made her choice to serve God the balance of her days on earth.

She was baptized in Perry, Ohio by Brother Joe Manes. The ordinance for the reception of the Holy Ghost was performed by Brother Rocco Biscotti.

We pray that God will bless our new sister in her new life.

## News From Brooklyn, New York

The year 1975 has been a busy year for us in the Brooklyn, New York Branch.

Starting with Sister Amelia Saccardi's ordination as a Deaconess on February 9, 1975. Our Sister had an experience which the Lord gave her some months before preparing her to accept the calling.

We all shared in the blessings with our Sister.

On Sunday, June 22, 1975, we had a wonderful meeting as we united with the Bronx and New Jersey Branches. It was a wonderful turnout to listen to Brothers Paul D'Amico and Nathan Peterkin. The sermon was about "The Prodigal Son".

It was well done with power, humility, love and was felt throughout the congregation. We really felt the Lord's presence. The gift of tongue was spoken and the interpretation given; "Look up for Jesus was full of love for our salvation and the Devil persecuted Him.

Brothers Reno Bologna and Dominic Moraco, visiting Evangelists, gave us the opportunity to hear them on July 11, 1975.

They had wonderful testimonies to relate. The theme

was "love" and how we must love one another, because The Lord loves us.

A wonderful spirit was felt, and we are joyful to serve a living God. We pray many will be called to this wonderful Gospel.

Pray for us that God will bless our Branch with many souls.

Amelia Saccardi, Branch Editor

## SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS

September 20 and 21, the Ladies Circle of the Washington, D. C. Mission hosted a gathering representing various Ladies Circles from Ohio and Pennsylvania. To say that a wonderful and glorious time was had by all would be an understatement. Truly the Lord blessed us with many inspiring moments and we were all very saddened to see the weekend come to a close.

The Saturday morning meeting began at 10:30 a.m. Prayer was offered by Brother George Timms, Elder of the Washington, D. C. Mission, followed by singing Hymn No. 375, "A Crown For the Righteous". The meeting was then turned over to the Sisters from the Washington, D. C. Mission. They presented a program entitled "Women of the Bible". After the program the meeting was turned over to Sister Mabel Bickerton, General Circle President. Sister Mable reminded us of the Apostle Paul who said that women are the teachers of many good things. She also spoke of the Sisters of old who had influenced her life and who were also responsible for the organization of the first Ladies Circle. Sister Mabel then proceeded to give a brief history of the organization and development of the Ladies Uplift Circle.

Saturday afternoon we heard the testimony of Sister Fannie Casasanta and Sister Rose Nalevanko regarding their recent trip to Italy. Their experiences there were very touching and made us all realize how blessed we are to live in this glorious land of America. Sister Rose said, "We went into buildings where we could hardly kneel to pray, but the people there were still serving God." Afterwards we sang "America The Beautiful".

Saturday night Sister Mable showed slides of the trip to the Holy Land which some of the Sisters had taken.

Sunday, September 21, was wonderful indeed. Our first speaker was Brother James Moore of Imperial Branch. His sermon was very inspirational. He said that we are approaching the time of extension of lives; that we should pray for one another, and esteem our Brothers and Sisters higher than ourselves. The hardest thing to do in the service of God is to return good for evil. It is our nature to seek vengeance. But, by following the precepts of God, we are able to turn against our nature.

Brother George Johnson from the Monongahela Branch was our next speaker. He defined grace as the unmerited love of God bestowed upon man. He explained that we are in a state displeasing to God and contrary to His will. We are born in a world where we have to contend for the very issues of life. In America, life has become very easy. We have time on our hands. We have false ideas that happiness can be obtained from material things. None of us merited God's love; it was through His grace and justice that we received it. Jesus was sent into the world to redeem mankind. His last words, "Father forgive them..." paved the way to our salvation. He

referred to *Isaiah* 51:1, "Look to the pit from which ye have been (dug)."

Brother Augie D'Orazio from the Edison Branch was our next speaker. His sermon concerned the power of God among the children of men. "God is no respecter of persons", he said. We should be happy people—people striving to serve and please God. When the glory of God rests upon His people, how beautiful it is. We should always acknowledge the *greatness* of God and our own *nothingness*. The beauty of The Church of Jesus Christ is that we have all been confirmed by the same Spirit. So, let us be the salt of the earth, that the world might realize that there is something special about The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother George Timms was our last speaker. His sermon stressed the importance of our remaining faithful in the service of God and keeping His precepts and commandments. We cannot thank God sufficiently for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us.

Thus ended two wonderful days of our rejoicing in the glories of God! But it did sadden us to see it all end.

Sister Hythia Young, Editor  
Washington, D. C. Mission

## An Experience

In my dream, I was reading from *The Book of Mormon*. All of a sudden, a powerful wind burst open my bedroom door and the light went out. I recognized this force as Satan. Satan took my *Book of Mormon*. I was terrified—but then I rebuked him in the name of Jesus Christ. Satan left my room, the light came back on; and I also had *The Book of Mormon* in my hand.

Sister Mary Wild  
The Dallas Mission

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the following parents on the arrival of their new born child. New arrivals have been:

James Jr. to James and Denise Creighton of Youngstown, Ohio,

Jason Anthony to John and Janet LaBuda of Youngstown, Ohio,

Jared Paul to Joe and Paulette Griffith of San Carlos, Arizona,

Laurie to Paul and Beverly Schuette of Lake Worth, Florida.

## — WEDDINGS —

### KUHN - WILKERSON

Mr. James Kuhn and Miss Deborah Wilkerson were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, August 30, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Perry, Ohio.

Brother Gene Kline officiated at the wedding ceremony.

The newlyweds will reside in Perry, Ohio.



**ROUSCH - DRAKE**

Mr. Danny Rousch and Miss Diana Drake were joined in holy wedlock on Saturday, July 5, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Perry, Ohio.

Brother Gene Kline officiated at the wedding ceremony.

The newlyweds will reside in Painesville, Ohio.

**LINK - PAPA**

Brother James Link Jr. and Sister Diana Papa were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, October 11, 1975 at the Bronx Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother James Link, Sr., father of the groom officiated at the double ring ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Sister Linda Gomes, Soloist, accompanied at the piano by Sister Debby Catalano.

The newlyweds will be residing in Lodi, New Jersey.

**ROACH - CHRISTMAN**

Mr. Richard Roach and Sister Debra Christman were united in holy wedlock on December 8, 1975 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Brother Richard Christman, the bride's father, officiated at the ceremony.

The newlyweds will make their home in Tucson, Arizona.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

**JOSEPH CAPONE**

Evangelist, Joseph Capone of Bell, California passed on to his heavenly reward on Sunday, November 2, 1975. Brother Joe was born on April 15, 1900 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on September 12, 1937.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife, three sons, two daughters, 18 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Steve Saffron, assisted by Brother John Dulisse.

Brother Joseph Capone met The Church in Detroit, Michigan where he became an ordained Elder and later an Evangelist. He moved to California and served God the remainder of his days in the Bell Branch.

**MARIANNINA FALLAVOLLITTI**

Sister Mariannina Fallavollitti, of the Greensburg, Pennsylvania branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her heavenly reward on October 31, 1975. She was born January 26, 1892 and was baptized into The Church on August 24, 1924.

She is survived by four sons, three daughters, 29 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted by Brother Paul Gehley.

She was a member of Greensburg Branch for 51 years. She was baptized by Brother Dulisse in Glassport, Pennsylvania.

**ELIZABETH E. LLOYD**

Sister Elizabeth E. Lloyd passed on to meet her Savior on October 3, 1975. She was a member of the Cleveland, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on September 18, 1900 and was baptized September 20, 1920.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband, two sons, one daughter, seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two sisters.

The funeral services were officiated by Brothers Joseph Manes and Vince Gibson.

She will be missed by everyone who knew her. May God Bless and comfort her loving family.

## — 1976 Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1976 events of General Church and Regional interest:

**FEBRUARY**

- 20, 21 & 22 — California District Conference — Bell
- 13 — Florida District Conference — Lake Worth

**MARCH**

- Date pending — Arizona District Conference — Phoenix
- 6 & 7 — Atlantic Coast District Conference — Hopelawn
- 10, 11, 12 & 14 — Michigan - Ontario District Conference — Windsor
- 13 & 14 — Ohio District Conference — Erie, Pa.
- 13 & \*14 — Pennsylvania District Conference — Glassport
- 6 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Aliquippa

**APRIL**

- \* 22, 23, 24 & 25 — General Church Conference — Greensburg

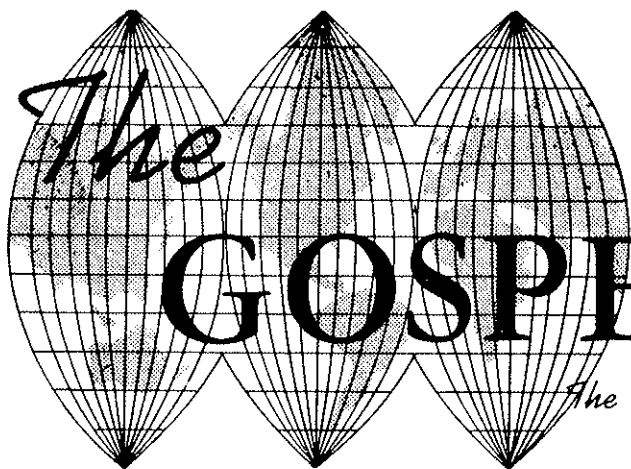
**MAY**

- 15 — G.M.B.A. Conference — Ohio Area

**JULY**

- 10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio
- 24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas

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



# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

February, 1976

Volume 32, No. 2

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## FACES

by Donald Ross

It was time to pass the royal mantle of leadership to another. Why? The man was old and weary. He fought the enemies of righteousness with the Sword of Laban and brought peace to the land. Mormon wrote that he was a man who ruled justly. His name — King Benjamin.

His ruling days over, he was prompted by the Spirit of God to address the Nephite people—a people for whom he had labored with his own hands. King Benjamin's obedient son, Mosiah, assembled the people at the temple. The congregation was too numerous, so he erected a tower and preached to them from it. Not everyone could hear, therefore, he directed his words be written and circulated and kept for posterity. (King Benjamin's oration is the only formal speech recorded in *The Book of Mormon*).

The words from King Benjamin were inspired. His teachings, outlined in his remarkable speech, are worthy of emulation by all. The words are simple, sincere, warm and dignified. They are forceful and persuasive. The king taught three themes. They were:

- (1). "when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God."
- (2). that an angel appeared to him with "tidings of great joy," which he was instructed to share with the people. The message concerned Jesus Christ, His coming to earth, His ultimate death, resurrection, and the effects of the infinite atonement.
- (3). he gave a testimony of the Savior, along with counsel to be obedient, to believe in God, His power, greatness, goodness, and wisdom. Though unsolicited, practical advice was given to parents to care for their children, to instruct them to "walk in the ways of truth and soberness," and to love and serve one another.

King Benjamin reminded the people to remember the poor and the beggar—for all are beggars and poor before the Lord. He told them to be diligent, and to continue in faith. The sermon was so forceful that the people fell

down in awe and humility, and cried for God's mercy. They sought forgiveness through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. King Benjamin told the congregation to make a covenant with Christ and remain true to that covenant. A roll was made of those who "listened" and "there was not one soul... but who had entered into the covenant and taken upon them the name of Christ."

At the conclusion of his sermon, King Benjamin consecrated his son, Mosiah, to be king and ruler over the people and appointed priests to teach the people, "to stir them up in remembrance of the oath which they had made..."

This holy man of God, King Benjamin, lived three more years, revered and loved by his people. Thank God for this marvelous testimony and example.

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## NOTICE

The annual Florida Area M.B.A. Campout will be held on February 13, 14 and 15, 1976 at the Everglades Conservation Youth Camp in West Palm Beach, Florida. Anyone wishing to attend, please contact Brother Mike Radd,

345 Swain Boulevard  
Greenacres City, Florida 33460  
(305) 965-4820  
(Registration Committee)

Come On Down You All!

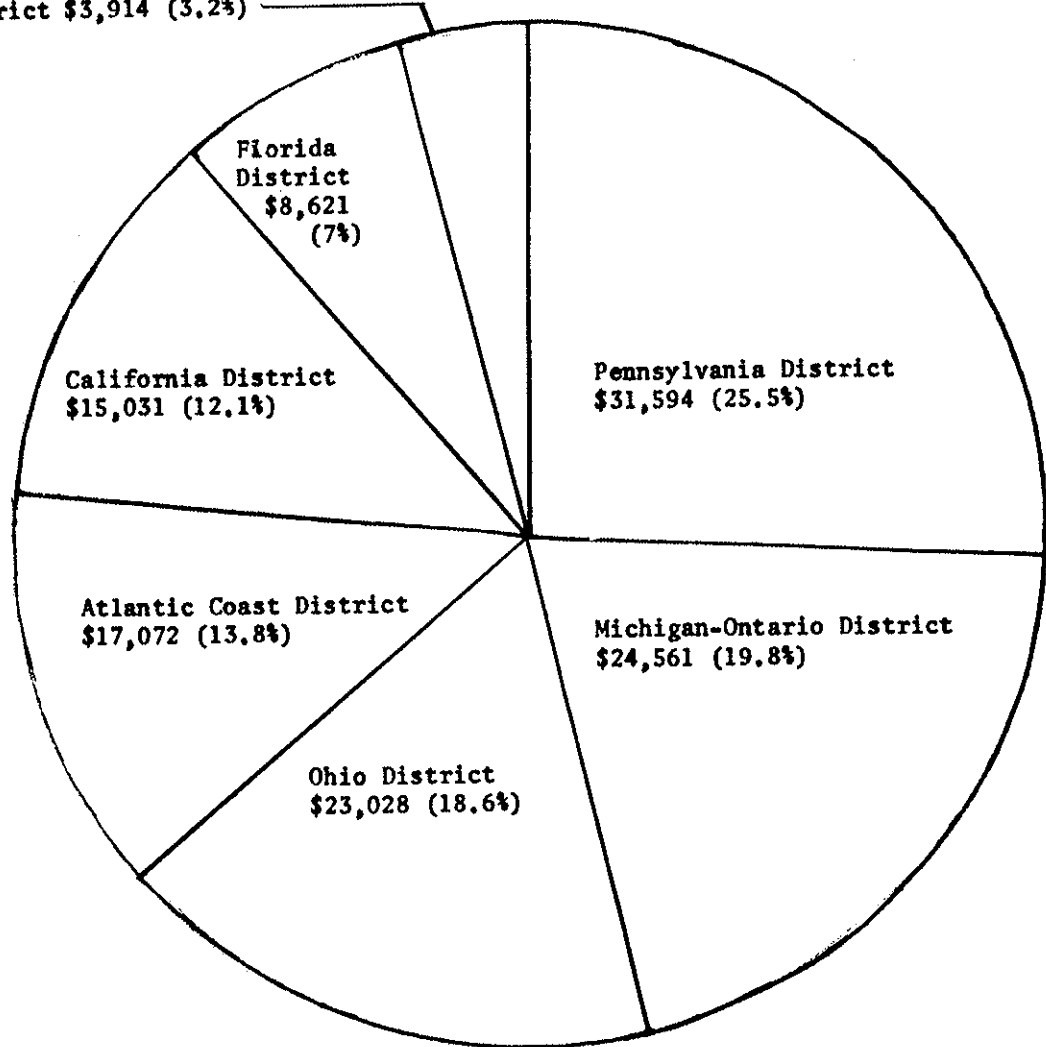
Sincerely,

Brother John D'Orazio  
Florida Area M.B.A. President

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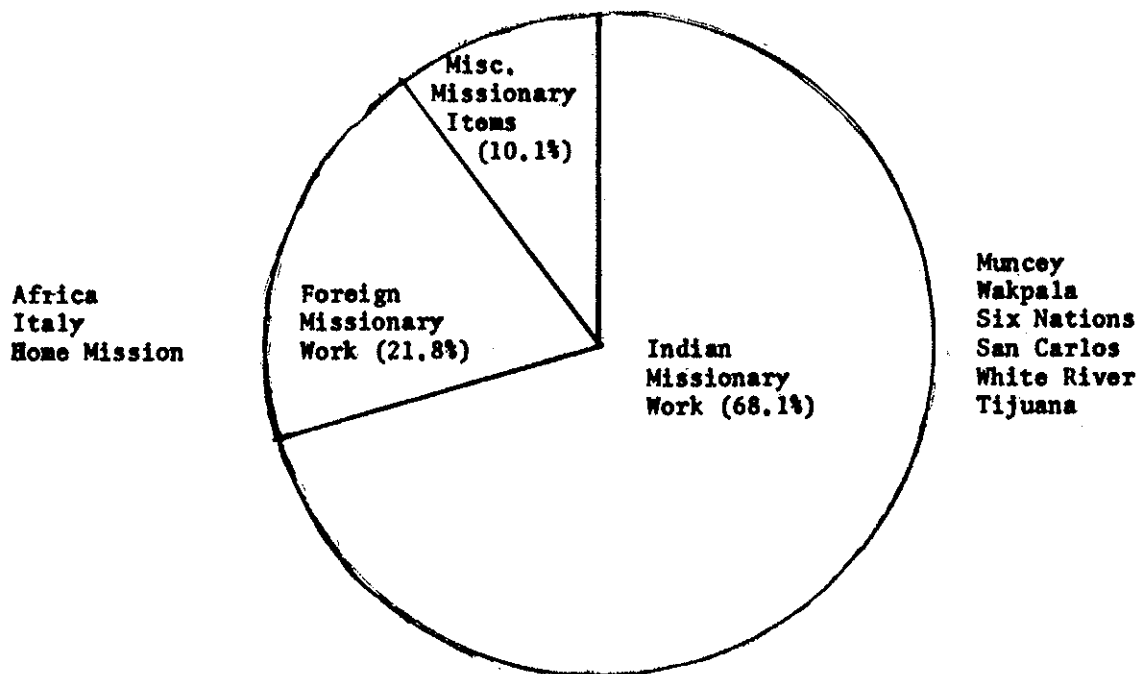
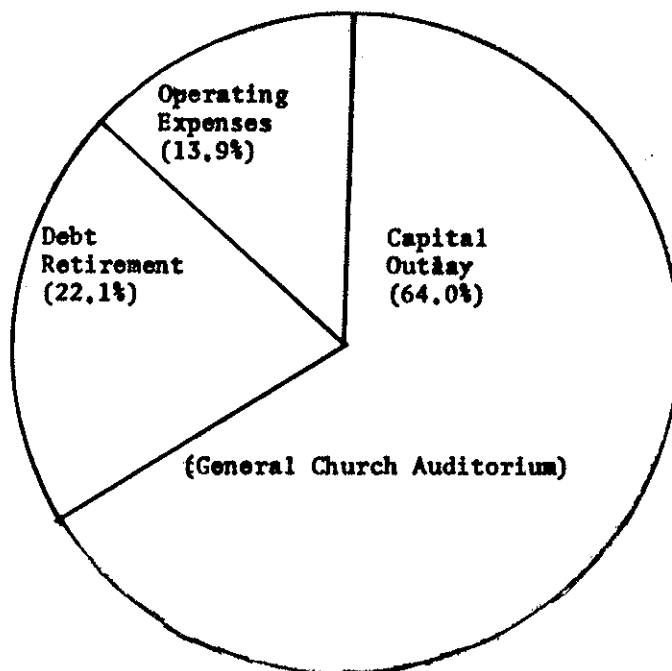
**1976 GENERAL CHURCH PROPOSED BUDGET****TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET — \$123,821.00**

Arizona District \$3,914 (3.2%)

**PROJECTED GOAL FOR DISTRICT**

Above chart shows the financial quota for each District of The Church, based on past and projected needs. We trust that everyone will make a concerted effort to meet the goal of each District, so The Gospel may continue to spread.

\$5.00 per month per member will guarantee our budget.

**PROPOSED MISSIONARY EXPENDITURES****TOTAL \$78,521 (63.4%)****PROPOSED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES****TOTAL \$45,300 (36.6%)**

## GREETINGS IN CHRIST

*1 Corinthians, Chapter 9:24 to 27*

Know you not that they which run in a race, run all, but one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain. Every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run not as uncertainly: so fight I, not as one that beats the air. But I keep UNDER my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

This is a stirring motivation, worthy of our adoption and putting it to work in our life. What Paul is saying is, that the thing that differentiates men is not lack of education, ability or strength, but a lack of will.

WINNING isn't everything. It is the ONLY thing.

This quote may show one side of the issue of striving to perfection, but in reality it is a little out of context. The context is, the will to win is everything. What I enjoy most in the persons, (of all walks of life, especially within the Lord's Church) who get the most out of their ability, be it mentally, physically or spiritually. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day.

You will realize your full potential when you run to win. You have certain ability, you will get most of it when you are willing.

To win, you need to work closely together with others of like will, in a spirit of self-discipline, and singleness of purpose, and a commitment to excellence. You will win out no matter how great the odds are stacked against you. Be they tribulation, distress, persecutions, famine, nakedness, peril or sword.

We are more than conquerors through Him that loves us. You have three things important: Your God, your family, and yourself.

Now are you willing? If not, why not? If you do not know how to begin, start in a small way, set a goal before you, follow those who are better than you, and who are like-minded. Be patient, but be persevering. It will surprise you what you can do.

You have abilities you have never tried.

May God our Living Savior  
bless and help you.

Ever humble,

Brother Mark Randy

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### Note of Thanks

I wish to send my heart-felt thanks to all who sent cards in my recent illness and most of all for the prayers for they certainly were needed as my condition was very serious.

Thank You and May God Bless You,  
Sister Angeline M. Biscotti

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 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

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### Note of Thanks

I wish to thank all of you for your prayers and for the many cards received during my recent hospitalization and surgery. We thank God for the love and concern of the Saints.

May God Bless You All,

Brother John Manes  
McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### FIVE YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP

This issue marks the fifth anniversary since your Editors assumed editorial supervision of *The Gospel News* in January, 1971. We feel quite sure that our many readers are awed along with us at the swift passing of time. How quickly the year 1975 has rolled away—indeed, the past five years that have circled into eternity.

We trust that our stewardship has been, in some degree, cheering, ennobling, edifying and informative to our readers in all locations.

#### *Challenging and Rewarding*

Our task has not always been easy, but it also has been challenging and rewarding. Compliments from readers outnumber by far, complaints and disappointments, which really have been minimal.

Too, we are confident that by this service, The Church is being brought a little closer together—members, loved ones, friends and visitors.

Additionally, numerous inquiries about The Church are being received from people who have come in contact with *The Gospel News* in one way or another. Brother Joseph Calabrese, a member of the Quorum of Seventy Evangelists, has been rendering a valuable service to The Church in ably and eloquently responding to these inquiries; several of his responses have been printed in *The Gospel News*. Let us continue to be prayerful that God's blessing will follow this correspondence with interested inquiries and that it will bring fruitful results.

The *Gospel News* circulation is increasingly expanding and reaching distant locations, including countries overseas. Our challenge and task are becoming increasingly demanding and we trust in God to grant us skill, tenacity, and dedication in rendering the service that is so urgently required.

#### *A Labor of Love*

We want to acknowledge the help and cooperation of our Editorialists and Consultants, Office Manager, Office Staff, Circulation Manager and Assistants, GMBA Editor, General Circle Editor, District Editors, and Sister Mabel Bickerton, writer of *The Children's Corner* which is a regular feature of every issue. Also, we recognize the help of Branch Editors, writers of articles, and anyone who in any way contributes to the success of this publication. All these along with us serve gratuitously; it is a labor of love.

We would be remiss if we should overlook recognition of our printer, Bethlen Press Inc. of Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sandor Chomos and his staff are doing an excellent and skillful job in printing our paper. Our many readers need no further comment from us on this as they actually handle and read each copy, and can attest to its neatness of style and readability.

We ask for your continued support and prayers as we extend our tour of duty.

We also pray that God will add His blessings to our subscribers and readers in all locations, far and near.

With all good wishes,

The Editorial Staff



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Anna The Prophetess

Dear Girls and Boys,

Happy New Year! How quickly 1975 went. Let us hope this new one holds many blessings for all. We will continue with our stories of the women in the scriptures.

Anna, the prophetess was the first person to proclaim Jesus as the Christ. Many men and women of that day were looking for a Redeemer, but it took Anna to see the prophecy fulfilled.

We read of Anna in *Luke's* Gospel. She was an old woman. *Luke* states "she was a widow of about fourscore and four years". Some think she was about eighty-four years old, others say she had been a widow eighty-four years. So we do not know her exact age. But age isn't important. The important thing is her faithfulness and dedication in the temple.

Anna was of the ancient tribe of Asher, a daughter of Phanuel. She never left the temple but stayed there day and night worshiping God by praying and fasting. She must have known the scriptures pertaining to the Messiah. Writings such as: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be a ruler in Israel". Maybe she had heard of the shepherds and the wisemen who had seen the "star in the East".

Finally the time came when Anna was to see the Messiah. Mary and Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord. A very good devout man named Simeon was the priest that day. The Holy Ghost had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Christ. Simeon took the child in his arms and blessed him. Then said, "Lord, now I can die in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." Mary and Joseph marvelled at the things which Simeon continued to speak concerning their child. Then Simeon blessed them. Turning to Mary he said, "Behold this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also that the thoughts of many be revealed."

Then Anna came in. No sooner had she seen the little group with Simeon holding the baby than she knew prophecy was fulfilled. She declared to all that this was the promised Messiah, the Redeemer of the world had finally come. What great rejoicing! The Hope of Israel was here!

Mary and Joseph had now fulfilled the requirements of the laws of Moses concerning the birth of the child in presenting him to the Lord, so returned to their home in Nazareth. How happy Anna must have been to return to her thanksgiving and prayer in the temple. She thanked

God that she had witnessed this great event. What great faith she had knowing that the prophecies long foretold were being fulfilled.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

—o—

## GOD'S COMMANDMENT TO THE GENTILE CHURCH

### "Prepare Ye The Way"

Why does The Church of Jesus Christ place such great emphasis on the taking of the Gospel to the American Indian or the Seed of Joseph?

The answer is simple—Because God commands us to do so. Joseph Smith had the admonition of the angel, Moroni, right from the beginning—"Remember, that he who does this work who is thus favored of the Lord, must do it with his eye single to the glory of the same, and the welfare and restoration of the scattered remnants of the House of Israel." (A reproduction of a series of letters written by Oliver Cowdery by The Church of Jesus Christ—pp. 29-30.)

The scriptures do not promise The Church great success in accomplishing this work. In fact, we know that despite all the Gentile Church's efforts, the Lamanite, as a nation of people, will remain largely unconverted; only a few will believe and obey the Gospel through our efforts.

THE BOOK OF MORMON tells us that a great Indian leader, the Choice Seer, will complete the work we begin. HE will convince the American Indian of the truth of the Gospel and write to them as a people. *II Nephi* 3:11 reads "But a seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins (The American Indian); and unto him will I give power to bring forth my word unto the seed of thy loins—and not to the bringing forth my word only, saith the Lord, but to the *convincing* them of my word, which shall already have gone forth among them."

Read again the last fragment of scripture—"... which shall have already gone forth among them."—That is the job of The Church of Jesus Christ—in essence, to prepare the way for the Choice Seer.

The Church has accepted many revelations concerning this great American Indian Moses. I believe that he is alive and waiting for the day when he can deliver his people from their spiritual and natural bondage. The Church does not know exactly WHEN he will come, but we feel that we must work as though he would appear tomorrow!!

There is work for everyone in accomplishing this great mission of The Church; and "everyone" means male, female, young, old, ordained, and laity. In fact, a special program has been designed that permits the laity to actively participate in the spreading of the Gospel to the American Indian. For more information explaining how you, the laity, can become involved in the Lay Missionary Program, write to David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Avenue, Charleroi, Pennsylvania 15022.



## MOTHER - DAUGHTER DINNER

The third Ohio Mother-Daughter Dinner was held Saturday, November 1, 1975 in Youngstown, Ohio at the Sveden House Restaurant with 103 in attendance. Those in attendance were from Niles, Warren, Perry, Kinsman, Cleveland No. 1, Youngstown, Ohio and Aliquippa, Pa.

The dinner committee consisted of Sisters Minnie DePiero (Chairman), Annabel Santilli, Teresa Pandone, Mary Santilli and Jean Pusateri.

Sister Lillian Salerno of Perry offered the dinner prayer and then we proceeded to the smorgasbord buffet dinner. Our speaker for the evening was Sister Amy Cook of Youngstown, Ohio relating her own personal experiences she shared with her mother and how they related to one another. She stressed the importance of a good mother-daughter relationship. Her speech was very enjoyable. Sister Sandra Cardillo then sang "I See God", and then select scriptural readings were offered showing the crowning qualities of woman and also on children given as the gift of God, as well as other recitations.

Presentation of gifts were given to the following: Sister Birdie Furnier for enjoying 61 years in the gospel, Sister Kim Alberta for the youngest member—1 year in the Gospel, Mrs. Caroline Pezzenti, 87 years old, the eldest mother, and the youngest mother, Mrs. Donna Hughes. Sister Sarah Manes was recipient of the door prize.

It was an evening well spent in fellowship with our friends and Sisters of the Gospel along with our daughters. We each look forward to the next dinner.

## TESTIMONY

Many of you know that I suffer from kidney problems and hypertension; thus my physical abilities are somewhat limited. But because of my ailments, it has been necessary for me to read most of the time and to study the Word of God whenever the chance arises.

During the latter part of July, I was struck down by my hypertension and was forced to stay in bed for several days or so. That meant that I would miss attending Church for at least two or three Sundays and I dislike missing Church. One Saturday evening before retiring to bed, I prayed unto God that He would not let me go to bed without some knowledge of what was happening in Church. The following night (Sunday) and continuing for several nights, God answered my prayers by dream.

In my dreams I would be sitting in Church with the rest of my Brothers and Sisters reading verses from The Bible. After reading a verse or two from The Scriptures, I would awake the following morning with the number and words of the verse(s) still fresh in my mind! I would then look up what I had read (in the dream, mind you) in The Bible the exact same passage and there it would be, word for word! Praise God.

I also had a dream one evening of a sermon that Brother Sam Dell had given earlier one Sunday morning

when I could not attend because of my illness. Brother Sam had given a sermon on Church attendance and obedience. My dream was of that sermon, again almost word for word! I checked with Brother Horace Connor of The Fairless Hills Mission later in the week to affirm my experience; he confirmed it one hundred percent.

The power of God through His Son, Jesus Christ, is true and wonderful in everyway. God and Jesus have not left me alone; their Spirit has been with me, even when there were times when I was not aware of its presence. God bless the Saints.

Brother Gary Foster

NOTE: Brother Gary has recently undergone a complete kidney transplant. He is presently recovering at home after major surgery in the hospital. His recovery and rehabilitation has been declared medical phenomenon but Brother Gary gives the glory to God and thanks to his brother who donated his kidney. Praise to God and His blessings for the Saints.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was surprised to learn a letter I had written to Brother Frank Calabrese had been printed in *The Gospel News*. I had been very lost here until I met him and I am always waiting for the next time someone from the Church will come out.

Brother Frank made me quit looking at the Bible as a history book and to see it as the Living Word of God. Since talking with him I have become very interested in The Church and I hope to soon be a baptized member.

In reading the Bible and Book of Mormon the Lord opened my eyes to see this as The Church of Jesus Christ. In my daily devotions and meditations I have found myself being chastised and directed. I now look forward to being released next time my case is reviewed for parole as the Lord has showed me it would.

I wish to express my extreme gratitude to Brother Frank, Sister Helen and others for their tender, loving help to me and other girls here. This has given me an inner peace and joy that I never had before, and a life with meaning now.

I would also like to receive letters from Sisters in the Church as I wish to be taught as much as possible about our Church so I can tell others. Also, I would like to receive *The Gospel News* — it makes me feel so much closer to the Church to read about everything that's happening. (Editor's note: The Lorain M.B.A. has taken care of this.)

Again, thanks to Brother Frank for coming here to teach us girls about Christ.

Your Sister in Christ Jesus,

Lisa Sluys  
State Reformatory  
Route 1, Box 33  
York, Nebraska 68467

## HE SHALL TELL THEE WHAT THOU OUGHTEST TO DO

"He shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do." These are the words of an Angel of God to Cornelius, one of the first Gentile Christians. Cornelius was a devout man and one that feared God with all his house and gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always. Apparently he was a good man but he lacked something important, for he was visited by an Angel of God instructing him to send to Joppa, a full days journey for one called Peter the Apostle of Jesus, who in turn also received a revelation from God concerning Cornelius, and in due time he went to Caesarea to preach the word of God to them and baptized them; the Holy Ghost bearing witness. We must conclude that regardless of Cornelius' good standing, he was directed to send for Peter in order for him to accept the principles of the doctrine of Christ for the salvation of his soul.

We often hear it said that it does not matter what we believe so long as we are sincere and it does not matter what church we join so long as we profess Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Such ideas are accepted without examination on every side, regarded as part of modern tolerance. Those that reject such ideas are thought of as narrow minded, religiously radical or fanatics, stragglers in the procession of religion. Yet it is written that Jesus is our pattern, Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He also said that I will build my church, That is Christ. Mat. 16:18.

In this religious world we find many denominations some called St. Peter, St. Luke, St. Matthew, St. John and St. Paul and many other names. To a reasonable mind how can they be the Church of Jesus Christ when they are called every other name but His. As He said I will build my church, apparently it should be called after His name. The name of the church is important, however, the most important part is the doctrine of Christ and His commandments. It is evident that many of His doctrines have been changed from the *New Testament* church. Paul writing to the Galatian Saints; *Galatians* 1:8. "Though we, or an Angel from Heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye received, let him be accursed." Note how Paul re-asserts this. The Apostle John writes, *Second John* 9, 10. "Who-soever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine (Christ's doctrine) receive him not unto your house, neither bid him God speed."

It matters tremendously in what a man believes in or what church he belongs to. It mattered to Cornelius for he had to be obedient to the gospel of Jesus Christ in order to save his soul. Many will say too, I abide by the Ten Commandments. I live a good clean life, I give alms, I pray and I treat my fellow man as I wish to be treated. O foolish man, what need there be for the coming of Christ, his death and resurrection or in other words the plan of salvation if it were so. Sincerity, honesty and goodness is acceptable to God, but it will not save you in the Kingdom of God. Jesus told Nicodemus *John* 3:5 "Except

a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God." A new birth is required.

It is evident and clear in the teachings of the scriptures, the Christian man should become a member, a functioning part, of some church body. But all churches are not acceptable to God. As a Roman Catholic writer has said: "If one church is as good as another, then, religion is only a matter of sentiment and good taste. There is no real truth in it. And a man is free to follow his inclination in choosing his church, as he might be in choosing a club or a lodge. When you are indifferent to anything, it doesn't require much opposition for you to give up the thing completely. Religion is no exception. If you hold one church as good as another, you are not far from the belief that there is not much good in any church."

The question now arises: Is the true church of Jesus Christ upon the earth? How shall I know it and where shall I find it? First, one must be as Cornelius, have faith in God, by reading the word of God and comparing the churches of the world with the *New Testament* church and above all seeking God for direction to the church acceptable unto Him. I declare unto the world that the true Church of Jesus Christ is upon the earth, restored with power and authority. The Priesthood of this Church is based on the principle of divine calling, a succession of The Church organized in 1830.

You that are seeking the truth and salvation may I say unto you as Philip said to his friend in the *New Testament*, when he tells him of the Messiah "Come and see." It is written "Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened, and ask and it shall be given." And I am sure if it is done properly, "He shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do." May the peace of our Saviour be with you all. Amen.

Timothy Dom Bucci

—Reprinted *Gospel News*, June, 1952.

### M.B.A. Highlights

#### CLASSIFY YOURSELF

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just content that your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?  
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?  
Do you take an active part to help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belong?

Do you ever write or visit a member who is sick?  
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?  
There's quite a program scheduled that I'm sure you'll hear about  
And we'll appreciate it if you, too, will come to help us out.

So come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart.  
Don't be just a member, but take an active part.  
Think this over, member, you know the right from wrong  
Are you an active member, or do you just belong???

—Author unknown

Submitted by E. Duran  
Anaheim Newsletter

**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****Lake Worth, Florida**

I paused to pick up my Saint's Hymnal as I usually do on Sunday morning before entering church. I noticed a stillness, a peacefulness and remembered the announcement that came several weeks prior to Conference that Brother Sal Moccio would be ordained a Deacon September 21, 1975 at the Lake Worth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. I didn't need a calendar to know this must be that day.

I took my seat in the rear of the church, a habit acquired from having little children and a habit I've not been able to break since my children have long passed the toddler age. Every chair was occupied and I knew my Brothers and Sisters had anticipated this day.

As Brother Mike Radd preluded the ordination by reading the duties of a Deacon I could discern in the face of Brother Sal the hope and expectations of what his new role in the Church would mean. How wonderful to see willing workers who long to labor for our Lord. Brother Mike reminded us a Deacon must be full of good works and I along with my Brothers and Sisters knew why Brother Sal was singled out for this duty.

Brother Frank Sirangelo, already bent with age, knelt to wash the feet of Brother Sal, an act that keeps a newness and freshness to thrill any and all observers no matter how many times it is witnessed.

The circle of Elders encompassed Brother Sal and Brother Frank Sirangelo anointed him, thus establishing Brother Sal Moccio as Deacon in the Lake Worth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

May the Lord continue to encourage our Brother and his family for as more offices open and are filled we are keenly aware of our growth as a Church.

Sister Letti Obradovich  
Lake Worth Branch Editor

**News From Edgecomb, Maine**

On Saturday, September 6, 1975 we had a most glorious day as we were visited by our Brothers and Sisters from New Jersey. Brother Augie D'Orazio and family, Brother Joe Perri and wife, also Brother Paul Benyola and his family from Massachusetts. On Sunday we were blessed so abundantly that we feel it would be good to share the great joy we received. Brother Richard Onorato turned over the meeting to Brother Augie, Brother Joe and Brother Paul.

I can truly say all those present enjoyed the fellowship and love of one another. The Spirit of God prevailed throughout the meeting.

But we cannot forget May 24, 1975, we were honored to have with us Brother Dominic Rose and his wife. Words cannot describe the spirit felt throughout the meeting. The Lord poured out His blessing upon us as Brother Rose opened the service with Hymn No. 289 "Make Me A Blessing". Brother Rose encouraged us to stay on the right road because it's very hard to get back once we go astray. Brother Rose chose for his text, Alma, Chapter 15.

Brother Richard Onorato then followed with a very inspiring talk about the power of God and the great work of the Restoration. He commented on the four sons of Mosiah when they departed to preach the Gospel to the Lamanites, fasting and praying often and reading the Scriptures. At the end of the service Brother Rose offered an inspired closing prayer. We pray that God will bless Brother Rose and his wife.

We extend an invitation to all to come to Maine and worship with us.

Brother John Onorato

**Aliquippa, Pa. News**

Sunday, November 23, 1975 was a day of blessing for the Aliquippa Branch. We had visiting Brothers and Sisters from Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, and from Greensburg, Pa.

Brother Joe Ross introduced our service by stating, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is comfort and peace."

He spoke of Peter speaking to the people in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. He told the people to repent of their sins and be baptized.

Brother Domenick Thomas followed by telling us to develop the same type of Charity that personified Christ. Try to develop the same patience and long-suffering. Brother Domenick encouraged the young and unbaptized to come to more services, not just preaching, but also prayer services. He concluded by saying we must tell others of The Church.

Brother Anthony Ross our Presiding Elder thanked Brother Domenick and Brother Anthony Ensana for being with us.

Upon returning to our afternoon service we were glad to see that Brother Thomas had remained in Aliquippa for our afternoon service. Brother and Sister Joe Draskovich sang a duet for us. Many testimonies were given after which Brother Domenick offered prayer for our Branch and for The Church. We concluded our day by singing, "Prayer is the Souls Sincere Desire."

Joyceann Jumper

**Youngstown, Ohio**

On Sunday, November 23, 1975 we welcomed visitors from Lorain and Niles, Ohio, and New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brother Joseph Calabrese opened the service reading from *Romans, Chapter 5*. He spoke on faith, hope, and patience in the trials and tribulations of life. "Rejoice in hope of the Glory of God. God has blessed His Church and we have real communication with Him, when we feel His power and spirit."

The afternoon service continued with a spirit of humility in testimony. Brother Drew Whittager related that he came to Church in pain. During the opening prayer, the pain left him, and he was able to enjoy the service. He recently recovered from a severe heart attack, and was reinstated into The Church.

We were happy to see our aged sister, Theresa Giovannone able to attend Church again. She had been absent

about a year because of a stroke. Her son-in-law, Bro. Jack Laverie asked for prayer, and was reinstated into fellowship.

On Thanksgiving Day, our service was opened by Brother Travis Perry. He spoke on the privilege of religious freedom in America. "This land will be blessed as long as the people obey the commandments of God."

Our visitors included the four sisters from New Orleans, La., Sisters Marlea Frentzos, Gail Wortman, Cathy McGartlin, and Gabrielle Casebonne. They gave their testimonies, relating experiences and blessings received as they meet to study the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*. We enjoyed hearing them sing two beautiful songs which they composed.

We thank God for The Church of Jesus Christ, and His continual blessings.

Sister Betty Gennaro  
Youngstown Editor

## News From Red Lake

The members of the Red Lake Mission salute The Church and reaffirm our desire to be a light shining forth in a world of darkness. Especially, the unquenchable yearning for the Restoration Story to be published throughout this land of the descendants of Joseph where we live and have been directed to do our part for the Lord's work.

Several Brothers recorded the intent of their hearts in the *Book of Mormon*, praying that the Gentiles who would receive their record would have charity for the survivors of their people. Just as the Lord Jesus looked toward the return of the natural fruit, these men saw hope in the plan of the Restoration. With all humility we thank God for this desire, and with great excitement, we will strive to be a tool in the Lord's hand to be an available branch for the grafting in of the natural branches.

At this time, our main activities include visits to the Indian Hospital and Tribal Jail. We have visited the hospital here for almost two years which has been a blessing to the patients as well as to us. We sing Gospel songs, and the ministry prays for the sick when a request is made. We have felt the Spirit of God in our midst often as we pass through the rooms of the sick Chosen People. We were inspired to learn to read the Navajo Language early in this year so that we could sing in their own tongue when possible. This has also been a blessing to all, even though we do not understand all the sounds we make, we pray for that same Sweet Holy Spirit to be present. We thank God that it has reached to many hearts.

More recently, our visits to the jail began as we looked for new avenues of reaching out. This activity too, has proven to be a balm to the weary as the songs, prayers, and scripture studies have caused these people to stop and consider the welfare of their soul. It is our fervent prayer that through these humble efforts, the spirit and hope of the Restored Gospel will awaken these people to the realization that the Redeemer of Israel lives and cares for them—the first children of the covenant.

We'd like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the many, many Saints and friends who have gone out of their way to visit us. We're not able to

mention each one by name, but your inspired sermons and testimonies will always be a part of our memory. We always look forward to visitors and news from the various branches, so we invite you to fellowship and work with us if the Lord wills it.

To conclude, we ask an interest in each of your prayers for the Spiritual success of this small outpost of the Gospel. Our prayers continually ascend to the Father on behalf of a Church and Priesthood united to fulfill the commandments of God in this, the last hour. May God's richest blessings abide with the Saints.

Your Family-in-Christ,  
The Red Lake Mission

## Visitors At Roscoe Branch

The Roscoe Branch has been blessed with many visitors the past several months.

On October 12, Brother Charles Smith from Ft. Pierce, Florida opened the morning service speaking on God's creation and the subject "Til Earth Is Good Again." That night a special meeting was held with Brother James Lovalvo, Apostle, from Ft. Pierce, Florida speaking to us of the Restoration of The Gospel and also reflecting upon the same subject as Brother Smith. There were many in attendance from various branches. Refreshments were served after the evening service and a good fellowship was felt. The spirit of God was felt throughout the day.

On October 26, Brothers Charles Smith and Anthony Ensana from Ft. Pierce, Florida and Brother Matthew Rogolino from Freehold, New Jersey and Brother Frank Zayre from Brooklyn, New York were with us. Brother Rogolino opened the meeting speaking on the Love of God. Brother Frank and Brother Tony followed and the Love of God was felt among us as they spoke God's word to us and testified of God's blessings in their lives.

On November 16, Brother Paul Palmieri from Aliquippa Branch opened the morning service speaking on the life of Zacchaeus and the great change that took place after he met with Jesus, and how that same great change takes place today in the hearts of those who abide with the Lord. He told how there are many in the world sincerely seeking the Lord and the great work there is for us to help others to find the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are thankful for the many beautiful words of life spoken in the spirit of the Lord by our visiting Brothers. We pray God will richly bless them as they minister and labor for Him.

## Ordination In Cleveland, Ohio

Brother William Hufnagle, of Branch No. 1, Cleveland Ohio of The Church of Jesus Christ was ordained into the holy office of Teacher in The Church. He was ordained on Sunday, January 4, 1976 by Brother Rocco Biscotti. His feet were washed in the ordination by Brother Albert Ventura.

Brother William has been a member of The Church since 1961 and in 1973 he was ordained a Deacon.

A great blessing and happiness was enjoyed throughout the day. Brother Rocco Biscotti spoke on the duties

and meaning of being a Teacher in The Church of Jesus Christ.

We pray that God will bless our Brother in his new responsibility.

### Windsor, Canada News

On November 23, 1975 we were visited by two of our Apostles; Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Nick Pietrangelo. They both spoke, admonishing us to live the Gospel and to love one another. We were very thankful for their visit.

In the evening, Brother Sam Cuomo was honored by his family with a luncheon for the Brothers, Sisters and friends. We celebrated Brother Sam's 80th birthday.

### Baptism At Niles, Ohio

It was a beautiful Sunday service with many visitors from Pennsylvania, Lorain, Kent, and Youngstown as we witnessed another soul coming to Christ.

Sister Gabrielle Casebonne was baptized on Sunday, November 30, 1975 at Niles, Ohio by Brother Russell Martorano. She was confirmed by Brother Dominic Bucci.

Sister Gabrielle is from New Orleans and was attending the meeting with the group from New Orleans. Also in attendance were Sister Cathy Genaro's parents and grandmothers.

Many beautiful testimonies were heard in the afternoon along with some wonderful songs. Sister Phyllis Koon sang "Without Him". The Sisters from New Orleans sang a song written by Sister Gabrielle, "This Man Called Jesus". Sister Gabrielle gave her testimony and then asked to be baptized. A beautiful spirit filled the room as everyone felt a portion of God's love.

The Sisters from New Orleans are Marlea Frenzos, Gail Wortman, Vickie Johnson, Gabrielle Casebonne and Cathy Genaro, who now resides in Niles, Ohio.

Sister Wanda Pandone

### A New Person In Christ

Brother Don Ruyle became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ on November 16, 1975. The baptism took place at Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan. He was baptized by Brother Jerry Benyola and confirmed by Brother Concetto Alessandro.

Before coming into The Church, Brother Don had the following experience.

"I had been praying several weeks for an experience to verify whether I should be baptized in this Church or not.

One night I had a dream that I was in the river. I don't remember seeing anyone around me but I felt myself being dunked into the water. Instead of coming back up and out of the river, my body just floated away behind me. When I woke up in the morning, I felt that I would be very embarrassed if I did call for my baptism. What would the people say if I never came up?"

It wasn't until after I was baptized that I realized the meaning of the dream; that the old person would be

buried and I would be taking on a new character. I would be a new person in Christ."

We welcome Brother Don to our Gospel Family and pray that the Lord will be his constant guide and bestow upon him many wonderful blessings.

Sister Diana Thompson  
Branch No. 1

### Edison, N. J. Branch News

On Thursday before the past CMBA, as most of the Saints in The Atlantic District were packing and preparing themselves for the bus ride to the auditorium, it seems that at least one person was preparing herself in a different way. For months, Mrs. Katie Elizabeth Warren has been attending The Edison Branch. Her son, Brother Arthur Searcy, is one of our Deacons and has been faithful to The Church for many years, although he was the only one in his family that was baptized. We are sure that it brought him joy to hear the news that his mother asked for her baptism on Wednesday night, November 5, and was taken into the waters of regeneration the next day, November 6, by Brother Nathan Peterkin. It certainly brought joy to the Saints of the Branch for this Sister has really won our hearts during her visits to the Sunday School and the morning meetings. She carries a beautiful spirit, but I think what impressed us the most about her testimony was the fact that she was born on August 28, 1901, making our dear new Sister 74 years old! She was confirmed by Brother Anthony Ensana, and a vision was seen during her baptism that was also a confirmation. Sister Ivy Fisher looked in the sky and saw a star that was very bright and she knew that this meant that there was a new star in God's heaven. We pray that the Lord will shower His blessings upon this new babe in The Gospel.

Last Sunday, November 23, The Edison Branch was further blessed by the ordination of Brother Arthur Searcy as a Teacher in The Church. We are happy to see our prayers answered. His feet were washed by Brother Frank Cervone of The Fairless Hills Mission and he was ordained by Brother Rocco Ensana. I mentioned to him afterwards that now he can teach his mother the doctrine of The Church. He told me that he had already done just that long before his ordination. We are blessed to see the Lord working in our midst this way. Brother Arthur and Sister Katie will soon be accompanying Brother Nathan and Sister Carmella Peterkin to visit with the Sisters in Omaha, Nebraska, and our prayers go with them. We hope to hear a good report about the Spirit of God moving in the Midwest upon their return. Many prayers are being answered everyday in every area of The Church and it is just a blessing to be able to praise Him.

Brother Ken Lombardo

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### A QUESTION IS ASKED

It has recently been brought to my attention that the *Bible* is not complete, that there are some works missing. Is this true?

Yes it is very true. There are approximately 18 works that the *Bible* mentions, which are not included within the

*Bible.* Among them are the books of — *Samuel the Seer*, *Nathan the Prophet*, and the most well known *Acts of Solomon*.

For this reason along with many others, our Church stresses the importance of the *Book of Mormon*. It helps to fill in many pure and precious parts that have been destroyed or removed from the *Bible*.

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Joseph Paul Jr. to Joseph and Evelyn Willforth of Warren, Ohio,

Maria Kathryn to Steven and Loretta Chambers of Branch No. 1 of Detroit, Michigan,

Vito Peter to Vito and Sharon Gioria of Branch No. 1 of Detroit, Michigan,

Matthew Paul to Anthony and JoAnn Rossi of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania,

Melissa Raye to Richard and Linda Lowther of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania,

Richard Michael, Jr. to Richard and Karen Seltz of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### GENARO - McGARTLIN

Brother Ronald J. Genaro of Niles, Ohio and Sister Cathy Anne McGartlin of New Orleans, Louisiana were united in the bonds of holy wedlock on November 29, 1975 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Warren, Ohio.

Brother Joseph Genaro, the groom's father, officiated at the wedding ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by the bride and groom.

The newlyweds will reside in Niles, Ohio.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### SALVATORE GALANTE

Brother Salvatore Galante of the Phoenix, Arizona branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to his heavenly reward on November 29, 1975. He was born on March 29, 1892 and was baptized May 8, 1932.

He is survived by a brother and sister.

The funeral services were officiated by Elder Philip Damore.

Brother Galante was ordained a Teacher at Branch No. 1 Detroit, Michigan. He was a faithful Brother in

The Church until the end. He bore testimony shortly before he passed away, even though he had to be supported to stay on his feet. He has left his mark and he will be remembered by many people for years to come.

### CLARENCE (FARMER) CLARK

Mr. Clarence (Farmer) Clark passed on to his heavenly reward on November 14, 1975. He attended the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. He was born on March 7, 1888.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Joseph Shazer. He is survived by his wife, two sons, three daughters, 13 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and two sisters.

May the Lord bless his family he has left to mourn his passing and all that knew and loved him.

## — 1976 Church Calendar —

The following is a list of 1976 events of General Church and Regional interest:

### FEBRUARY

20, 21 & 22 — California District Conference — Bell  
13 — Florida District Conference — Lake Worth

### MARCH

Date pending — Arizona District Conference — Phoenix  
6 & 7 — Atlantic Coast District Conference — Hopelawn  
10, 11, 12 & 14 — Michigan - Ontario District Conference — Windsor  
13 & 14 — Ohio District Conference — Erie, Pa.  
6 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Aliquippa

### APRIL

\* 22, 23, 24 & 25 — General Church Conference — Greensburg

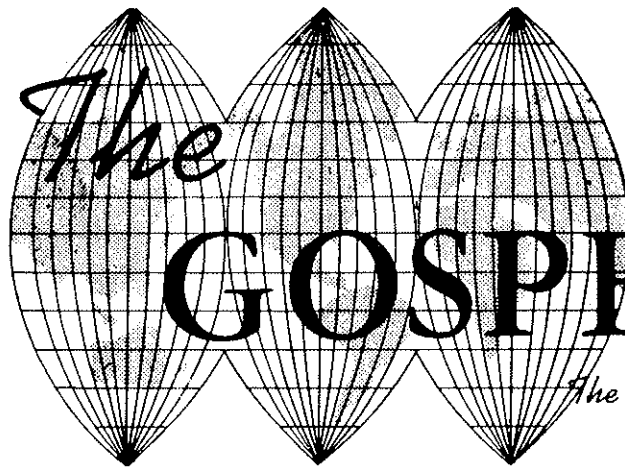
### MAY

15 — G.M.B.A. Conference — Ohio Area

### JULY

10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio  
24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas

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



# NEWS

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

March, 1976

Volume 32, No. 3

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## VOICES PAST

### GO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST TO ALL THE WORLD

Christ commanded His disciples to go into all the world and preach His Gospel. When we read of the travels of such men as Paul and the rest of the apostles going forth, fulfilling the command of Christ in establishing the Gospel in various places of the eastern world, we are made to say that they fulfilled the command to the best of their ability, but what a small territory when compared to all the world, for since that time there have been other parts of the world discovered. Consider the land of America or the western world as it is called. When Columbus discovered this land it brought to light a people unknown to the old world, and there was found (as the scripture says) a multitude of nations in the midst of the earth, people occupying this land from east to west and north to south.

Now, since discoveries have been made, it has been proven by their ancient cities, that they have occupied this (before) unknown world from two to three thousand years. The question here arises, did Christ die for the whole world or just one-half of it? Would it be justice in God for one-half of the world to receive the benefits of Christ's Gospel and the other half to wait till almost fifteen hundred years afterward? We say it would not, and if the ministry of Christ never came to this land or people, then by what means did Christ let the world know that He shed His blood for them? When we stop and think of these things, we say that Christ would in some way make known that He died for all Adam's race.

In the history of Columbus, you will find that when he (Columbus) was trying to teach them his religion, that one Indian declared that God had a mother but not a father. Enough to prove that tradition had been handed down which proved that they knew by what power Christ, the Son of God, was born into the world. Where did such wonderful truth come from? Ah, my friends, do you remember reading in *St. John's Gospel, tenth Chapter 16th verse*, that Christ said that He had other sheep that were not of that fold and that they should hear His voice. That proves by what way the ministry of Christ was to come to them, and if you would examine the history of this people that has come to light (the book that was to come out of the ground,) *Isaiah 29th chapter*, you would find

a fulfillment of His predictions, that He (Christ) was to go to His other sheep (or people). It shows that on the morning after the great turmoil and destruction (that had taken place while Christ was in the tomb) the people of this land (America) had gathered together to reason out what all these things meant and I presume, to thank God that He had spared so many of them from the great destruction that had taken place.

While they were there assembled they heard a voice from the skies. It was their blessed Savior visiting His

*(Continued on page 2)*

## SPECIAL PLEA

### TO ALL INTERESTED READERS:

At present, we are paying \$360.00 per month to have the paper printed.

Cost to print:  $\$360 \times 12 \text{ months} = \$4320.00$

We have approximately 950  
paid subscribers

$950 \times \$4.00 = 3800.00$

Deficit \$ 520.00

You can easily see that we do not take in enough money to offset the printing. Mailing expenses are approximately \$20.00 per month or \$240.00.

To help, we need at least 200 new subscribers and donations to *The Gospel News*.

Will you help??

Send donations to:

*The Gospel News*  
Business and Editorial Office  
Sixth & Lincoln Streets  
Monongahela, Pa. 15063

*Editor*



## CHURCH COLORING BOOKS AVAILABLE

The first General Church sanctioned coloring book is now available for sale to all Branches, Missions, M.B.A. locals, Sunday Schools, etc.

This 32 page coloring book supports the faith and doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ with pictures of the Gospel Restoration story, the Holy Ordinances and others related to our faith.

This religious learning activity will ably assist to teach our children from Ages 5 to 11, the true basic principles of the Restored Gospel by a time proven method — the coloring book.

Each book is priced at \$0.75 each, plus mailing. They must be pre-ordered by March 27, 1976. Books should be ordered on a 5 to 1 ratio. For example, if there are 12 children in a class, order 60 books. This allows for a continual turnover, and don't forget the teachers.

These books can be used as gifts on birthdays, home use, sick children, etc. They will be ready for distribution by April 1, 1976. Please order now.

Send your order and money to:

Joseph Ross  
No. 2 Ross Drive  
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

G.M.B.A. Visual Aids Committee:  
Alex Gentile, John Ross Jr., Joseph Ross

—o—

## VOICES PAST . . .

(Continued from page 1)

other sheep. No doubt it must have been a great consolation to them after having passed through all their troubles and trials, to realize that their Saviour had come at last. He whom their fathers and their prophets had foretold for hundreds of years, would be born of the Virgin Mary and that the Jews would crucify Him, and on the third day would rise again, and that He would appear to them and establish His Church among them.

By A. B. Cadman.  
(Copied from *The Gospel Reflector*  
of October, 1905.)

—o—



## THE TWO JOSEPHS

by Richard Scaglione

In the Book of *Genesis* we read what is well known to young and old alike. It concerns Joseph, the favorite son of Jacob. Joseph was sold by his brothers to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. This seemed like such a cruel thing to do, but we will see that it was a part of God's plan. The story is familiar regarding that Joseph gained favor with Pharaoh in Egypt, was soon placed in charge of all things and was second in command only to Pharaoh himself.

During this time, Joseph, according to dreams from God, helped to make Egypt the most prosperous country of the ancient world. His words of Divine prophecy led to the full storehouses that were able to feed all the other countries that were in need. This eventually brought about the reunion of Joseph and his brothers. They traveled to Egypt during the great famine to buy corn, and Joseph literally fed and preserved the natural house of Israel. (Read *Genesis* 41:57 and 42:1-3)

Although Joseph's brothers did not recognize him, he knew who they were and was filled with love and compassion for them. Even though he teased them and made them fear him, he turned and wept for them. He should have been angry at them for selling him into bondage, but he related that it was God's will that he was sent to Egypt to fulfill a mission—the natural preservation of the house of Israel. Several passages of scripture relate this plan and mission of Joseph of old. (Read *Genesis* 45:1-8 and 50:15-21)

Joseph telling of his mission says, "I will nourish you, and your little ones." Surely he did just that, for the house of Israel was preserved and nourished during the great famine.

In the *Book of Mormon*, Moroni records a more complete picture of the feelings of Jacob as he learned of his son's disappearance. When Moroni rent his garment and made the standard of liberty he would use in battle, he referred to the rent coat of Joseph of old and told exactly what it symbolized. (Read *Alma* 46:23-25)

Jacob's prophecy is now a reality, for a remnant of Joseph's seed has been preserved, and we know this remnant as the American Indian.

The Seed of Joseph, or the American Indian, can be seen on a parallel with the story of Joseph of old. There was a famine of natural food in the land, and the house of Israel was spared through the efforts and work of the first Joseph. In our present day there is another famine. It is not of the natural food but rather a famine of the Word of God. Once again the house of Israel is starving. The prophet Amos saw this famine and recorded it as God revealed it unto him. (Read *Amos* 8:11-12)

The days spoken of by Amos are here. It is the eleventh hour. The Church of Jesus Christ is now awaiting another Joseph to dispel the spiritual famine of the house of Israel. Lehi, on his deathbed, spoke to his youngest son Joseph concerning things that were seen by Jacob and Joseph of old. Lehi spoke of the latter days when another Joseph would be commissioned of God to save the house of Israel from its spiritual starvation. (Read *II Nephi* 3:3-24)

This second Joseph has been fully described by Lehi, and his mission is clearly stated in *II Nephi* 3; but there must be some one to assist in the work—to *prepare* the way of the Choice Seer. Read again Verse 11 of *II Nephi* 3, and pay close attention to the words, "... which shall have already gone forth among them."

Even as Joseph of old was aided by the Egyptian ruler in reaching his high position in their government and aided by the Egyptian people in storing and distributing the corn, so shall the Choice Seer be aided in his work. When Christ appeared to the inhabitants of this land, He spoke to them about the last days and that the Gentiles would help establish the Word among His chosen people. As the Gentiles help in this work, they will be blessed and numbered among the remnant of Jacob. (Read *III Nephi* 21:22-26) (To be continued.)

To serve as a help to the missionary work among the American Indian, the Lay Missionary Program was designed to give laymembers of The Church of Jesus Christ the opportunity to experience first hand this great work of The Church. For information on the Lay Missionary Program and how you can become involved write to David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Avenue, Charleroi, Pa., 15022.

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## A SIGN

*Jerry Giannascoli*

In *3rd Nephi* 21:1, Jesus said unto the seed of Joseph upon this land:

"I give unto you a sign, that ye may know the time when these things shall be about to take place—that I shall gather in, from their long dispersion, my people, O house of Israel, and shall establish again among them my Zion."

The time period when this sign shall be given, concerning the restoration (spiritual)—(first) of the house of Israel, shall be when the seed of Joseph upon this land obeys this Gospel and comes to a knowledge of their Redeemer, Jesus Christ, and the covenant of the Father unto Abraham through the Gentiles unto them, who are the seed of Joseph upon this land.

Let us turn to a few scriptures when the time period of this sign takes place.

Let us understand that Christ is speaking here about the preaching of the Gospel to the lost tribes, or the restoration of the house of Israel, back to Christ. The restoration back to their land of inheritance will be after they obey the Gospel. Read *II Nephi* 6:19-11, *III Nephi* 5:23-26, *III Nephi* 20:30-33.

We read in *III Nephi* 21:26, "And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this Gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. (The work here is the preaching of the Gospel unto the lost tribes, and this starts, when the seed of Joseph hears the Gospel preached.) Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people, yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem."

Also in *II Nephi* 3:13, concerning the Choice Seer:

"And out of weakness he shall be made strong, in that day when my work shall commence among all my people, unto the restoring thee, O house of Israel, saith the Lord."

These scriptures give us the understanding that the time period of the sign, which Christ spoke about, shows that the seed of Joseph upon this land must hear the Gospel and obey it, as many as will come.

Then shall God at this time commence to restore all of His people (lost tribes).

And when the work to restore Israel commences, then the Choice Seer shall come forth.

I ask a question, have these events taken place yet?

I would like to stop and mention a few scriptures that must first take place, before the above sign which Christ spoke about, which also includes *III Nephi*, 3:13, *III Nephi* 21:26.

We read in *I Nephi* 10:14 that the Gentiles must first receive the fullness of the Gospel, then after they have rejected the Gospel, God will remove the Gospel from them and bring the Gospel unto Israel.

*III Nephi* 16:10 shows this takes place.

Also in *I Nephi* 15:13-17 "Then shall the fulness of the Gospel of the Messiah come unto the Gentiles, and from the Gentiles unto the remnant of our seed."

In *III Nephi* 16:10-11, Christ said, "At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my Gospel, ... and shall reject the fulness of my Gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my Gospel from among them."

"And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them."

I ask a question, what Gospel is Christ speaking about?

Is it the Gospel that the various Churches around us are preaching?

Is it the restored Gospel that this Church preaches?

In *III Nephi* 27:10, Christ said, "And if it so be that the Church is built upon my Gospel then will the Father show forth His own works in it."

The Gospel that comes to us by the way of the *Book of Mormon* and the *Bible* is the restored Gospel that the Gentile world will sin against and reject.

Did the Gentile world, which includes every nation in this world have the chance of hearing this Gospel?

Before God removes this Gospel, every Gentile nation must first hear this Gospel before they can sin against it, and reject it.

In conclusion, we read where God spared Nineveh, that great city, who repented at the preaching of Jonah.

Is not God the same today, will he remove His Gospel from the Gentiles before they hear it?

The Apostle Paul said, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things."

What Gospel is preached? Who will preach it?

## NEWS FROM MEXICO CITY

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from Mexico City. We had intended to go by bus, which is 52 hours straight through, but we took a plane which took three hours to get to Mexico City. Upon our arrival we were greeted by some Brothers and Sisters, and I felt such a great blessing as they embraced us one by one. Brother Odilon insisted that we stay at his place and would not hear to it that we would look for a motel.

There are about six or more families living on this lot, so you can imagine the size of their living quarters. There is never any heat in their homes; the cold is very penetrating. The women are constantly washing clothes and dishes outside. There is a great abundance of water here which is certainly lacking in Tijuana. They do not raise any crops because practically every square foot of ground is used for their houses, leaving no ground for anything else. A shower can be taken about 2:00 when the sun comes out for a short while. They have a contraption that is run by kerosene to heat enough water for a shower.

The inflation is so fantastic, it is almost hard to believe. Our Brothers and Sisters insisted we eat with them and liking Mexican food, we enjoyed every bite, but of course we paid our way. The people here have a better chance of working at something and though the pay is low, they manage to eat. Conditions do seem worse in Tijuana.

Brothers and Sisters wanted us to stay with them for our own protection, as every property, no matter how little, has a 10 foot brick fence around it for safety. Knowing we are Americans, they felt we would be abused. There are no wooden houses or fences, as they sell firewood by the pound, which makes it very costly. Thus, all the homes are made of brick, and have two or three small rooms at the most.

We are located on the outskirts of the city in a rather poor area. The sand and the rocks are enough to ruin our shoes as we had to do a lot of walking. This is their way of life and know nothing else. There are different classes of buses and the cheaper ones were rickety and always overcrowded. One must enter and exit rapidly as they do not wait. They merely close the doors and you are out of luck if you do not hurry. There is no speed limit, much congestion, and the buses run constantly. The noise is enough to drive one mad in this city of 11,000,000 people. Many Indians wear their native dress; there are reportedly millions of Indians here.

Presently we have 16 baptized members, several waiting to be baptized, plus visitors. We have two ordained ministers and our Brother Eugenio from Tijuana.

We finally purchased a location in this area and we can see that there is a great harvest to be reaped, as there are no other Churches within miles. We found a nice parcel of two lots with a large fence, and it appeared just right for the Church so we decided to purchase it. Lots here sell fast and the woman who owned it told Brother Eugenio she would hold it for a little while, but that little while turned out to be a great while. We understand why, now. Our people in Mexico City have been praying for about a year for this particular lot and now their prayers have been answered. Every morning at 5:30 A.M. and



Brother and Sister Mora

every evening from 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., a group gathers to pray.

Regarding the lot we purchased, Brother Perdue had a dream about two years ago, even before Brother Eugenio went to Mexico City. He dreamed he was standing on a lot that was full of rubbish and rocks, and he also noticed two rows of bricks. Next to him stood a Mexican General, not saying a word. As Brother Eddy looked on, he saw people clearing away the debris with picks and shovels and they uncovered a piece of foundation for a church. After we got the keys and opened the door we stood looking at this lot. We had thought this place was in Tijuana and for a long time we searched around the worst slums in Tijuana hoping to find this lot but never could. I turned to Brother Eddy and said, "This is your dream." This lot was full of rubbish that people had dumped there and as we looked near the gate, there were the two rows of bricks with cement above it and we felt sure that the Lord kept this lot for us. We prayed standing on this lot and thanking God for keeping it for us. Our Brothers and Sisters had given up hopes of ever getting it, but when God works, He works swiftly. In the space of about three or four days we had the bill of sale for the property, and an attorney wrote up the proper papers. This attorney was very interested in what our Brother Eugenio was telling him about our Church and listened intently to him for about an hour. At first the attorney was wary about us and wanted to know what our interest was in Mexico City as many Churches have exploited the people there. After hearing Brother Eugenio, he seemed to be pleased with what he heard. He said he was going to visit the United States so we invited him to our home for which he thanked us. He is an Atomi Indian and told us many interesting things about the history of Mexico. We also gave him a card inviting him to our Church in Tijuana.

Unless a person is out here it is impossible to understand their way of life and how they think. We are very thankful that we went there because now we see things differently. Each place we have to work differently. We know that as soon as our Brothers and Sisters here have

(Continued on page 6)

## THE GOSPEL NEWS

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### "SACRIFICE"

by Eugene Kline, Guest Editorialist

**DEFINITION OF "SACRIFICE"** — An act of offering something precious to deity. Sacrifice dates back to Cain and Abel, the two sons of Adam. There seems to be two types of sacrifice; the vegetable and the meat offerings. The first fruits of the fields were offered on joyous occasions and after receiving a blessing, while the burnt offerings were for sins. This representing the covenant as broken by man and knit together again by God's appointment through the shedding of blood. This witnessed that sin existed in man and that the wages of sin are death and that God had provided an atonement by the suffering of an appointed victim, hence the offering. I trust this gives some enlightenment on the law of sacrifice.

### A BROKEN HEART AND CONTRITE SPIRIT

Now I would speak on the weakness of the law of sacrifice. Paul says in Hebrews, "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins." Paul, realizing Christ as the one great and eternal sacrifice said, "By it we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." Now I would like to go to *Nephi III, (Book of Mormon)* Chapter 9:18-20, where Jesus said, "I am the light and the life of the world, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end. And ye shall no more offer up unto me the shedding of blood, yea, your burnt offering shall be done away for I will accept none of your sacrifices and burnt offerings and ye shall offer for a sacrifice unto me a broken heart and a contrite spirit."

### LOVE GOD ABOVE ALL ELSE

It is wonderful to not have to remember all the burnt offerings and to know the only sacrifice is to love God above all else. Some may feel they are sacrificing much by giving up the things of this world. But, if we have made the sacrifice of a broken heart and contrite spirit, then we have purged our lives of sin, and in so doing, sin no more reigns in our body, but the Spirit of God. Now if God's Spirit dwells within us, then sin has no place, hence no more need of sacrifice. It is when we let sin come in and rob us of God's Spirit that we become enmeshed in the world to the degree that we begin to feel cheated or that we are not really living a bad life; and, little by little, the enemy of our soul creeps in and takes over our life, and we find ourselves feeling we are making a sacrifice to attend Church, Sunday School, M.B.A., and to refrain from patronizing the so-called places of this world. If they are places which keep us from our services to God, then I must say they are habitats of Satan and no self-respecting Saint should be caught in them. I feel for those who have committed themselves to God. There is no sacrifice in giving them up. We as Saints of The Most High God should follow the example of Paul and die daily as to the things of the world and grow spiritually and enjoy the blessings of God instead of the pleasures of this world. Let us rise above the world in the perilous times we are living in.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Lot's Wife

Dear Girls and Boys,

This story is found in the Old Testament in the days of Abraham. It has a very unusual ending.

Three strangers came to visit Abraham and he recognized them as messengers of God. Abraham was very kind to them. He gave them rest, fed them and washed their feet. In those days people entertained weary travelers like this. They were going to Sodom and Abraham offered to lead them there.

Abraham learned from the Lord that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were to be destroyed because of the terrible wickedness of the people there. Abraham's nephew, Lot and his family lived there. Abraham asked the travelers if the righteous would be destroyed with the wicked? The answer of the Lord was, "If I find fifty righteous in Sodom I will spare the place for their sakes." Abraham prayed for the good men who might be there. Then Abraham asked, "If there are just forty-five would the city be spared?" Then he asked about thirty and then twenty. The promise was, if there were not so many as fifty, just ten, the city would be spared. Abraham had to be content with this. He hoped there would be enough good men in Sodom to save the city. He did not know how wicked the people were there and not ten would be found.

Two of the men left Abraham and went on to Sodom where Lot lived. It was evening. Lot was sitting at the gate of the city. He was very polite to them and invited them to his house. He offered them food and water to wash their feet. Lot did not know they were angels of God. They did not want to accept Lot's kindness. They said, "We will abide in the street all night." But after some persuasion the men went into the house. Lot made a feast for them and gave them a place to sleep.

The people in Sodom were very wicked. They came to Lot's house, old and young from every part of the city. They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came this night? Bring them out that we may know them." Lot tried to keep the crowd from disturbing his guests. He said he had two daughters who would entertain them but they shouted louder and louder. They tried to attack Lot. The angels heard and protected Lot. They caused the wicked people to become blind. They could not find the door, and soon they left.

Then the angels told Lot who they were and why they were here. "When morning comes this city will be destroyed. If you want to save any of your family, call them to you and take them out of the city before morning", said the men. Lot told his wife, his two daughters and his sons-in-law. The sons-in-law would not believe that the city and all the people would be destroyed. The

angels took Lot, his wife and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. They said, "Escape for your life, look not behind you, do not stay in the plain but escape to the mountain, lest you be consumed." Lot and the daughters obeyed. They did not see the rain of fire and brimstone fall from heaven on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Nothing was left of these cities, no living persons remained. Lot's wife was curious. As she was running, she looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

Lot and his daughters ran until they came to a mountain. Here they lived in a cave. We do not read much about Lot after this. His descendants became two great nations, the Moabites and the Ammonites.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

### NEWS FROM MEXICO CITY . . .

(Continued from page 4)

the church built they will be self-sustaining as is our Mission in Sinaloa.

Our people have been meeting in a room about 10 by 16, and they are overcrowded and they badly need a church building with a sign on it. The Church people here are humble, intelligent and very warm. They are Turascan Indians. One certainly needs the strength of their youth to work for the Lord. It is quite difficult at our age to work at a fast pace, but we sure had to do it in Mexico City. I thank God He gave us the strength.

We ask an interest in your prayers that the Lord's work might go on. We send you our love.

Yours in Christ,

Sister Perdue

P.S. Let me say that Mexico City proper is the most beautiful city I have ever seen.

HE suffered and died upon Calvary,  
Gave up HIS life for a sinner . . . like me.  
Because of what HE has done  
My battle with Satan can surely be won!

So many times HE made me see the pleasures  
of this world as an unfruitful tree.  
The secret of prayer . . . means HE is always near  
Helping me face the confusion 'out there'.  
HE knew my need without being told;  
HE heard my plea . . . "Keep me close to Thy fold"!

I want to prove faithful to the promise I made;  
For I know if I do . . . GREAT will be the reward!  
There's good and there's bad while passing thru here,  
But a Crown of Bright Glory is awaiting me there!

So, with HIM as my guide, this path I am on  
will eventually lead to the 'other side'.  
HE lovingly says "REMEMBER ME" . . .  
'I died on the cross to set YOU free'!

Sister Carol Higgins  
Bronx Branch

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### The Michigan-Ontario Area Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference

The Michigan and Ontario Area Ladies' Uplift Circle met at Sterling Height Branch on November 1, 1975 for the annual business and organization meeting.

Sister Mary Criscuolo, the area chairman, thanked God for His goodness towards her. The meeting was then left open for testimonies. Brother Ralph Frammolin offered a special prayer on behalf of the sick.

The Sterling Heights Sisters presented their program entitled, FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT. It was very nicely put forth with scripture, song and poems by both young and old members of the Circle.

Reports on the fund raising projects were as follows: May 10, \$477.08 was raised at a Flea Market.

September 25, 26, and 27, \$1,000.00 was raised by selling arts, crafts, and bake goods at the Macomb Mall.

Money will be sent to the General Circle to be used for missionary work. Sister Mary Coppa and Sister Mary Dechiera reported receiving twenty-six layettes which were distributed to the Sarnia, Muncey, Six Nation, Red Lake Reservations, and to an Indian family in Detroit, Michigan.

The trip to Muncey on October 25, 1975 was a great success. There were many new faces this year, and a good time was had by all. The collection was left at the Muncey Mission to be used for expenses.

A motion was passed to elect the following officers for the coming year:

Chairman, Sister Mary Criscuolo  
 Assistant Chairman, Sister Mary Dichiera  
 Secretary, Sister Mary Coppa  
 Assistant Secretary, Sister Elizabeth Gerace  
 Financial Secretary, Sister Antoinette Ciarovino  
 Treasurer, Sister Ilene Coppa  
 Auditors, Sister Elizabeth Gerace and Sister Pierina DiFalco  
 Editor, Sister Mary Vitto

Meeting for the following year will be as follows:

February 23, 1976 at Branch No. 1

June 28, 1976 at Branch No. 2

November 6, 1976 at Branch No. 3—this meeting will convene at 10:30 A.M.

The fast and prayer meetings for the next four months is as follows:

Nov. 12, 1975 at Branch No. 1, for the sick.

December 10, 1975 at Branch No. 3, for the Priesthood.

January 14, 1976 at Branch No. 1 for the youth.

February 11, 1976 at Branch No. 3 for Missionary work.

A motion was made to send \$100.00 to the General Ladies' Circle towards the printing of the *Concordance* of the *Book of Mormon*.

Sister Mary Vitto  
 Editor

## Lake Worth Circle Raises Funds

The DiFede residence has been invaded for weeks by energetic, imaginative, and enthusiastic teenagers from the Lake Worth Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ. The teenagers who under the watchful if not tired eye of Sister Nancy DiFede built the booth for the Lake Worth Ladies Uplift Circle's annual bazaar held at a local shopping center. Bicentennial being the theme, 200 paper flowers were made, then carefully and strategically placed to form the original flag which wrapped around our pizza booth. Sister Nancy tells us the teens worked beautifully together and are so capable more responsibility should be directed to them and their energies and talents applied.

The Lake Worth Ladies Circle treasury is \$233.00 richer due to the combined efforts of Sister Nancy DiFede, chairman, the teenagers and the Sisters and Brothers who turned out to help sell pizza Saturday, November 15, 1975.

There were some 50 booths in the bazaar but once the smell of the sauce permeated the indoor mall customers were lined up in front of our colonial pizzeria to buy our Italian pie. We were clearly the most popular booth.

Many Brothers and Sisters began their day at 6:30 A.M. and didn't see it end until 8:30 P.M. but no one complained and most were sorry to close shop. Nothing can compare to the feeling experienced when Brothers and Sisters work with such love, sincerity, and harmony for the welfare of the Church.

Sister Nancy DiFede was presented with a plaque of appreciation at the annual secret pal dinner at Lake Worth, Fla.

The full amount, \$233.00, will be forwarded to the Missionary Fund and once again we pray we were found pleasing before our Lord to whom we give all honor and glory.

Sister Lettie Bradovich  
 Lake Worth Branch Editor

## Note of Thanks

To all my dear Brothers and Sisters who were so kind to remember my parents on their 45th wedding anniversary with cards, gifts, and telegrams, my sincere thanks. Your kind thoughts brought a ray of sunshine to my parents in the midst of their many afflictions.

A special mention goes to my beloved Brothers and Sisters of the Lake Worth Branch. Their thoughtfulness and help greatly contributed to making my parents' day a happy one. Their love and consideration shown during my mother's illness is beyond description. They are as precious jewels and I know the dear Lord will repay them with great blessings.

When I gave my mother, who is very ill, the many cards received she read every verse, writing, and signature without leaving out a single word. It made her so happy to know all of you thought of them. At that I was made to rejoice and say, "It was worth it all."

May God richly bless each one and reward you with much kindness.

With affection and love,  
 Sister Carmela Mazzeo

## MY TESTIMONY

By Lynda B. Dupes

I was born April 2, 1950 and was adopted by a wonderful family when I was 22 months old. My foster father is a Presbyterian Church Minister; and therefore, I was required to attend church every Sunday.

As the years went on I seemed to pull farther away from the Lord instead of getting closer. I'm not sure if it was because I was a "preacher's kid". I was expected to act like one, however that was, and rebelled. I'm not perfect and never will be; there was only one person that is perfect and they crucified Him.

I guess you could call it being married to the Devil as to where I stood for 24 years. On December 10, I received news that my six-month old son, Shane, took ill. I got very upset to the point I thought God was punishing me for the error I made, but I was wrong. I met Brother Frank, a disciple of God, shortly afterwards and I asked him to pray for Shane's recovery. Brother Frank talked to me and after our talk, God was immediately working with me. I felt completely different—a kind of relief.

Brother Frank got me to really think about God and I told him I was afraid. I didn't know how to pray and I was hurting bad. He said, "Lynda, just talk to the Lord like you are talking to me now." That night I talked to the Lord. I know He heard me because as of February 25, Shane Michael was healed of God. He was allergic to certain foods. I had a fight between Satan and God, though.

Satan kept telling me, "Your son is serious. Worry!" God would say, "Shane is fine, don't worry!" I wrote Brother Frank and asked him, "What? Why? My son, he's innocent and doesn't know anything." Brother Frank pointed out to me that the Devil was angered because I prayed to God. I choose to worship and pray to God, NOT Satan.

I wish to thank all of you Brothers and Sisters for writing. I love everyone of you, but mostly my Lord and Master. God bless you all.

I'm sending two prayers in poem form I've written, and I hope you all enjoy them as much as I did writing them.

### Heavenly

Upon the earth a Heavenly light shines,  
Which brings joy and love to all mankind.  
The man responsible for this loving, is the Lord God—  
Whom I love with all my might.  
I love the flowers He placed here to see,  
I love the birds, the animals, the trees.  
I love the friendship we are to share,  
To all Brothers and Sisters everywhere.  
Without God, Creator of all,  
Standing would be impossible—we would surely fall.

### Prayer For These Times

Help me to have clean thoughts, high hopes, and abiding faith.  
Help me to achieve the courage of a lion, the gentleness of a lamb, the humility of a beggar.  
Teach me to open my heart to love in all of its manifestations.

Help me to be of service to others, demand as little as possible, cherish unexpected joy.

Help me please, Lord, to profit by my errors, so that I may grow in wisdom and maturity and thereby achieve a confident and serene heart.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

My grandmother, Sister Margaret Ward, now 85 years old was baptized October 13, 1906 by Brother Alexander Cherry in Pricedale, Pennsylvania, going on 69 years ago. She has shared many wonderful experiences with me over the years that God has blessed her with. Many times she has recited this poem to me and I would like to send it in to the *Gospel News* to share with the readers. Grandma said she learned this poem while in school when just a little girl and she has never forgotten it, never writing it down, but retaining the words in her mind, these many years.

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky

### GOD'S ALBUM

We may write our name in albums  
We may trace them in the sand  
We may chisel them in marble,  
with a firm and skillful hand.  
But the pages soon are sullied  
And inscriptions fade away  
Every monument will crumble,  
and our earthly hopes decay.

But dear friends, there is an album,  
full of leaves of snowy white,  
Where no name is ever tarnished,  
but forever pure and bright.  
In the book of life, GOD'S ALBUM,  
May our name be penned with care,  
And whosoe're hath written  
Write it forever there.

Author Unknown

### A QUESTION IS ASKED

*What stand does your Church take on the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost?*

We believe that the Father and The Son are two individual deities. "Jesus said unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven." *St. Matthew 26:64*. If God the Father and Christ His Son were one deity, Christ would be the power and have no need to sit on the right hand of power.

We believe also that the Holy Ghost is the mind of both the Father and the Son. The spirit is what leads and directs you, helping you to walk on the righteous path. However that guiding Spirit or Holy Ghost is obtained only through faith, repentance, baptism, and the laying on of hands for the reception of the promise.



## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Monongahela Branch News

The Monongahela Branch hosted a special meeting on Saturday, January 10, 1976. The meeting was called by the American Indian Committee of the General Church Mission Board, in conjunction with the District Evangelists.

Brother James Grazan introduced our visiting Brothers Vince Gibson and Bill Hufnagle of Cleveland, Ohio. He explained the meeting was intended to give us a clearer picture of the Indian (Seed of Joseph) in America and our concern for them as a Church.

Brother Gibson read from the *Book of Mormon* the words concerning the latter day work of The Church. From *II Nephi* 3:6 and 11, he read of the Seer the Lord shall raise up who will have power to bring forth the Lord's word and to the convincing them (the Seed of Joseph) of His word which shall have already gone among them. He reminded us of our duty and obligation to God as a Church, to carry the word of God to the Indian. Then according, to the *Book of Mormon*, the Choice Seer will do the convincing of this truth.

A film, "The Forgotten American," was shown that presented the real picture of the reservation Indians, their living conditions, problems, attitudes, hopes, etc. We learned of the attempts of the Indians to escape reservation life by relocating in larger cities, but the harsh reality of coping with this unfamiliar way of life.

Brother Vince then reviewed the film and explained some statistics of Indian unemployment, death rate, life expectancy, and disease susceptibility. Yet, the Indian population is ever increasing, because God is still blessing them. We were reminded that The Church of Jesus Christ knows more Scripturally about the Indian than our government. Because of the *Book of Mormon*, The Church must help the Indian—now!

There are thousands of Indians living in Pittsburgh, and we may be of some help to them. We can supply canned goods, clothing, shoes, and medical supplies they need. He explained the program the Ohio Area is engaged in with the American Indian Center in Cleveland and the vast amount of goods collected and delivered in the past several years.

Brother Hufnagle related how the work in Cleveland began and the patience needed before getting the opportunity to meet with Russell Means, then the head of the Center. He explained to Mr. Means the mission of The Church was only to be of service to the Indians to provide needed items and making the Indians aware of the name of our Church. The Ohio Area M.B.A. was commended for their enthusiasm in collecting goods from neighbors, merchants and friends throughout the Cleveland area.

He encouraged us that anyone can do a work if one is willing to give a small amount of time. Many blessings will follow and every effort will be rewarded by The Lord. He mentioned that his greatest blessing was being accepted by Mr. Herb Johnson, the new director of the Indian Center, with a sincere handshake.

Brother Gibson stated the climax of their efforts came when he was presented with a plaque from the

Indian Center thanking The Church for help and concern shown for the Indian people. He told of meeting Indians in Cleveland who had been associated with our Church in Muncey, Six Nations, South Dakota, and Arizona. He related there is an Indian center in Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania Area can embark on a similar program.

After a brief question and answer period, the meeting was turned over to Brother Fred Olexa for closing comments. He reiterated the mission of The Church is not to baptize Indians or to establish missions among them, but to carry the Word to them, as the *Book of Mormon* explains so clearly. God will use workers and the power of God will go with them and help to accomplish this work. The power of God will convince the Seed of Joseph that this is the true Church and that we are God's people.

This power will work as it did in days of old when it led the children of Israel out of Egypt and across the Red Sea and when it led Lehi and his family to this promised land. The same power will help us today as we do the Lord's will.

We are pleased to note that since this meeting was held, contact has been made with the Three Rivers Indian Center in Pittsburgh. The groundwork for the Pennsylvania District's involvement in a program with this center will be established soon and we expect to have a favorable report in the near future.

Brother Vince spoke in our Sunday morning preaching service by giving his testimony of being guided by the Lord in his youth to do what was right. He moved to Cleveland from Pennsylvania where he found The Church of Jesus Christ. Speaking of the many blessings and experiences in The Church, he read King Benjamin's words in the *Book of Mormon*. This righteous king told the people when they are in service to their fellow man, they are really in service to God. Brother Vince spoke of the simplicity of faith—just believe and trust in God for all things. The seed of faith must be cultivated in our hearts. Then it will grow and elevate us to a higher plane of life and understanding. The Gospel has been restored that God's love may elevate man.

He spoke of spending our time on things that have a spiritual value, rather than wasting our time on those things that are of naught. The word must be taken to the Seed of Joseph and the building of Zion must take place. Our Church has been commissioned to do this work. We must be interested, involved and enthusiastic, and God will do the rest.

### The Bronx Branch

The Bronx Branch had its beginning from the Brooklyn Mission, where Brothers Vincent Azzinaro, Frank Braiotta, Carmen Talarico and Domenick Todaro were attending services. These Brothers all lived in the Bronx and it was quite a trip for them to attend Church services at The Brooklyn Mission with their families.

They had requested from The New Brunswick Branch permission to rent a storefront in the Bronx to hold services. Permission was granted and they opened a storefront on East 187th Street in the Bronx about March, 1935. Brothers Vincent Azzinaro and Frank Braiotta were the Elders and Brother Carmen Talarico was the Teacher with assistance from Elders of The New Brunswick Branch.

While holding services at the storefront, Brother Frank Braiotta spoke to one of his co-workers to attend the meetings. This man brought his wife and they in turn were the first converts. They were Brother Constantino Figola and his wife Sister Carmella Figola. Sister Figola then went to visit some of her friends and brought her testimony to them and they in turn accepted The Gospel and were baptized. They were Sisters Gelsomina Zinzi Rotella, Genoeffa Mazzucci and Antonio Rotella. Later Sisters Pearl Zinzi, Catherine Todaro and Brother Joseph Zinzi were baptized. Altogether while holding services at the storefront there were eight baptisms.

Because of harrassment by the children in the neighborhood, members were unable to enjoy the services. This prompted Sister Gelsomina Zinzi Rotella to offer the use of the basement of her home to hold services. About January 1939, the Mission began holding services at Sister Rotella's home at 948-219th Street, Bronx, New York. While holding services there, Brothers Bill Mazzeo and Carmen Sgro assisted the Elders at the services.

During the time services were held at Sister Rotella's home, there were 14 baptisms. Because the basement was too crowded we purchased a Church Building at 751 East 217th Street, Bronx, New York for a total of \$2638. A major portion of this money was donated by Brother Carmen Talarico.

About January 1940, we started to hold services in this building. On September 22, 1940, the building was dedicated with Brother Nick Farragasso Jr. as the principal speaker. Many Brothers and Sisters from New Brunswick, Stelton (Edison), Metuchen and Brooklyn attended this ceremony. The Bronx Branch was formally organized as a Branch on January 27, 1948.

Brother Nicholas Zinzi

## Happenings In San Diego

We have had many blessings and have been very busy during the past few months. November 1, 1975 was the District Ladies Circle Conference held here in San Diego. An "old fashion" theme was used. Everything—from patchwork napkins, straw dolls, old jars and antiques—to the program in the evening, had the "old fashion" theme. The program retold the history of the Ladies Circle beginning with Sister Sadie Cadman to the first Ladies Circle in California which was organized in San Diego. Many songs were sung and even the elder Italian Sisters took part by singing in their native language. It was a beautiful day of remembering the past.

On November 23 a wonderful day was anticipated as it was to be the day to ordain Brother Robert Womack as a Deacon in our Branch. Before the ordination was announced, Sister Sharon Smith had a short dream that she saw Brother Bob helping the other Deacons pass hymn books. She knew in her dream he was a Deacon. She related her dream in more detail to the ministry and this confirmed the calling of Brother Bob. There was a beautiful spirit throughout the day as Brother Ray Saczko washed Brother Bob's feet and Brother Domenic Castelli ordained him in the morning service. In the afternoon meeting many testimonies were related and Brother Bob's mother, Sister Betty Menard, asked for her baptism. There were several experiences related to her baptism. We truly were blessed on this day.

On November 30, the following Sunday morning, Sister Betty was baptized by Brother Tom Liberto and confirmed by Brother Lou Ciccati. It was a lovely sight to see Brother Bob perform his first duties as a Deacon when he helped his mother after her baptism.

The California District Spiritual Conference was held in San Diego December 6 and 7. Seminars were held for all ages on Saturday afternoon. There was a seminar for the Teachers and Elders. The class for 30 and over discussed "Forgiveness," and "Keeping the Sabbath Holy." The 15 to 30 age group discussed making contracts in their spiritual lives and basic facts of the Gospel and Church structure. The Jr. High, elementary grades and preschoolers each had topics and classes. The 4-6 grades wrote two skits and performed them in the evening. Everyone that attended the Saturday seminars really enjoyed them and gained much from the teachings and discussions. Saturday evening consisted of reports from the seminar leaders on each class and there were special song selections done by the Brothers and Sisters. The children from the San Diego Branch also gave their testimonies by singing "I am a Promise." This was a highlight of the evening. Many testimonies were given and a sweet spirit was felt by many in attendance. This same spirit was carried over to the Sunday meeting, and especially when our Mexican Brothers and Sisters sang.

On December 14, twenty-five Brothers and Sisters and young people and children loaded small trucks and cars with many shoes, clothing, canned food, apples, candy and toys and traveled 70 miles to Rancho Jacume, about 25 miles below the Mexico border, to deliver and sing hymns to the poor people that attend a little church in that small village. There were children running barefooted in cold weather and they received shoes. It made us all thankful for the things we have. And we were all eager to give to these very poor people. Some of our children had never seen conditions of life such as this.

December 19 several carloads met at Church and started on our annual journey. Our voices were ready and everyone had caps, coats, and gloves, ready to go caroling to our Brothers and Sisters—the retirees, the sick and the widows. We felt good in bringing some Christmas spirit to those we love. The Sisters had pizza and hot chocolate waiting when we returned.

The Ladies Circle donated many toys to Tijuana for Christmas. They had received the many toys from a young Brother in our Branch who obtained them from his place of work. The Mexican Sisters used the toys to have a party for their children.

The Christmas program was held on December 21, Sunday evening. It was a delightful program with many songs and the theme was "Christmas is LOVE." The children certainly enjoyed doing this program. We have all felt God's love in our midst.

We had our watch meeting New Year's Eve and the Brothers and Sisters are looking forward to serving the Lord in 1976. We have enjoyed having many Brothers and Sisters and friends visit with us in 1975 and we hope to see many more during the coming year. The Brothers and Sisters in San Diego wish all of you a very happy and blessed New Year.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Sister Orletta Liberto, Editor

## California Spiritual Gathering

The District of California met on December 6 and 7 in San Diego to hold the annual Spiritual Gathering. There was a small representation as the Saturday morning session began. Elders and Teachers met at 10:00 A.M. to discuss matters pertinent to their respective positions in the Church. "How to better apply ourselves to the spreading of the Gospel" was the theme. At the conclusion of the session, many expressed satisfaction with the attitudes and ideas displayed and felt they had a better grasp of the goals set before us and a stronger motivation to be an active participant in bringing them to pass.

In the afternoon, specially prepared seminars were held according to age groups. Compatible ages were combined to provide good learning situations as the teachers offered meaningful material aimed at improving the spiritual character of each one present.

Saturday evening a review of the day's proceedings was given to inform all who were not able to attend. The general consensus was that the day was a great success. Various groups sang a few selections and some shared their testimony as we brought our service to a close.

Our Sunday service began with several songs by the congregation and individual members. Brother Dick Christman, who was visiting from Tucson, Arizona, was the key speaker. He encouraged us to spend much time praising the Lord. We should live our lives so that what we do can be a way of praising God. Two more Elders followed with additional thoughts on the subject. Our District President, Brother Tom Liberto, brought our service to a conclusion as we sang and closed in prayer.

Ken J. Surdock  
California District Editor

## "AN OPEN LETTER TO GOD"

Dear God,

*I'm sorry You made Sunday where You did. You see, it's like this—we could attend Church more regularly if Your day came at some other time. You have chosen a day that comes at the end of a hard week, and we are all tired out. Not only that, but it is the day following Saturday night.*

*Saturday evening, You know, is one time we feel we should enjoy ourselves, so we go to the movies or a party, and often it is after midnight when we reach home. It is almost impossible to get up on Sunday morning. You have chosen the very day we want to sleep late, and it makes it mighty hard to get the children off to Sunday School, especially when they leave so early.*

*THEN THERE ARE dishes to wash, and we always have some things we just have to wash out. I mean no disrespect, dear God, but You must realize that You have picked the day on which we have the biggest dinner. Not only that, but the Church has fixed the hour of worship at the very time we must be preparing dinner.*

*Then, too, You must think of John. He is cooped up in his office all week, and Sunday morning is the only time he has to tinker with the car and to mow the lawn. When he gets into his old clothes and his hands are all greasy You could not expect him to put his work aside and go off to Church.*

*I AM TELLING You these things, dear God, because I want You to get our viewpoint. It is not our fault that we are unable to get to Church on Sunday mornings. We would like to go, and we know we should go, and need to go. But it must be clear to You that the reason we cannot go is because You have chosen the wrong day. If You will select another day we shall be glad to go to Church and Sunday School more faithfully.*

Sincerely yours,

I. M. BUSY

—o—

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

TWINS — Matthew James and Christina Marie to Ronald and Janetta Buffa of Sterling Heights, Michigan;

Lena Aurelia to Clinton Eugene and Joyce LaNelle Littlejohn of Russellville, Arkansas;

Cheree Lynette to Edward Joseph and Karen Kier Santone of Roscoe, Pennsylvania;

Jonathan to Larry and Ellen Frankel of Imperial, Pennsylvania;

Scott Thomas to Roy James and Vickianne Barlett of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania;

Alaina Beth to John and Linda D'Orazio of Lake Worth, Florida.

## — WEDDINGS —

### SABO and WIRBICKI

Mr. Edward Sabo and Miss Valerie Wirbicki, daughter of Edward and Sister Norma Wirbicki, were united in holy matrimony at the Glassport Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on November 22, 1975.

Brother Alma Nolfi, uncle of the bride, officiated at the double ring ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene Amormino, with Sister Donna Amormino as soloist.

The newlyweds are residing in PortVue, Pennsylvania, and it is our prayer that Valerie and Edward's marriage will be always blessed and they might rely on God through their union.

### DiFALCO and ELIAS

Mr. James DiFalco and Miss Laura Elias were united in holy wedlock on December 13, 1975 at the home of James DiFalco.

Brother Lou Vitto officiated at the ceremony.

The couple will reside with the groom's parents in Warren, Michigan.

**KING and MURPHY**

Mr. Michael J. King and Miss Marilyn M. Murphy were united in holy marriage on November 25, 1975 at the Vanderbilt Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Emmett Dale officiated at the ceremony.

The newlyweds will reside in Grindstone, Pennsylvania.

● **OBITUARIES** ●

**ODESSA TRUE WALTZ**

Sister Odessa True Waltz passed from this life on October 9, 1975. She was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on February 7, 1932 at Dunlevy, Pennsylvania by Brother Henry Johnson.

The funeral was officiated by Brothers Fred Olexa and John Kendall.

She is survived by three sons and three daughters.

She was a member of the Roscoe Branch and an ordained Deaconess in The Church. Sister Waltz was a very humble, faithful Sister of The Church, and a wonderful example to all who knew her.

Although our dear Sister is greatly missed by her loved ones and Brothers and Sisters, we know she has gone to her reward which she has worked for all her life.

**CATHERINE VITTO**

Sister Catherine Vitto passed on to her reward on December 9, 1975. She was born on August 12, 1890 and baptized on October 3, 1930. She was a faithful member of Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan.

Sister Catherine is survived by her three sons, seven grandchildren, and one sister.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Nick Pietrangelo, Carl Frammolino, and Atilio Trovarelli.

Sister Catherine was a gentle woman, a true peacemaker.

**DICK CAMPAGNA**

Mr. Dick Campagna passed away from this life to his heavenly reward on January 25, 1976. He was born on May 11, 1935.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, five children, his parents, one sister and two brothers.

Funeral services were conducted at the Calcaterra Funeral Home by Brother Lou Vitto.

**GERTRUDE BARTLE BURNETT**

Sister Gertrude Bartle Burnett passed on to her eternal reward on December 16, 1975. She was a member of the St. John, Kansas Mission. She was born September 1, 1902 and was baptized in July, 1935.

She is survived by one daughter and four grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Alexander Robinson.

Sister Burnett was a Deaconess and will be missed by many who loved her.

**NICHOLAS STOYANOVITCH**

Mr. Nicholas Stoyanovitch passed on to his eternal reward on January 15, 1976. He was born on June 21, 1928.

He was preceded in death by his father, the late Brother Stoyanovitch.

He is survived by his mother, Sister Santa, three brothers and four sisters.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Silver Criscuolo at Detroit, Branch No. 3.

Although he was handicapped 30 years, Nicholas was self-reliant and likeable. He will be missed by his family and many relatives and friends.

**FILOMENA COPPA**

Sister Filomena Coppa passed on to her heavenly reward on February 5, 1976. She was a member of the San Diego Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

She was born on September 18, 1900 and was baptized on June 24, 1928.

Left to mourn her departure are her husband, six children, 18 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Louis Cicatti.

She was a pillar in The Church and will surely be missed.

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— **1976 Church Calendar** —

The following is a list of 1976 events of General Church and Regional interest:

**APRIL**

\* 22, 23, 24 & 25 — General Church Conference — Greensburg

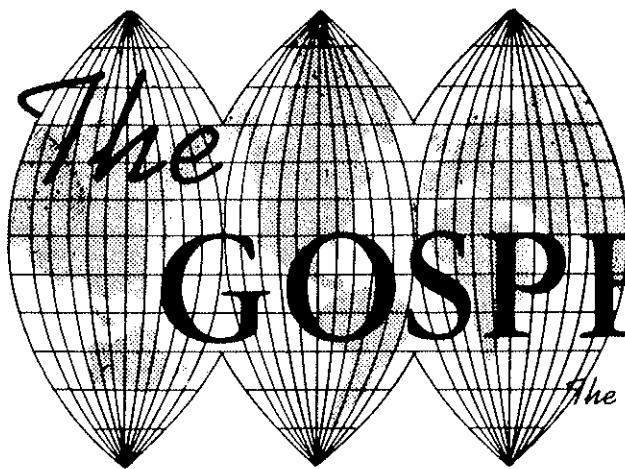
**MAY**

15 — G.M.B.A. Conference — Ohio Area

**JULY**

10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio  
24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas

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



# GOSPEL NEWS

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

April, 1976

Volume 32, No. 4

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## CONFERENCE NOTICE

The April 1976 General Church Conference will convene on April 22, 1976, on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in our General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

The Thursday and Friday sessions will be open for Priesthood and Teachers only. The Saturday session and the Sunday meeting will be open to all members.

The following is the schedule for the week of Conference:

April 19, Monday—Quorum of Twelve Apostles, 9:30 a.m.

April 20, Tuesday—Special Affairs Committee, 9:30 a.m.

April 21, Wednesday—General Church Mission Board, 10:00 a.m.

April 22, Thursday—Quorum of Seventy, 10:00 a.m.  
Thursday—Conference starts, 2:00 p.m.

April 23, Friday—General Conference

April 24, Saturday—General Conference

April 25, Sunday—Sunday meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome.

### 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.

### Please note:

Effective March 18, 1976 the new address of the General Church Executive Secretary will be:

Nicholas Pietrangelo  
24106 Meadow Bridge Drive  
Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48043

Phone 313-792-6787

To All of You  
HAPPY EASTER



## "COME UNTO ME, O, MY PEOPLE. IT IS TIME TO BUILD ZION."

Last January 24 and 25, I was in Phoenix, Arizona for the American Indian Committee meeting. The missions of Whiteriver, San Carlos and the Red Lake were all there. Brothers Jim Grazan, Fred Olexa, and Anthony Scolaro were all in the spirit of the restoration of the House of Israel. The Brothers from the west rounding out the committee were Richard Christman, Robert Watson, and Joe Loyalvo. Also in attendance was John Griffith of the General Mission Board. Although the meetings were closed, I am glad to say that I was there for the Sunday services, and partook of the blessings of God.

The meeting in Phoenix was held during the week of final examinations at the College of Ganado where I am now attending school. I wanted to go by way of San Carlos to Phoenix, but as that part of my aspirations had not developed, I had thoughts of not attending. I had decided to stay in Ganado instead, to do some studying. I did not want to miss out on anything, so I decided to go and leave my final examinations in the hands of God. I was to find out that the blessings of God were to be tremendous for me, and for those in attendance. After the first night, I had this following dream:

I found myself present at a worksite. All the Brothers and Sisters were involved in the construction of a building. Each had a piece of two-by-four, and the piece of board that each had were all of identical size and proportion. The idea behind the project was to place each piece of board in a perfect symmetrical balance. If this perfect balance was achieved, the board would miraculously maintain itself in position under its own power. The Brothers and Sisters did not have any nails, hammers, or any tools of any manner with them.

*My second dream:*

I was standing by the window of a building that many of the Brothers and Sisters were occupying. Outside the window, I saw a boy and a white bear cub approaching the house. The bear was being led on a silver chain, and appeared to be tame and gentle. Despite the friendly appearance of the two, I went to the door and windows to shut them. At this time, the other Brothers and Sisters began to do likewise, and then sought refuge in their own bedrooms. Although the doors and windows were bolted, the boy and his white cub achieved entrance. I could sense them as they wandered up and down the hallway, looking for some kind of response or welcome, but no one came out to greet them. At this time, I felt that the boy and his cub had been a blessing unto the house, not a curse. Realizing this I gathered all the courage I had and unbolted my door, and stepped out into the hallway to investigate. I found nothing in the hallway so I went into the living room. There in the living room stood the boy and his white cub as though waiting for us to come out of our hiding places. The boy and his cub had not left. By this time the other Brothers and Sisters began converging into the living room. I had the feeling that the boy had presented us the white cub as a gift and a blessing, and it belonged to us for the accepting of it. Along with the other Brothers and Sisters, I was reaching and grasping for the silver chain, and trying to touch the pure whiteness of the fluffiness of the bear cub when I awoke.

The two dreams above do not need any explanations. Over the years the Lord has continually spoken to His Church. The work and the fulfilling of the work of Zion is at hand. One particular night not long ago, I heard these words, awaking me from a sound sleep. The voice said, "Come unto me, O, my people. It is time to build Zion." The power is upon this Church for the bringing forth of Zion, and the restoration of the House of Israel. It is up to each and everyone of us to take the responsibility of reaching out for the silver chain. It is a gift with which God has blessed this Church of Jesus Christ. I only wish to add this one last thought. Sometime ago, I had this other dream. I was in a room full of young people, and they were all demanding what it was that they could do for The Church. There was a man with me, and this is what this man had to say to them. "Seek ye the kingdom of God, and all things shall be added unto you." Think about it.

Virgil Link  
Red Lake Mission  
Box 695  
Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504  
Submitted by  
Brother John Mancini

—o—

## EVANGELIST T. D. BUCCI VISITS ARIZONA

It was indeed gratifying and a rewarding experience to visit Arizona. I left Pittsburgh for Phoenix by jet on February 5 and was greeted at the Phoenix airport by Brother Phil Damore, and spent eleven days visiting the Saints in Phoenix, San Carlos reservation, Ft. Defiance, White River reservation and viewed the Pima-Maricopa reservation. Our missionaries in San Carlos and White River, Brothers Milantoni and Smith took me on a tour on the reservation and visited some of our Indian members.

I have made Indian mission trips to Oklahoma Indian territory in the past, visited Indian towns and villages and saw oppression and poverty, but nothing like in San Carlos and White River reservation. The poverty and condition there is unbelievable. Our missionaries there are doing a fine job. Speaking of minorities, the American Indians are a minority of all minorities in the Western Hemisphere.

In a land where Americans prize freedom more than anything else, they have driven the real Americans from their lands and committed atrocities against them and made them captives for many generations. However, the time is approaching when a great Indian leader, like Moses, will emerge to unite them in righteousness and lead them out of their situation.

My profound convictions are that this may happen withing the next generation.

According to prophecy, the fullness of the Gentiles is about to be fulfilled, let us pray for our nation, the Jew and the Seed of Joseph (American Indian).

I wish to convey my thanks and deep appreciation to the Saints of Arizona. May the grace and peace of our Lord and Saviour be with all members everywhere. Love in Christ.

Brother T. D. Bucci

## A WELCOME RESOLUTION

God moves in a mysterious way to perform His wonders. This adage truly benefits The Parent Church Conference of October 1975 in their welcome resolution for The Parent Church Representatives to visit the Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria and her Comprehensive Secondary School at Atai Otoro, Abak.

This is indeed the era of practical Christianity and not merely propounding the religious philosophy in the pulpit and leave it there. An eye-witness account is always more reliable and more effective than a hearsay. The Brethren who have been nominated to visit Nigeria will see things for themselves by themselves and will then be better judges as to the progress The Church of Jesus Christ and the Comprehensive Secondary School in Nigeria is making. This international visit will add more to the stock of their knowledge and will help them to make better suggestions than were ever made as to what advancements and/or improvements should be incorporated in both the work of The Church and the School in Nigeria. Their personal contact, while in Nigeria with the Nigerian Government Officials regarding the School work will clarify the role played by proprietors of Schools and the State Government as outlined by Mr. P. U. Iniodu, Principal, Comprehensive Secondary School, Atai Otoro, Abak in his address to the 14th Anniversary of the Foundation Day Celebration of the Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria recently.

I must pay great tribute to the Parent Church, giving thanks to God for the ingenuity they have been endowed to make so beautiful, a selection to represent them in the international visit to Nigeria. As I am personally conversant with the procedures taken by the Parent Church in any major decision-making, I visualize that it was not an easy task to arrive at the decision and the selection of the Representatives.

Looking at the list, and with my personal knowledge of these Brothers going to Nigeria, the group comprises an Apostle, Brothers and a Brother-Scientist who, I am sure, will be keenly interested in the Science Department of the School. The Brother-Scientist, in particular, after the visit, in his report, will like to indicate that the School has a great need of Science teachers preferably from the United States.

The proposed three-month stay in Nigeria is fair enough to give our visiting Brothers enough time to see and understand the organization of both The Church and the School. With this knowledge, they will appreciate the more, Brother John's effort coupled with the support given by the Nigerian Brothers, both living and dead in bringing about the work to the present standard.

Upon the receipt of the Parent Church Conference Resolution regarding the proposed visit, the Nigerian Brothers, with the able leadership of our President, Pastor E. U. A. Arthur, I am optimistic, will send the reply back in no distant date assuring the Parent Church of the support of the S. E. State Government of the visit. We trust the Mission Home will be completed before our Brethren arrive in Nigeria so they will be comfortable during their stay.

To our visiting Brothers, we wish them a happy stay in the country.

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

## A NEW WORK BEGINS

Our meeting with the Three Rivers American Indian Council of Pittsburgh was held on Thursday, February 5, 1976. This was a special meeting called by Mr. Russell Simms, the chairman of the Council, as a result of his meeting with Brother James Grazan on the 26th of January. In their meeting, Brother Grazan outlined the position of The Church of Jesus Christ in respect to the American Indian and offered the help of The Church to the 2,800 Indians of metropolitan Pittsburgh.

The Monongahela Branch held a special fasting and prayer meeting on Wednesday, February 4, that God's Spirit would lead us and be the motivating power behind us. During this meeting, many prayers were offered and we felt the complete unity of those present. God quickly answered our prayers and efforts, for while Brother George Johnson was praying, Sister Ella Pettyjohn spoke in the Spirit: "Go in My name and I will lead you, My children."

God certainly did lead us, for Thursday's weather was the worst of the winter. A freezing rain fell all day and the roads were very hazardous. Nevertheless, the meeting was still scheduled and our committee was happy to attend. Brothers James Grazan and Fred Olexa, members of the American Indian Committee of The General Church, along with Brothers Bob Nicklow, Bill Chepanoske, and Richard Scaglione, were warmly greeted by Mr. Russell Simms and the other five members of the Council. After the introductions were made, Mr. Simms stated the purpose of this meeting was to get together and talk over things of importance to both groups. He mentioned that we, as a Church, are interested in helping the needs of the Native Americans (a term we were asked to use in referring to the Indians) in Pittsburgh. Four members of the Council sang a song in their native language as a friendly welcome to "our friends" and to express their happiness that we had come to meet with them.

Mr. Simms gave us the first opportunity to speak and Brother Grazan told them that we were there to offer our help in any way possible. He reviewed his beliefs of The Church in respect to the American Indian, beginning with the Covenant God made with Abraham. He explained how this covenant continued through Issac and Jacob. Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel, had twelve sons who became the tribes of Israel referred to in the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*. The story of Joseph was reviewed, especially how he was able to sustain his natural brothers with corn during the great famine. The spiritual parallel was then made, showing how the Seed of Joseph will sustain the other tribes with spiritual food in the latter days. The American Indian is the Seed of Joseph and the story of how he came to this promised land was told. A Choice Seer will arise from the Indian people and he will lead them to their rightful place in God's great plan of Restoration. Finally, our reason for wanting to help the Native American was stated briefly, but clearly. According to the *Bible* and, especially, the *Book of Mormon*, we are to assist the Seed of Joseph achieve his rightful place in God's plan and our reward is that we will be numbered among them. (I will note here that the members of the Council were most attentive and nobody interrupted Brother Jim during his talk.)

Areas where help are needed were then discussed. We were made aware that many Indians in the Pittsburgh



are are reluctant or afraid to be recognized. One service to them would be to make people aware that there are many Indians in this area. The Indian then could step out and be proud of his heritage and identity. There is a radio station in Pittsburgh that carries the only broadcast written, produced, and announced by Indians between Chicago and New York. The station, however, is threatening to remove this program from the air over a minor technicality. Our people could write to the station and express our interest and concern that this program be kept on the air.

We were also made aware that the government has offered the Dorseyville missile site, now abandoned, to the Three Rivers Council for their Center. However, much work has to be completed in the area of building, plumbing, surveying, etc., before the place would be useable. It was suggested that physical labor could be offered to complete some of these tasks. The Indians will hopefully acquire the services of medical people to volunteer some of their time to set up a clinic for the Indian people there. We were told that these people have no need for natural goods, and that our efforts should be centered around those just mentioned.

We were told that several religious groups have attempted to help these Indians, but were turned down due to their desires to convert or "evangelize" the Indians. Our mission was restated, that we are interested in their welfare, naturally and spiritually, but will channel our efforts to their immediate needs as they direct. Since the Indians of Pittsburgh belong to various religious denominations, they want nothing to do with any group who presents a danger of disrupting their beliefs.

One of the Council members expressed knowledge of the Reorganized people, and we assured him that we are in no way affiliated with any other group of Latter Day Saints.

The meeting was closed after more than two hours on the most cordial note. A song was sung by the four who opened the meeting expressing sorrow that "our friends are leaving" and that we had a good meeting. Hearty handshakes of friendship were exchanged by all.

An invitation was given that we attend a meeting of the Council and all the Native Americans of the Pittsburgh group on March 14.

Brother Richard Scaglione

—o—

## And Sixty More

Recently, Brother Peter and Sister Rose Scolaro, with Brother Joseph and Sister Anna Lombardo, observed a joyful occasion. Both couples celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Brother Peter and Sister Rose Scolaro were married on November 25, 1915. Brother Joseph and Sister Anna Lombardo were married on January 20, 1916. However, the two couples have more in common than just sharing the honor of 60 years of wedded bliss. When Sister Rose was married in 1915, Sister Anna was her maid of honor.

May God continue to bless their lives and bring them even greater happiness in the years to come.

## GREETINGS

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Love of God is greater toward us when we receive Jesus into our life and keep His statutes.

I want to share with you this manifestation of so great a love. In the early 40's I established a mission in Mt. Bridges, Ontario. As it is my manner I visit in homes of any who would have me. Upon visiting Sister Albertina Duquardive, I saw a "For Sale" sign in the front lawn. This disturbed me some. As we walked, she informed me that she and her husband were moving to Belgium, "But why?" I said. "The angel of the Lord told me in a dream to leave Van Bree." I felt good in her experience, but felt that something was wrong. I told her and Camille, her husband, "Please take that sign off just for one week, I want to ask the Lord about your experience and why he would want you to go to Belgium. I prayed each day and on Saturday I prayed more earnestly, as on Sunday I would go to Mt. Bridges, about 120 miles from home.

The Angel of the Lord appeared to me in a dream: He said, "Marco, she did not tell you the whole dream that I gave her. I told her to leave the Van Brees alone, for she constantly caused an offence with Anna Van Bree."

I left early on Sunday morning and upon arriving at the Duquardive home, Albertina was a little nervous as she saw me.

I asked her to tell the dream to me again. She said it in the same like manner. I said, "You do not tell me the whole dream, tell your husband privately then I will tell you the dream as the angel told me." As I related the angel's message she cried and was asking forgiveness. Her husband did not want to leave Canada and there was dissension in their home.

"God loves you Albertina and wants you to have peace, had you left, your whole life would have been a problem and you would most surely blame the whole to Anna Van Bree and perhaps have trouble with Camille. Today, tell your fault to the Van Brees openly and you will be a much happier woman."

She apologized to Anna privately and the whole Van Bree family publicly.

It was a blessed day indeed. It is possible that we deprive ourselves of peace and God's smile upon us by minding others' problems and not our own.

Think on these things.

Jesus cried over Jerusalem, but could not help her, because she would not let Him. Are you stopping God from loving, helping, and caring for you?

God has a way with us because He so loves us: we are His children.

May His name be praised forevermore. It is more fitting to praise Him than to ask favors of Him. He knows our needs.

Love from,

Brother Mark Randy



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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### CHRIST REDISCOVERED?

by Joseph Ross

Once again we approach the time of year when the Christian world AGAIN commemorates the Easter season. It has been well over 1900 years that Jesus Christ was crucified, then resurrected for all mankind. But, has the so-called Christian world learned its lesson? Are they following His teachings? Do they pattern their lives after His example? Sad to say — the replies to these questions that come booming down through the annals of time are resounding NO's.

It appears that Christ must be rediscovered! He has been portrayed in an atmosphere of unreality, aloofness, kept remote where His practical demands to change human behavior have been dimmed. But the record of His life is light shining to guide us in the darkness of moral decadence which prevails in today's society. Christians have been taught to read the scriptures in a special way, using them as a manual of devotion, not as a "guidebook." But the Gospels reveal the facts about Christ and the examples He set as a pattern. The manner in which He solved the daily problems we all encounter; what He taught about life, death and the resurrection; the path to eternal salvation; and as difficult as it is for Christians to accept, He taught the way to salvation by example.

#### Why Differences?

BUT, does mankind follow Christ? No, else there would not be such a variety of denominations, interpretations and explanations to His established Biblical patterns. Another query, why the theological disagreements, are not the Scriptures clear? The truth is that though writers may differ about how and what Christ did and what He said, they never differ about what He was, the perfect example. In addition, the bitter differences that brought about religious wars, persecutions and divisions amid so-called Christianity were never due to differing opinions of Christ. People have always agreed on what He was; the Son of God, the perfect example for mankind to pattern after. But, the contradictions and differences are on how He is to be explained.

#### Christ Is Consistent

Some claim contradictions in the written Gospels, but there is nothing contradicting in that individual that is the same yesterday, today and forever. Christ is unlike all others that have ever been or will ever be. He is consistent. William H. Cadman often said, "Consistency, consistency, thou art a jewel." That we have such an example, what hinders mankind from following that which is perfect? Is the answer truth? Truth can never be found for men, but only by men. The only way to find truth is to live it. The only way to live truth is to follow truth. Where shall truth be found? By following Christ. He was what He taught. "I am the truth, the way and the life." We can judge the truth of all that was said of Him by His example.

All mankind are equal and free before God, regardless of nation, kindred, tongue, race or color. This strange idea of human equality has not been realized among humanity. Is it a new concept — or has it been recorded in the scriptures from the beginning? Will the idea ever be banished from men's minds or will it periodically emerge to haunt them because it is the truth as decreed and shown by Christ? What will bring about equality, only the truth will expunge that evil of inequality that men confront within themselves. The truth as recorded in the scriptures and the example displayed that perfect individual — Christ. Then in reality, Christ must be rediscovered, He must be obeyed and followed. To quote a famous Roman statesman and philosopher who lived during the time of Christ, "Knowing there is a purpose behind all, I do not obey God — I agree with Him. I follow Him with all my heart and soul, not because I must." Lucius Seneca (4 B.C.-A.D. 65).



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### The Hope of the Saints

Dear Boys and Girls,

For our Easter Story I want to tell you of the HOPE of the Saints. In the Psalms David wrote, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalm 116:15) Death then is like a bridge. It is God's way of taking us from this life to a better place. There is no other way to get there. We think of that better place as heaven. The Book of Mormon calls it Paradise. Alma told his son Corianton all this is a mystery as an angel had explained it to him. It is a beautiful story and one that helps us understand God's plan. When the soul leaves the body, whether good or bad, it is taken home to God who gave life. Those who are righteous are received in a state of happiness, which is called Paradise. It is a state of peace where they shall rest from all trouble, care and sorrow. The ones who are evil are not promised these wonderful things.

The righteous ones remain in this state in Paradise until the time of the resurrection. This is a glorious time for all those who have served God. The soul will be restored to the body. The body will be perfect, not even a hair of the head shall be lost. All will stand before God to be judged according to their works. We have a great hope of meeting all our loved ones who cross this bridge ahead of us. Won't this be a happy meeting?

Jesus asked his disciples this question, "For what is man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Our body is like a house or a shell that holds the soul. Our soul is very precious. The part that makes us sing, laugh, cry, hear, see and know, leaves the body, or our earthly house, when we leave this earth. Life here below is like a journey. When we go away we always want our plans to be perfect. How much better our plans should be for this journey to a better land. We can't take any of our possessions with us, no silver or gold is needed. One time Jesus told a man, "Except a man be born of the water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

When Jesus knew he was to leave this earth, he tried to prepare his disciples. He said, "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." Then he told them of the Comforter which would abide with them. He continued, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me, because I live, ye shall live also." Once before he had said, "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." Jesus had comforted his friend Martha, with these words, "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

There is an interesting story in the Old Testament about David. He had a son who was very sick. David fasted and prayed for the child. The servants saw his grief. When the child died they were afraid to tell him. David heard them whispering and he thought the boy must be dead. He asked them, "Is the child dead?" And they answered, "He is dead." To their surprise, David washed and anointed himself, changed his clothes and went to the house of the Lord. Then he went to his own home and ate. The servants couldn't understand this. They asked, "What is this that you do? You did fast and weep for the child while he was alive and now he is dead and you arise and eat?" David replied, "While the child was alive I fasted and wept but now that he is dead I cannot bring him back again. I shall go to him but he shall not return to me." This is THE HOPE OF THE SAINTS. We cannot bring our loved ones back but we can live good lives so we can meet them.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### Aliquippa Hosts Ladies Circle Conference

The Aliquippa Ladies Circle hosted the General Ladies Uplift Circle Conference on March 6, 1976. Sisters were in attendance from Canada, Florida, and Ohio; also, there was a busload from Detroit, Michigan and one from Monongahela, Pennsylvania.

The Elders who were present opened the meeting in prayer, as the General Church was meeting in fasting and prayer on behalf of its missionary fields.

The Aliquippa Circle Sisters presented a program on the Resurrection of Christ. Scripture was read from *II Nephi* 11:10-17. "Sol Gesu" (Only Jesus) was then sung in the Italian language. Sister Mabel Bickerton remarked that she has a hope that there will be a Ladies Circle in every Branch of The Church. A good Circle can help the Branch as a good wife can help her husband.

The business part of the conference began with the roll call of officers; reading of the minutes of the last conference held in Imperial, Pennsylvania; delegates and treasurer's reports; answers to the questions assigned; and the 1975 history of the Circles.

Most of the officers were present. The minutes were accepted. The following activities of the Circles were as follows: money donated to the *Book of Mormon* Concordance Fund; Nigerian Relief and Secondary School; layettes were sent to the Indian Reservations; prayer for the sick; and Christmas dinners, bake sales, and distribution of candy. The treasurer reported \$3,785.66 was collected for this period.

The answers to the three questions were found in the *Book of Mormon*. "And it came to pass as they understood they cast their eyes up again towards heaven, what did they see?" *III Nephi* 11:8. "What is a revelator?" *Mosiah* 8:16. "Where and why is it written that no king shall reign in America?" *II Nephi* 10:11.

The 1975 history of the General Ladies Uplift Circles was read and accepted by motion to be distributed to all Circles.

Money that was collected for the day was donated to Africa, Italy, San Carlos Radio program, Bible School in Muncey, Canada, and to the General Church for Indian missionary work.

The projects for the next quarter are to continue with the Concordance Fund and to send layettes to the Indian Reservations.

The next General Ladies Uplift Circle Conference will be held at Warren, Ohio on July 10, 1976. A vote of thanks was given to the Aliquippa Ladies Circle for their hospitality.

Brother George Johnson of Monongahela, Pennsylvania concluded the day by relating the trip he took out West.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## News From Aliquippa, Pa.

On Saturday, March 6, the General Ladies Circle met in our Branch. On that evening our local M.B.A. sponsored a singspiration attended by many Sisters including a busload from the Michigan-Ontario District.

A spirit of fellowship was felt during the evening as we sang together and in groups to the Glory to God. After the meeting we met in the Church basement for refreshments and socializing.

Sunday morning started with a Sunday School meeting in a joint discussion on the thought of using care in being considerate of the feelings of others, and not being hurt too easily ourselves.

The morning session was opened by Brother Gorie Ciaravino using the scripture in the *Gospel of Matthew 16th chapter*, in which the Lord instructs his disciples, "If any man deny himself to take up his cross and follow me."

Brother Gorie spoke on the destiny of mankind and reminded us that there is an account to be given of what we have done with our lives. No matter what our position in life, the real beginning of living occurs when we have taken the cross of Christ upon ourselves and follow His commandments.

Brother Anthony Ensana followed expanding on the thought of man's destiny being eternal and concluded that if we follow Jesus we need nothing else.

Brother John Ross closed the preaching service exhorting our young people that they cannot do as they please, but must control themselves and conform to the life that God would have them to live.

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered, after which the congregation met in the Church basement for lunch and the Brothers and Sisters from Michigan departed for home on the bus. This ended a most wonderful and memorable weekend of fellowship and praise to God.

Joyceann Jumper

## California District Circle Conference

The California District Ladies Uplift Circle meeting was held in San Diego, California, November 1, 1975.

As we came into the building, the Sisters were on their knees in prayer. What a beautiful sight. Fast and prayer was called for Friday on behalf of our Circle and on Saturday on behalf of our missionary field.

The scripture that was read was taken from the Book of Joel.

Opening prayer was offered by Brother John Azzi-naro.

Sister Judy Calabrese told of how the Navajo women want us to teach them all we know about crafts, home-making, etc. She wants us to submit to her any ideas we may have along this line.

Sister Grace Brutz told of how they are meeting in an old firehouse in Tucson, Arizona.

Sister Sarah Watson told of an uplifting dream she had that encouraged them after their move to Phoenix, Arizona.

A Sister from Tijuana testified of her four year old daughter who had cerebral palsy. She contracted pneumonia but was healed of it. We were urged not only to pray for a healing for little Mike Buccellato but also for this little girl.

Our afternoon meeting was opened by the blessed singing of our Sisters from Tijuana singing in Spanish a song written by our Brother Arce who is our missionary from Mexico City.

The Sisters from San Fernando sang "Circle of Love". We feel this should be our theme song.

Testimonies were given by our Sisters from Tijuana and translated by Sister Perdue. We felt a wonderful spirit of humility in their words.

The Sisters from Red Lake sang "Teach Me Lord to Wait". It was expressed that was one of the hardest things for them to do on the reservation.

Sister Diane Surdock sang a song she wrote entitled "Give Me One More Day to do the Things I Promised You".

As Brother Frank Genaro bore his testimony, the gift of tongues was spoken by Brother Peter Genaro. Sister Catherine Carneval gave the interpretation as "That's true, the words of God, that's true." Brother Frank encouraged us to have patience and wait on the Lord, especially those in the missionary field.

A letter was read from Sister Donna Amormino thanking us on behalf of her mother Sister Christine Taormino for the charity we showed towards her while she was here.

Sister Elaine Jordan told of the Navajo children needing glasses and not being able to afford them. Our Circle donated towards this plus donating to Tijuana, Mexico City and Red Lake for their various needs.

Our next meeting will be at Bell, California.

The theme San Diego chose was "old fashioned." All their decorations were "old fashioned" and they had old photos of the Brothers and Sisters hanging all over.

Thanks, San Diego, for your wonderful hospitality.

Sister Joan McNabb

# M. B. A. Highlights

## NOTICE

This notice is to inform all M.B.A. Locals of price rates and information regarding the forthcoming G.M.B.A. Campout. It will be held at Wheatstate Camp in Augusta, Kansas (a few miles to the east of Wichita) from Saturday, July 24 at 1:00 P.M. to Saturday, July 31 at 1:00 P.M.

	Adults 12 yrs. & over	Children 3 to 11 yrs.	Small Children under 3 yrs.
Breakfast	\$1.75	\$1.45	F
Lunch	\$2.15	\$1.85	R
Supper	\$3.50	\$3.20	E
Totals	\$7.40	\$6.50	E
Lodging per night	\$ .60	\$ .60	F
Daily registra- tion fee	\$ .50	\$ .50	R
			E
Daily Total	\$8.50	\$7.60	E

The daily fee for campers, tents, mobile homes, etc. is \$3.00 per unit. All those sleeping in these units are still required to pay the daily registration fee of \$.50 per day, except those under 3 years of age.

Complete Registration Forms will be distributed at the May, 1976 G.M.B.A. Those locals not attending will receive theirs by mail.

Joseph Ross, Camp Director

## FLORIDA AREA CAMPOUT IS FRUITFUL — LOVE AND UNITY

The Florida Area Campout was held February 13, 14 and 15, and was enjoyed by all — young and old. The weather was balmy, and we had a good attendance. A small group of Brothers had gathered Friday evening; after setting up camp, they prayed that the Lord might bless us during our stay at camp.

The sun was shining and the weather was perfect for the activities planned for the day.

We started the day with chapel and seminars, discussing our theme for the camp, "Love and Unity." The afternoon was left open for sports, arts and crafts, or just visiting with one another.

Saturday evening we gathered for singing and testimony. We received a great blessing. When the meeting was dismissed, some of the Brothers prepared a campfire for a weiner roast.

The Sunday Service began with community singing from 10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

The service was opened in prayer by Brother Anthony Ensana of Fort Pierce. Brother Mike Radd of Lake Worth

chose for his text, *John 14:1-10* verses. IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS... Brother Radd gave a brief, but interesting talk on how we should prepare ourselves in this life for those mansions.

The second speaker was Brother Anthony Ensana who also gave an inspiring talk on the same subject stating, "Never has this passage of scripture had more effect on me as at this present time." At this point, the Spirit of God was manifested, which was witnessed by all that were present. During Brother Ensana's talk, a young man from Jacksonville arose and asked for his baptism. The new convert is Jimmie Hickman, son-in-law of Brother and Sister Constantine of Cape Coral... His remark was, "I want to take Jesus home with me."

Brother V. J. Lovalvo remarked briefly on the topic of the day; encouraging the young people this is the time to make your covenant with God. Again the Spirit of God was felt as George Katsaras of Miami, also asked for his baptism. He is the son-in-law of Brother and Sister Ritz of Miami. Brother George really spoke with a broken heart and a repentant spirit, as he requested prayer. While Brother George was walking up to be anointed, a vision was seen by ten year old Johnny D'Orazio. (As quoted by him at the end of this article.)

Still the Spirit of God prevailed, while encouraging words were being spoken to the young people to come to Jesus. Another young man, Stanley Davis of Lake Worth walked to the front and asked for his baptism.

We went to the waters edge and witnessed the three baptisms performed by Brother Ensana. A luncheon was prepared by the Area Sisters which we all enjoyed.

The afternoon service was brief. We were led in prayer by Brother Sam Costarella, formerly of Youngstown, Ohio and now residing in Lakewood Park, Florida. After singing a few hymns, our new converts were confirmed for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

Brother Katsaras was confirmed by Brother Costarella; Brother Hickman by Brother Lovalvo and Brother Davis by Brother Ensana.

Thus, a perfect weekend came to a close. All went home rejoicing with their cup overflowing. In behalf of all that attended, we want to thank all the officers and committees who worked so hard for a job well done. May God Bless One and All (See you all next year — Lord willing). Thank you for coming.

Brother Lou Pandone and Joyce Moraco

"After Brother Jim Lovalvo spoke, a hymn was called and I got up to get a hymn book. When I looked at Brother Jim again, his face and hands were glowing with a bright shining, white color. After that, Brother George stood up and requested prayer for strength.

When Brother George was coming back to his seat, I saw a wrinkled, black cloth come off his head and vanish. Then a new clean, not wrinkled, white silk cloth went on his head."

Johnny D'Orazio

P.S. Brother Jim Lovalvo was the Brother who offered prayer for George.

## FLORIDA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Florida District held their conference on Sunday, February 22, 1976 at Lake Worth. We were privileged to have Brothers Frank and Joseph Calabrese from Ohio, and Brother Joseph Bittinger from Pennsylvania as guest speakers.

Brother Joseph Calabrese introduced the morning service speaking of the joy of unity in the home, when an entire family is converted to the Lord. He also related an experience of a person in El Paso, Texas who was seriously ill with cancer. She requested the elders of our church to anoint a handkerchief and send it to her. When she received it, she was healed.

Brother Joe read for his text, from *3rd Nephi, 17th chapter*. He drew a comparison of what happened in Guatemala, to what happened on this land of America, when Christ was crucified. He related how Jesus came to this land and instructed the people. After He finished and was about to leave them, He told them to bring their sick to Him and He would heal them. His compassion for them was so great that He healed them all. He also expressed himself concerning the seed of Joseph and the blessings that are in store for them, when the scales of blindness fall from their eyes. Brother Joe urged those who are shackled by sin, to ask God to set them free.

He was followed by Brother Frank Calabrese, telling us of the Angel that flew in the midst of heaven bringing the Everlasting Gospel to be preached to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Therefore, we have a message to give to the world that will go forth; the world will be told of this great message. The gospel is the only hope of the world for it is the power of God unto Salvation.

Brother Bittinger opened the afternoon meeting, also speaking on the same theme of Unity and Faith among the Saints. He was followed by a few Elders expressing themselves on the same subject.

After communion was administered, Brother Jack Constantine was ordained a Teacher for the Cape Coral Mission. Brother Rocco Lovero washed his feet, and Brother August D'Orazio Sr. ordained him.

A day well spent was brought to a close with prayer by Brother Billy Tucker from Tampa.

About 190 people attended our morning service.

Brother Eugene Perri, Jr.  
District Editor

## PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania District assembled together in conference at the Glassport Branch on Saturday, February 21, at 10:00 A.M. There was almost 100% attendance of the district elected officers.

The business of the district was presented, discussed and acted upon. We can say that it was a very enjoyable day.

The district officers were elected; Brother John Manes was re-elected as District President; Brother James

Grazan was elected as First Counsellor and Brother Russell Cadman as Second Counsellor.

Our prayers are that God might bless them and continue to bestow the wisdom upon these Brothers to lead our District.

The Sunday Service was held in our Monongahela Branch with all the Pennsylvania District Branches being present. Brother James Moore Sr. from Atlanta, Georgia opened the meeting. Brothers George Johnson, Sam Kirschner and James Grazan followed in speaking.

We surely can say that it was a weekend well spent fellowshiping with the Saints of the District.

Bro. Bob Nicklow  
Pa. District Editor

## Florida District Spiritual Gathering

Sunday, December 14, the Ft. Pierce Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ was host to a Spiritual Gathering of the Florida District. Due to the increase in attendance it was held in the Village Hall of Lakewood Park where several families of our Church reside. The building was adequate and situated on a lake in case of a Baptism. Members came from Miami, Tampa, Lake Worth and of course Ft. Pierce. Many friends and neighbors also attended.

There were solos as well as group singing in keeping with this Holy Season. Hymn "He Lives" was sung and Brother V. J. Lovalvo took as his text the *2nd Chapter of Luke*, the birth of Jesus. The mission of Christ thirty years later. Spirit revealed to Peter he was Son of God. If we are pure in heart and keep our minds and ears open He still speaks to us as He did so many years. He is a living God.

Brother William Tucker continued, talking of his visit to the Holy Land. We should keep God's Commandments and live each day as if it were our last so that we are ready for our reward.

Brother Eugene Perri, Jr., continued—God holds the future of His people, do His will, He takes care of his own.

Brother Sam Costarella closed the meeting with prayer.

The afternoon meeting opened with Brother V. J. Lovalvo singing a composition of his own.

Prayer by Brother Sam Costarella.

He continued the meeting speaking on how we live in perilous times, but we have our Lord. We should be patient and have faith. All nations will come to the House of the Lord.

Testimony of Saints, Sister Rose Rogolino spoke in tongues. Sister Mary Lovalvo interpreted "I am a Living God. I'll be with you to the end of your days as long as you serve Me."

The Sacrament was administered after the testimonies.

Dismissal prayer by Brother Charles Smith.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Blessings At Niles, Ohio

November 29, 1975, will be a day long remembered by the young people of the Niles, Ohio Branch and also by our young Sisters from New Orleans. After witnessing the marriage of Brother Ron and Sister Cathy Genaro, my husband Joe invited quite a few young people to our home for a little get-together. Everyone arrived about 10:30 p.m. and we all told of experiences, and how the Lord has blessed us. The Sisters from New Orleans told us of the close relationship they have found in each other and of how the Lord is working with them. They carried such a beautiful spirit, that it was felt by everyone in the room.

It was now midnight, and Brother Russ Martorana asked us all to kneel in prayer before everyone had to leave. After Brother Russ prayed, the Spirit of God fell upon us and many more prayers were offered in behalf of our Sunday meeting. We were all in one accord and wanted so much to have a special blessing on Sunday. There were several anointings, healings were received, and testimonies were given to the honor and glory of God. While Brother Russ was anointing Sister Arta McGuire, I felt such a strong desire for Brother Russ to offer a special prayer for Gabrielle Casebonne, from New Orleans. I was not aware of any problems she may have had nor what her feelings were. I didn't know if this desire I had was just me, or if it was of the Lord. I've never experienced this type of feeling before. I asked the Lord if this was from Him, that He would give me a sign. At that moment my heart began to pound very loud and hard. As soon as Brother Russ ended his prayer, I made my request for this special prayer to be offered. Gabrielle just kept nodding her head yes, and then admitted she needed prayer. Sister Gail Wortman, also from New Orleans, said she also had the same desire to have a prayer offered for Gabrielle. While Brother Russ was praying on her, he saw the chains that bound her break loose, and she was set free from her burden. We then continued singing and praying; no one wanted to leave. It was 1:30 a.m. when our meeting ended, and we were all so filled with the Spirit of God.

On Sunday, God answered our prayers and blessed us immensely. Gabrielle asked for her baptism; even in all the rain, it was beautiful. Before we left for Church that morning, my husband made a point to bring his camera, because he said he just knew there was going to be a baptism. Just experiencing this little portion of God's blessing makes us exclaim, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be."

Sister Sandy Scarna

### Holiday Song Fest At Erie, Pennsylvania

Have you tried one recently? Erie Mission young adults put together an evening of delight on December 21 at the Church building. Special invitations were sent out. On the night of the mentioned date, the weather was treacherous outside, but so beautiful in our building. There were many happy faces in our little group when seeing our visitors arriving. When counted, it added up to about 20 and with our group there were many voices singing out the birth of CHRIST.

Our young adults also had special songs which made our evening even brighter. Brother Burge read a poem and spoke a few words on the Saints of the Bible times singing hymns.

Evening ended in prayer and later refreshments were served. The visitors said they enjoyed themselves, and we know the Saints had a special blessing that evening. Our young people did a wonderful job. God bless them, and may they always remember to put the Lord first in their lives.

The theme for the evening was "O Come Let Us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation." *Psalm 95:1*

Sister Dolly Kovacic, Editor

### Activities Of Levittown Mission Include Baptism And Blessings

One day last November, after the regular Sunday services, most of the Levittown Mission traveled to Harrisburg for a special visit. Sister Dorothy Gandley had arranged for us to meet at the home of Stan and Naresh Maingi. This couple is from India and we were afforded the opportunity to give our testimonies and talk of The Church.

After a dinner of Indian style food, we sang songs and Brother Samuel Dell blessed four children: Chelton and Shail, son and daughter of the Maingis; Manu and Jyotsna, children of the Pushpas who are relatives visiting our hosts in Harrisburg. We pray this sharing of the Gospel with these people from India will be fruitful here and abroad.

\* \* \*

On December 12, 1975 another name was added to the roles of The Church. Sharon L. Syron of Altoona, Pa. was baptized by Brother Samuel Dell and confirmed. Sister Sharon attended meetings some years ago when they were held in Fairless Hills. Although Altoona is a distance away and Sister Sharon may go to other Branches in the area, it is hoped she will visit Levittown frequently. May the Lord bless her all her life to come.

\* \* \*

#### *Fairless Hills Mission Now Levittown*

Although the early missionary work and the beginning meetings of the mission were in Fairless Hills, the building came to be built in nearby Levittown, Pa. The communities border each other so the mission is positioned well to serve the entire area.

The Brothers and Sisters are advised not to be confused by this name change. It is necessitated by the actual location of the mission being in the City of Levittown, Pa. Brother Samuel Dell is the Elder in charge. The mission's address is: 563 Levittown Parkway, Levittown, Pa. 19054. The telephone number is 215-547-6530.

### Roscoe Branch Acknowledges Visitors

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In beginning the year 1976, the Brothers and Sisters of Roscoe Branch would like to acknowledge the visiting

Brothers and Sisters from various Branches during the remainder of the previous year.

On November 23, Brothers James Campbell and George Johnson from Monongahela attended our service. Brother Campbell used *Exodus Chapter 3* to open the meeting. The message was very inspiring.

On November 30, Brother Rocco V. Biscotti, of Cleveland Ohio and Brother Sam Kirschner of West Elizabeth, Pa., both Apostles of The Church were with us. Brother Biscotti opened the meeting speaking of the Pearly White City recorded in Revelations. God's spirit prevailed.

On December 7, Brother James Curry of Monongahela and Brother Joseph Bittinger, Apostle, from Vandarbilt attended the services throughout the day. Brother Curry opened the morning service speaking on the *II Chapter of Joel*. Brother Fred O'Lexa blessed Cheree Lynette Santone, infant daughter of Sister Karen and Brother Edward Santone during the meeting. Brother Bittinger used the 12th Chapter of Hebrews as his text in the afternoon meeting. Our Brothers' words were full of wisdom and enlightenment.

On December 14, Brother Jerry Giavonne, of Warren Ohio opened the morning meeting speaking on one's coming face to face with Jesus. The Spirit of God bore witness of our Brother's word and testimony. During the service Brother Fred O'Lexa blessed Ed Devore, son of JoAnn and Elmer Devore who faithfully attended our meetings.

Two other Devore children were blessed the following Sunday, December 21, Doreen was blessed by Brother Bud Martin and Darren was blessed by Brother John Kendall.

We would like to thank all of our visiting Brothers and Sisters for sharing God's love and blessings with us. May God Bless You! It is our hope and prayer the coming days and years before us may be spent well in the service of God.

Brothers and Sisters  
Roscoe Branch

## Greetings From The Red Lake, Arizona Mission

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

We wish all who read *The Gospel News* a blessed and prosperous New Year. We pray that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit of God will manifest itself in each Branch and Mission across the face of the whole earth. We must seek the luxuries of the Gospel of Jesus Christ over and above any material wealth this world can afford. We have been taught that only what we do for Christ will endure for ever, and when we are in the service of our fellow beings we are only in the service of our God.

We enjoyed the spirit of giving during the season of the celebration of Christ's birth. The Red Lake Mission, along with several friends, joined together in a small but enthusiastic choir to present the Christmas story in song. We were directed by Sister Elaine Jordan and presented three choral programs during the week prior to Christmas. The first presentation was in the home of the Navajo Tribal Chairman joined by his family and a few close friends. Next, we sang to the prisoners in the Tribal Jail

in Window Rock and shared refreshments with them afterwards. Our final program was presented at the Christmas dinner celebration of the Red Lake Chapter to which more than one hundred adults and children attended from the community with which we work cooperatively in the Side by Side Demonstration Farm Project. We also had the great privilege of caroling in the community for the first time since we have come to live here. We thank God that the people of the Red Lake Community have opened their homes and hearts to us. Giving was truly the theme of this wonderful season: Give as God and Christ gave—EVERYTHING!

During the recent weeks, we have also welcomed the newest arrivals to this area and our Mission. First, we had Sister Donna Ciccati's sister, Mary Liz, and brother-in-law, Roger Kellams, move here from Indiana. They are eager to help in the work with the Navajo people, and it is our fervent prayer that they both would shortly surrender their souls to God and join us completely in the Spiritual field of labor. We enjoy their testimonies and fellowship very much.

The latest transfer, Brother John Mancini, comes to us from the Monongahela Branch of The Church. John's testimony is one of thanksgiving to God for giving him Divine direction to go into the Work of the Lord with the Seed of Joseph. He is another witness to the power of fasting and prayer in seeking God's will for each one of us in our lives. May God bless our Brother as he begins his new job naturally and that he will labor in the Spiritual vineyard of the Lord with all his might.

We of the Red Lake Mission rejoice in the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ and that we have been so privileged to be a part in the Gospel's prize of salvation and the Restoration of the Gospel to the Seed of Joseph. As we read in the Holy Scriptures, the natural fruit (House of Israel) was the most precious to the Lord of the vineyard, and He waits with great anticipation for the return of the natural fruit once more. To those who go out to recover the natural branches, He promises them great joy with Him because they had labored diligently with Him in gathering and grafting in the natural branches once more into the tree so that there may be natural fruit come forth from the tree. He is calling for those few servants to go into the vineyard and bring back the House of Israel into the family and fold of God. May you fast and pray for God to direct your lives according to His eternal will. For, he that asketh shall receive, he that knocketh it shall be opened unto Him, and he that seeketh shall find.

It is our sincere prayer that the blessings of God will rest upon His Church and People. Please pray for us as we too pray for a Church united and triumphant.

## Wedding Anniversary

Brother Carl Frammolino and Joanne (Paleno), his wife, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on November 25, 1975. They have four children, Ralph, Carl Louis, Janice and Kathleen. They were united in marriage on November 25, 1950 by Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo at Branch No. 1. They were both baptized in September, 1957.

Brother Carl is an Elder at Sterling Heights Branch.

## AN EXPERIENCE

During the Sunday morning meeting of the General Church Conference (October 19) at the General Church Auditorium, I had the following experience. The Elders had formed a circle on the rostrum and Brother Joseph Lovalvo was offering a prayer for the missionary work of The Church. As I was standing with my eyes closed during the prayer, I lifted my head toward the heavens. My cheeks began to burn like fire, my body began to get warm, my heart began to pound, and my chest started to expand. I then heard the voice of the Lord saying, "I am thy God. Have faith, prayer unto Me, and I will move thy mountain, My people, My people." In the spirit I also heard God's voice say, "I am thy God."

I could now feel the warmth going out of my body and I felt weak. Then I heard the Elders tell the congregation to be seated as the meeting continued.

Sister Ella Pettyjon

—o—

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Karenita to Charles and Wilma Mull of San Carlos, Arizona,

Laurie Elaine to Philip C. and Kathleen M. Davies of Cleveland No. 1, Ohio.

## — WEDDINGS —

## RUYLE - DiFALCO

Brother Donald H. Ruyle and Sister Denise Marie DiFalco, were united in holy marriage on Saturday, February 14, 1976. The union took place at The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan.

Brother Michael LaSala officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were played by Brother Eugene Amormino, and sung by Miss Susan Busch.

The newlyweds are residing in East Detroit, Michigan.

## KIMBLE - DiTOMASO

Mr. Robert Kimble and Miss Jamie DiTomaso were joined in holy wedlock on February 14, 1976 in The Church of Jesus Christ, Branch No. 1, Cleveland, Ohio.

Brother Vincent Gibson officiated at the ceremony.

Musical selections were presented by Sisters Sevilla Gibson and Roberta Hufnagle.

May God add His blessing to the newlywedded couple.

## GOODWILL - BURGE

Mr. Jeffrey Alan Goodwill and Miss Renee Louise Burge were united in the holy bonds of matrimony in The Church of Jesus Christ in Erie, Pennsylvania on January 31, 1976.

Elders Harold Burge, the bride's father, and Delbert Lockwood officiated at the ceremony.

Vocal selections were presented by Judy Dyer and Judy Whipple; and organ and piano accompaniment by Sherry Lockwood and Esther Dyer.

May God's blessing attend the newlyweds in their new journey of life.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

## FREDA WATSON

Sister Freda Watson, of the Monongahela, Pa. Branch passed away suddenly on October 29, 1975. She was baptized into The Church on February 13, 1958 and was very faithful in the Gospel. Her smile and testimony will certainly be missed.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Idris Martin. May God comfort her family and all those who will miss her presence.

## JESSIE BURD

Sister Jessie Burd, age 93, passed on to her heavenly reward on February 19, 1976. She was born December 5, 1882 in West Elizabeth, Pa., a daughter of the late William and Sister Ellen Jane Cadman Rennie. She was the niece of the late Alma and William H. Cadman. She was a member of the West Elizabeth Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

She is survived by a son and daughter, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Samuel Kirschner and Idris Martin.

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## A Note of Thanks

I wish to thank all my Brothers and Sisters and friends for their prayers, cards and calls on my behalf during my recent accident at work. I am improving but I still need your prayers.

May God bless you for your love toward me.

Brother Frank Giovannone  
Warren, Ohio

## — 1976 Church Calendar —

## MAY

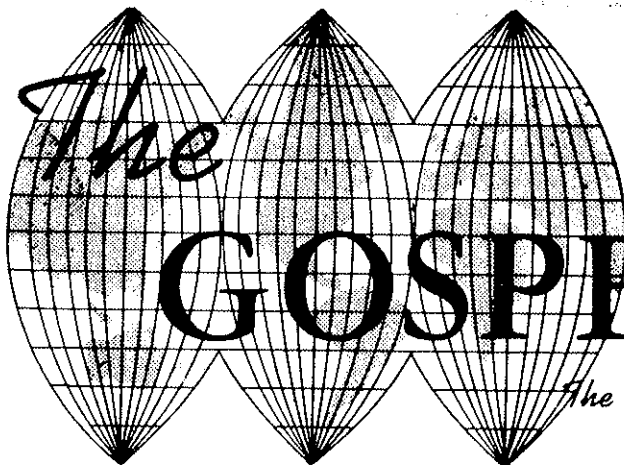
15 — G.M.B.A. Conference — Ohio Area

## JULY

10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio

24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas





# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

May, 1976

Volume 32, No. 5

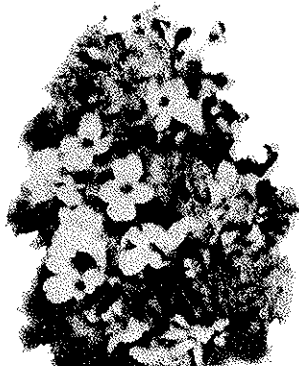
Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## *A MOTHER'S PRAYER*

Help me, Dear Lord, to be a good mother...  
To guide those depending on me  
Help me to show them a mother whose love  
And purpose is centered on Thee.

Let them see kindness and wisdom enough  
To teach them the worthier things...  
Patience enough to encourage their hearts  
To love life, whatever it brings.

Let me inspire them to look for—and find  
The best in themselves...and each other—  
How grateful I'd be if they lived well for Thee  
In faith that they learned from their mother.



## AMERICAN INDIAN COMMITTEE MEETING IN MEXICO

When one attempts to place in writing the events and communication with God during the weekend of meetings of the American Indian Committee at Tijuana and San Diego on March 5, 6, and 7 it is quite difficult to relate. The true Spirit of God must be felt personally rather than being described; however, we will as best we can, give a spiritual overview of the important areas.

The Friday evening meeting was limited in attendance to the Committee, all District Mission Board members, all Indian missionaries and any member of the priesthood who was genuinely interested in the work of the Lord among the seed of Joseph. The strong feeling of the total priesthood gathered was one of anticipation that God would meet with us and relate to His people the direction and area of spiritual travel which would permit us to proceed.

We remember the experience of tongues and interpretation during our Phoenix meeting which stated, "Brothers, we should gather in Mexico and the Lord will be with us." Thus, taking God at His word, we were there to anticipate that very promise.

We realized that we must all be perfectly united in spirit and the words of Brother George Johnson of Monongahela spoken during a recent fast and prayer service were related. "We are all different, but we are all of the same spirit; if we listen to that spirit, we will be united." Therefore, we were totally aware of the necessity of recognizing the true Spirit of the Lord.

The meeting which highlighted the weekend commenced in Tijuana, Mexico at 9:30 a.m. at the mission location. The meeting was open to both priesthood and laity and people from many areas of the country were in attendance. All Districts of The Church were represented with the exception of Florida.

The anticipation of what was about to happen was obvious when one looked about and experienced the formation of the gathering. All involved had been in fasting waiting for this meeting when as promised in Phoenix, the Spirit of God would be with us. We were also totally aware of the fact that all the Church in all locations were in fast and prayer with us and with this weighted knowledge we proceeded with the meeting.

Brother Meredith Griffith offered the opening prayer to God which was the first open verbal communication to what later proved to be one of the highlights in the lives of many people in direct communication with God Himself.

The word of God came to us in various ways—one as follows: "the ministry are the leaders. The members are the followers. Exercise our liberty and freedom in Jesus Christ and God will exercise liberty and freedom to the seed of Joseph."

Another experience was given while Brother Joseph Lovalvo was praying to God and during his prayer he entered into a dialogue speaking directly to God as follows, "Oh God of Israel, we confess that we have failed." The answer returned from God instantly through Brother Isaac Smith, "Fear not—do not be afraid, Brother Joe."

Prior to the meeting a vision was given that a Sister had seen Jesus Christ Himself walking slowly on a road

leading to the Church. Another vision was given that His very presence was experienced within the building where we were meeting. This was confirmed to one who felt so strongly regarding His presence that he was caused to stop and look and possibly observe His countenance.

Mere words are totally inadequate to describe the true feelings of the people of God who experienced this relationship with God and He certainly did fulfill His promise when He instructed us to "meet in Mexico and My Spirit will be with you."

During the meeting at the Tijuana Mission under the direction of the Spirit of God many people were anointed for illness. As many as desired were attended to and it was obvious that nothing in recent years has equalled the feeling of servitude to God's people. Approximately 35 or more people were anointed and it was later reported that many healings were experienced and in addition a number of our Mexican Brothers and Sisters had seen visions of Christ's presence at our meeting.

This was in complete confirmation that Jesus Himself was seen or felt by all.

The Saturday evening meeting was conducted at the San Diego Branch jointly by the American Indian Committee and Brother Thomas Liberto, Presiding Elder. The building was filled to capacity and the experience of the day was discussed in detail. All dreams and visions pertaining to this meeting in Mexico were related and discussed. We entered into a very pleasant and fruitful open dialogue between the chairman of the meeting and all in attendance to relate personal experience and feeling to further draw upon how God had revealed Himself to all concerned.

The California District conducted the Sunday meeting which was held in a local school auditorium. The Spirit of the two previous days was extended into this gathering. The main speaking portion of the meeting was shared by Brothers Donald Ross of New Jersey and John Griffith of Pennsylvania. The attitude of speaking surrounded the sanctification of ones self as a prerequisite before any endeavor may be approached. In addition it was clearly defined that it was very necessary that nothing can be placed as an obstacle to our servitude to God. It must be God first, all else is secondary. Then and only then could we expect success in working for the total restoration of Israel.

During the meeting, as the true Spirit of God was being discussed, Brother Isaac Smith rose and spoke in the Spirit as follows: "Follow my Spirit and I will lead you to Israel. Thus saith the Lord." Other related experiences were given which confirmed this instruction to God's people.

Quite reluctantly we began to say our goodbyes and the congregation began to sing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." Very tearfully we departed and as we looked behind us much of the priesthood and congregation were following. We stopped, cried together and thanked God for His gifts of such a wonderful family.

In this spiritual attitude we departed to analyze in our minds first, at what had happened and what God had shown us with regard to our part in this great plan of the restoration of Israel.

(Continued on page 3)

# M. B. A. Highlights

## CALIFORNIA AREA M.B.A. CONFERENCE REPORT

The Conference convened at San Fernando Valley. Brother Paul Liberto, Area President, welcomed all and reviewed the day's agenda. We then broke into task groups for the remainder of the morning. Brother Frank Ciotti was appointed Vice President pro-tem, and Sister Lynn Liberto Assistant Secretary pro-tem.

Communications were read, followed by unfinished business. Sister Bonnie Smith reported that the Vacation Bible School at Whiteriver Mission was successful, with 80 children attending. She thanked the Area for hosting the V.B.S. The Area Campout at Whiteriver was also a success, being held at the same time.

Sister Elaine Jordan reported that the Lesson Plans were completed and a copy is at the Conference for review.

The Area has collected \$2,600 for the Whiteriver bus to date.

The Young People's Retreat at Sequoia and the Couple's Retreat at Lake Isabella were both reported as being successful.

The work projects at San Carlos, Whiteriver and Yucaipa were all completed. Election of Officers:

President, Paul Liberto  
Vice President, Frank Ciotti  
Chaplain, Ed Buccellato  
Secretary, Debbie Jackson  
Assistant Secretary, Lynn Liberto  
Treasurer, Tom Jones  
Assistant Treasurer, Bill Meo  
Auditor, Emmett Hood  
Editor, Jim Dulisse  
Historian, Joe Kirkpatrick

The Activities Committee will coordinate the V.B.S. programs at San Carlos, Whiteriver and Tijuana with the \$150 donated by the G.M.B.A.

All Locals were again reminded of their obligation to support the G.M.B.A. financial goals.

### Task Group Recommendations:

1. Financial Structure Proposal: A budget committee (Area President, Vice President and financial officers) prepare an annual budget for local approval by simple majority of active local members. Limit, \$100 per project, overall limit \$200 per year. Committee may approve \$25 per request, overall limit \$100 per budget year.

2. Activities approved for coming year: (a) Family Disneyland trip in October; Sunday meeting at Bell Branch; (b) V.B.S. Programs at San Carlos and Whiteriver; flyers to be sent to all locals for available workers.

3. Missionary Endeavors: Establish an Area Lay Missionary Program with Brother Sam Randy as Coordinator to stimulate interest in, and recruit volunteers for existing G.M.B.A. Lay Missionary Program. Brother Sam will coordinate his efforts with G.M.B.A. L.M.P. Coordinator.

4. Lesson Plans: Completed primary age *Book of Mormon* lesson plans on the Jaredites. Each local may reproduce plans at own expense. It is understood that the use of the plans is a pilot project until approval of G.M.B.A.

An evening program was hosted by the Valley M.B.A. Brother Joe Dulisse gave an inspired talk on the Apostasy and Restoration.

The Sunday Service was well attended. The four main speakers were Brothers Russell Marturano, Joe Genaro, Ron Genaro and Jack Ford, all from the Ohio District, and the words spoken were filled with the Spirit of God. The meeting was enjoyed by all, especially by me, for it was the Area M.B.A. Conference, 1960, that God liberated me from my sins. Praise the Lord.

James J. Dulisse  
Area Editor

This is an overdue news item, and many good projects have been undertaken by our group in the West Coast, that could be used elsewhere.

Editor

## AMERICAN INDIAN COMMITTEE . . . (Continued from Page 2)

### Conclusion:

What have we learned?

1. Search for and follow God's own Spirit when asking for direction. Try all spirits and be motivated only by that Spirit which is familiar.

2. Do not be concerned with the mistakes of the past. Look only to the future without fear for God will prepare the hearts of the seed of Joseph.

3. Take that which we already have and proceed realizing that God will lead us to Israel. Nothing new should be expected since we know what our responsibility is.

4. We must sanctify ourselves and be united in His Spirit. This can only be maintained through much fasting and prayer.

5. Be thankful in the knowledge that in our day God is once again working to restore His people and we are privileged to be a small part of the total work.

6. Above all—do not feel that God will choose another people. We are the people and we are equal to the task.

Brother James T. Grazan  
Chairman, American Indian  
Committee

## Note of Thanks

I would like to thank the Brothers and Sisters of The Church of Jesus Christ for the prayers they offered to God in my behalf during my recent illness and surgery. Your cards and many expressions of thoughtfulness in my time of need were greatly appreciated. I pray that God may bless you and repay you for your thoughtfulness.

Sister Minnie DePiero,  
Youngstown, Ohio

## OUR TRIP TO THE SOUTH

On Tuesday, January 13, 1976 John and Mary Ross, Gorie and Antoinette Ciaravino, left Aliquippa, Pa. Destination — Orangeburg, S. Carolina. Purpose — to visit with our Nigerian members there and to hold services with them. We had a pleasant trip with the exception of running into gale winds and a rain storm in Olive Hill, Ky. We heard the next morning that we had encountered the tail end of a tornado. We drove safely through by following a well lighted truck, it was all we could see. It seemed to stay with us until we found a place to stop about 7:30 P.M.

On Thursday, January 15, we arrived in Columbia, S. Carolina, the State Capital. We called Brother George Ekpo who along with his wife Angelica, is enrolled at Columbia University. He is working on his Master's Degree in School Administration. Angelica is working on a degree in Business Administration.

We witnessed the largest Civil Rights march in South Carolina history. It ended at the State Capitol where they spent the day listening to many speakers. We couldn't find a parking place anywhere so we went on our way. The local newspaper that evening expressed the thought this rally may have helped achieve the goal of honoring the late Martin Luther King, Jr. with a state holiday.

On to Orangeburg, where we made ourselves comfortable. We called Brother Moses Akpan and he immediately came over to visit along with his sons Charles and Brice. We were all welcomed warmly, but I saw his eyes glisten with tears when he embraced John and Mary. It had been three years since our last visit. We spoke of many things and finally made plans for the next day.

On Friday we visited with Moses and Martha and family in their home which is on the campus of South Carolina State College. It was a happy reunion with Sister Martha. There we met Brother Joseph Arthur, son of our Nigerian President, Brother E. U. A. Arthur. He is attending school at South Carolina State College. Joseph is married and has two children, all at home in Abak. We were introduced to his roommate, Monday Iwok, also from Abak. We enjoyed dinner with the Akpans that evening.

On Saturday morning we returned to the Akpan home and met Brother Leo Umana who has been here at Claflin College for the past year, majoring in Education and Social Studies. His wife and children are home in Ekot Ekpene. Spent the morning visiting with Brother Leo and Brother Joseph Arthur who had returned, and with several visitors who dropped in.

Sister Martha prepared lunch, after which Brother George Ekpo, Angelica and Sunday Akpan arrived from Columbia. We spent several hours conversing with them and held an impromptu meeting to discuss plans for a meeting on the morrow. Brother Moses expressed his appreciation to The Church and welcomed us again. John and Gorie addressed them, being grateful for the opportunity to be present and to converse with them, encouraging them in their service to the Lord. Brother Leo Umana expressed his great joy at the opportunity he would have to receive Sacrament and take part in the Ordinance of the Washing of Feet. Brother George Ekpo then expressed his joy in the Gospel and his happiness with our presence.

Joseph Arthur had left early to go to work. Our Brothers and Sisters there are sorely pressed for time as they are not only carrying a heavy load of studies but work also to keep themselves and their families. It was decided Sunday Akpan would be baptized by Brother George Ekpo as soon as possible. Sunday morning, January 18 at 11:00 A.M. we met again in the home of Brother Moses and Sister Martha Akpan. Gathered together were Brother and Sister Akpan and their four children, Brother George Ekpo and his wife Angelica, Joseph Arthur and Leo Umana, all from Nigeria. Brother Augustine Etukudo and wife Nse had recently moved to Atlanta, Georgia.

Brother Gorie Ciaravino opened our service with prayer and spoke briefly due to the fact some of our Brothers were going to have to leave early to get to work and we had much to accomplish. We proceeded by praying for all our Nigerian Brothers and Sisters individually because most of them had not partaken of the Lord's Supper for some time. Sacrament was then reverently administered and partaken of with great happiness by all.

Preparations were made for the Washing of Feet, as commanded by our Saviour. The ordinance was performed beautifully and with much love as we washed each others feet, the Brothers in one room and the Sisters in another. When this was done we all met again in the parlor. We ended our solemn and blessed service with a very moving closing prayer by Brother George Ekpo, our Nigerian Elder.

Brother Moses and Sister Martha prepared and served a wonderful dinner which we all enjoyed. Brother Joseph Arthur and Brother Leo Umana bid us each a fond farewell as they left for work.

After dinner Brother Moses took us on a tour of the campus and showed us numerous impressive new buildings on the huge grounds. They included a new auditorium and a building next to it, which consists of class rooms, rooms for seminars, A. V., study, and offices. His office as Chairman of the Social Science Dept. was included in this building.

We returned to his home and spent several hours together discussing past experiences in establishing the Nigerian Church and the School, along with our hopes and future expectations for The Church of Jesus Christ in Nigeria. Brother Moses expressed himself concerning his thankfulness for the help he received to come to the U. S. on a scholarship, working diligently and with much hardship to gain opportunities. With what he gained here, he wanted to be able to bring opportunities to fellow Nigerians, especially to those of The Church. He reminisced on his early struggles here in school and of the hardship he endured. He expressed thankfulness that those who come now, come to much better living conditions.

Finally we bid farewell and God's blessings upon our Nigerian Brothers and Sisters. Indeed we had a wonderful time together and we felt a sadness to separate from one another not knowing when we should meet again. Nevertheless our hopes and expectations are that if not in this life again, we hope to meet in His great Kingdom where we shall never part from one another.

Monday, January 19. With all things going well (including the car) we proceeded towards Florida, as tentatively planned. We stopped briefly in St. Augustine.

(Continued on page 7)

## THE GOSPEL NEWS

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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### ECHOES FROM THE MISSION FIELDS

Good news and reports continue to echo from the various mission fields of The Church of Jesus Christ in locations far and near.

Brother James T. Grazan, Chairman of the American Indian Committee, reports of a remarkable weekend of meetings beginning Friday evening, March 5 at San Diego, followed by a fast and prayer meeting early next day, 9:30 A.M. at the Mission location in Tijuana, Mexico, and concluded on Saturday evening and Sunday in San Diego.

#### Many Healings

Many humble prayers of devotion and thanksgiving were offered during the meeting in Tijuana, asking God's direction in pursuing the preaching of the Gospel to the seed of Joseph. Many of those present were anointed and prayed over for their afflictions. It was reported later that many had experienced healings, while several others had seen visions of Christ's presence. The blessings experienced Saturday evening and Sunday in San Diego served as a fitting conclusion to the occasion.

#### A Beautiful Answer To Prayer

Another good report comes from the Red Lake Branch in Arizona where the Saints continue their efforts to minister to the Navajo tribe. In a recent Sunday meeting, the group engaged in fervent, humble prayer, seeking God's blessing that they might have greater spiritual success. Shortly after, six Navajos entered and were welcomed to the meeting. Mr. John Lee, one of the six who were aboard a truck, was prompted to ask the driver to stop near the Church, and they entered. This was a beautiful answer to prayer. Some weeks later Mr. Lee requested to be anointed for an injury. After being administered to, he was able to leave his bed and attend the Sunday meeting.

Tampa, Florida Mission happily reports that the Gospel has been introduced to Mr. John Arigolos. He had made inquiries to Brother Joe Calabrese several times. Upon his arrival in Tampa, Brother Calabrese was joined by Brother Ishmael Valdez (he speaks Spanish fluently) and they met Mr. Arigolos, his wife and infant child. On another occasion, they were joined by Brother Bill Tucker and again visited Mr. Arigolos, further instructing him in the Faith and Doctrine of The Church.

In one of these visits a woman, Candetia Roche, requested anointing for her affliction and she later gave testimony of her healing. Several others have indicated a desire to attend Church. May many souls be harvested in.

#### Many Souls Baptized

Good tidings also echo from Nigeria. Brother Ebong expresses thanks to God for a healing upon his body. He and Brother George F. Arthur are traveling Elders, visiting outlying Missions. Many souls are being baptized and students in the School often worship in the Church in Atai.

The Nigerian Saints are looking forward to the arrival of the Brothers from the Parent Church shortly.

Upon completion of their tour of duty in Nigeria, they will visit with Mr. Ford Boadu in Ghana. In his latest communication to Brother John Ross, Mr. Boadu writes, "Further reading of the *Book of Mormon* has revealed a lot to me. It has inspired me to spread the Faith of The Church of Jesus Christ. This Faith must be preached in the whole universe, especially in Europe."

May these echoes of missionary activity continue to come from far and near.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Mary and Martha

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you about two women who were very dear friends of Jesus. They were Mary and Martha. They lived in a little town called Bethany with their brother Lazarus. Jesus visited many times at their home.

Mary liked to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to the wonderful words of salvation. Martha was busy with housework. Once when Jesus was in their home, Martha complained that Mary wasn't helping her. She had to serve alone. Jesus said, "Martha, Martha you are troubled about many things but Mary has chosen the good part. This is needful in your lives and it shall not be taken away from her."

Sometime later, Lazarus was very sick. Mary sent a message to Jesus. It stated, "He whom Thou lovest is sick." But Jesus did not go to Bethany right away. His disciples were surprised when Jesus didn't hurry to see his friend. But Jesus had his own reason. Lazarus died before Jesus and the disciples left for Bethany. The word soon reached Mary and Martha that Jesus was coming. Martha went out to meet him but Mary stayed in the house. When Martha met Jesus, she said, "Lord, if you had only been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus said, "Your brother shall live again. I am the resurrection and the life. Whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" Her reply was, "Yes, Lord, I believe." She then went home and told Mary the Master wanted to see her. When she saw Jesus, she said the same as her sister, "Lord if you had only been here our brother would not have died." Jesus saw her weeping and also the Jews who were there and Jesus wept too. The people said, "He must have loved Lazarus very much." Jesus asked, "Where have you laid him?" They said, "Come and see."

When they came to the place where Lazarus was buried, Jesus prayed to His Father. When the stone had been taken away from the tomb, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." Immediately Lazarus came from the tomb. After his grave clothes were taken away, Jesus said to let him go. Now Mary and Martha remembered Jesus' promise that they would see "the glory of God".

It was to Martha that Jesus first declared, "I am the resurrection and the life." These comforting words have comforted many, many people. To Mary goes the distinction of having anointed Jesus before He went to the cross, again showing her love. Martha standing close by saw this act of love. These two sisters were among the women, who early in the morning, the first day of the week, came to the tomb of Jesus carrying the spices they had prepared for the embalming. They were devout women of

the Church, instant in prayer, strong in faith, always ready to serve. They are an example to us of perfect friendship.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### MICHIGAN-ONTARIO LADIES UPLIFT CIRCLE CONFERENCE

The Michigan-Ontario Ladies Uplift Circle Conference convened at Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 1, on Monday, February 23, at 7:30 P.M. with a good representation from the four Detroit Branches and Windsor.

Instead of the customary small program presented by the hosting Branch, Branch No. 1 felt that the Sisters might enjoy hearing from Sister Angela Scolaro, who returned recently from visiting the missions out west.

Because her husband is a member of the American Indian Missions Committee, Sister Angela had the opportunity to accompany him, along with the committee, on its tour of the Indian missions in Arizona, including a visit to the Red Lake Mission Project.

Her talk held the interest of the Sisters, as she gave her personal impressions of the committee's objectives and the pressing needs of the American Indian work. She stated that she came away feeling that the work of the Church is primarily to spread the word of the Restoration to the Red Man as much as possible and prepare the way for the Choice Seer. She was impressed with our live-in missionaries and said that surely they were a special people who warranted special prayers by all of us.

The remainder of the meeting was used to transact our business, after which the Sisters met in the church basement for refreshments.

### Healing At Lakeworth, Florida Campout

"About three months ago, three different doctors told me I might have breast cancer. I went for a fourth opinion recently and he was almost positive.

At the Campout in Lake Worth, February 15, 1976, on Sunday afternoon, just a few moments before Campout was over, I went up front and asked to be anointed, because I knew I was going for extensive testing in the hospital on the following Wednesday. I went to the hospital on that Wednesday and had my tests run before any further steps were taken. When the doctor and nurse returned to my room with the results of my test, they were laughing. They said they thought it was real funny, that four doctors had diagnosed breast cancer and now there was no sign of it at all.

I thank God that if I did have it — He cured me when I asked for a prayer on the previous Sunday."

Sister Sue Catone

## OUR TRIP TO THE SOUTH . . .

(Continued from page 4)

We arrived in Ft. Pierce Tuesday evening and spent two very short days visiting with the Saints there. We enjoyed the Wednesday evening service very much. We were addressed by Brother Gorie and Brother John Ross who spoke on being made "a prisoner of the Lord". We were then addressed by Brother James Lovalvo who followed on the same theme.

We had the opportunity to visit with the Costarellos in their new home, the Smiths, Pandones, the Bittings in their apartment and with the Lovalvos. As usual we enjoyed all our visits very much, and just wish we could have visited with everyone else in their homes.

Our apologies to Lake Worth for missing you this time, but we were expected in Miami on Thursday. We have always enjoyed Lake Worth.

We arrived in Miami Thursday afternoon and spent some time there. Mary and John with his Sister Antoinette and her husband Jim Spinelli, and Gorie and I with the Swansons. We enjoyed Alvin's slides of Israel along with narration, and his slides of Guatemala, and visits with Leda and Burt Scheffler, including the M. B. A. meeting we attended in their home. We also enjoyed visiting with Antoinette and Jim Spinelli, Joyce and Dennis Moraco, Pauline and Nick Ritz, Eileen and George Katzaras, and with Barbara and Charles Micale, along with their daughters Debbie and Donna, and son ????

Sunday's service January 5 was held at Coral Gables. It was a beautiful day, and we enjoyed meeting with all the Saints of that area. There was a very good attendance with many visitors. We were addressed by Brothers James Velardi, Gorie Ciaravino, John Ross, and Alvin Swanson. We heard many enjoyable testimonies from the Brothers and Sisters, visitors and children.

On Friday, January 30 we left Miami for Cape Coral. We arrived at the home of Brother James and Sister Jeannette Velardi and spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening with them. Most of the Saints of that area came over in the evening and we had a heartwarming fellowship service together, and a social visit afterwards. We spent the night with the Velardis. In the morning we had prayer with them and left for Tampa.

We arrived at the home of Duane and Betty Lowe Saturday afternoon. It was so good to see them! We surely miss their faces in Greensburg, Pa.

Sunday, February 1 we attended services in Tampa. We were addressed by Brother Gorie Ciaravino who spoke on the promises of God to the seed of Joseph. Brother John Ross, Sam Costarello, Bill Tucker and James Lovalvo following. We had the unexpected pleasure of being present and taking part in the ordination of Sister Betty Lowe as a Deaconess. The rest of the time was taken up with testimony and administering the Lord's Supper. It was good to see Brother Joseph Tucker, Sister Mary Johnson and her daughter, Sister Nancy.

After a lovely dinner and visit with the Lowes, we left for Port Richey where we visited with our dear cousins Angie and Tony Cola. Sister Mary Johnson and her daughter Nancy live nearby, so we had the opportunity to introduce them to each other.

On Monday we left for Georgia. We arrived in Palmetto, at the home of Brother Stewart and Kathleen Byars just as they were dismissing an informal Ladies' Circle they are attempting to get together. We found Brother Jim Moore and Sister Eva there, along with their granddaughter Karen and her children. They have been inviting their neighbors to attend.

We visited briefly with a promise to return for an evening get-together. We wanted to locate Brother Augustine Etukudo and his wife Nse who are both enrolled at the Atlanta University. Brother Jim and Sister Eva went with us part of the way to show us their meeting place. It is amazing what a lot of hard work and willing hands can do. They converted a store front to a very cozy and comfortable place to meet. They also showed us the home they purchased recently and will be ready to move into shortly. From there we went to Atlanta University and located our Brother Augustine and Sister Nse in their apartment. Needless to say it was a touching moment. Although we have seen Brother Augustine at Conference, it had been some time for Sister Nse. She recognized John and Gorie but hadn't met Mary or I. We visited with them for several hours and enjoyed conversing with them and seeing their family snapshots. They have six children at home in Nigeria with her mother. We had prayer with them and returned to Palmetto.

Kathleen had a huge table prepared with a delicious turkey dinner. Stewart had returned from work, Karen and her husband and children were there. Also Jim and Eva Moore, Sam Kunkel, Bob Buffington's son, ??? and the four of us. After dinner, Stewart's neighbors, Sister Nestor and her son joined us. We all gathered before the fireplace, children and all, and spent a beautiful evening on *Book of Mormon* and *Bible* discussions, and relating experiences. Mary had not been well and was anointed.

We left for home in the morning. Mary was feeling better. In fact, we finally picked up on the afghans we had begun as we commenced our trip on leaving home. We found it an enjoyable and relaxing pastime in the car. Gorie never did find the "super-duper" hot fudge sundae he was looking for all the way to Florida and back. We found much more than that!

We were greatly blessed in visiting our Brothers and Sisters in their homes and in their meeting places. We regret we could not visit with all. Perhaps another time. We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the many who shared themselves with us. We hope those we met were blessed by our presence also. May God bless you all.

Gorie and Ann Ciaravino  
John and Mary Ross

—o—

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Joseph Calabrese  
1330 Root Road  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

—o—

## District Conferences . . .

### OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Sunday service of the Ohio District conference was held at Erie, Pennsylvania, on March 14, 1976. There was a nice representation of Saints from all parts of the district. The Ezie mission sang two selections "Lehi By Faith", a hymn which was written by Brother Rocco Biscotti, 45 years ago, as he was working in a machine shop, and "A Restoration", another composition by Sister Esther Dyer.

Brother Patsy Marinetti of Rochester, N. Y. offered the opening prayer.

Our first speaker was Brother Ron Genaro of Niles, Ohio. He used for his text, *Ecclesiastes 3:1*, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the Heaven..."

He illustrated how our lives are governed by time, which moves on relentlessly, and how we look forward to that life when time will no longer be relevant. He stressed, however, that if we live in Christ, we shall never die. Brother Ron and Sister Kathy will soon be making their home in New Orleans.

Brother Joe Calabrese was the next speaker and he spoke on the timetable of God. He portrayed how God tried to speak to His people, but they would not heed the prophets and so He sent His Son, Jesus, hoping they would listen to Him, but to no avail and so the time came when God turned to the Gentiles.

His concluding remarks urged us, "The time has come to build your life around the Church, not the Church around your life."

Brother Travis Perry spoke briefly and his main theme was "The Power of God." He emphasized "It takes the Power of God to do the work of God."

Brother Paul D'Amico continued on the dispensations of time. He stated that if the world and the people on this land are preparing to celebrate the Bi-Centennial of this country, how much more we should celebrate and remember what God has done for this land.

Brother Rocco Biscotti made a few closing remarks admonishing us to prepare ourselves. It is time to realize a greater communication between ourselves and in turn we can then call upon God. While we now bask in abundance for the present, the time may come when God will withhold the rain and we may be faced with famine.

Brother Joe Genaro closed a beautiful peaceful conference in prayer.

### 1st ANNUAL ARIZONA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

February 14 and 15, 1976

There can be no better way to begin a conference than to do so with a season of prayer. Such was the beginning of the 1st Annual Arizona District Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. From the very first the spirit and love of God was evident in the harmony and cooperation during our business sessions. In fact all our business was handled without incident in just two formal sessions.

We were blessed by the presence of many Brothers and Sisters representing the Atlantic Coast, California, Ohio, and Pennsylvania Districts of The Church. From California, Brothers Edmond Buccellato, Paul Liberto and Tom Liberto, the California District President, spoke at the Saturday evening service. Again the spirit and love of God was present and we all received inspiration from the wonderful words that were spoken and the songs that were sung. After some timely closing remarks from our Arizona District President, Brother Bob Watson, our meeting was adjourned until Sunday morning.

On Sunday morning, as we entered into the packed-to-overflowing Phoenix meeting place, we could feel the warmth of God's presence. The blessing of a new baby, the lovely songs of praise to God, and three ordinations were just the beginning. The ordinations were from the newly established Red Lake Branch on the Navajo Reservation. They included Brother Ron Brutz who was ordained a Teacher by his father, Brother Anthony Brutz from Tucson, Brother Virgil Link, a Navajo-Apache who was ordained a Deacon by Brother Robert Watson from Phoenix, and Sister Judy Calabrese who was ordained a Deaconess by her brother, Brother Larry Watson from Red Lake. Our prayer is that God will bless each of them in their new offices. Again we were favored with inspired speaking by Brothers Dom Bucci from Youngstown, Ohio, and Brother Joe Shazer from Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania. After several stirring comments by Brother Bob Watson our 1st Annual Arizona District Conference was brought to a close. The joy and blessings that were shared by all will linger in our hearts until we can all meet again.

Brother Dennis Calabrese  
Arizona District Editor

### Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to extend my deep appreciation to all my Brothers and Sisters who prayed for me during my recent illness. It was a blockage in the artery in my head, and being too close to the brain, consequently, was inoperable. I was told by two specialists that I was due for a stroke or becoming blind. Imagine my thoughts of being blind and deprived of reading the Word of God! I praise God for Brothers and Sisters from the East coast to the West coast and especially my immediate Branch, who diligently prayed for me and moved the heart of God. Thank God for answered prayer.

Where could we find another group of people like our Church?

My hope is that God will hear and answer prayer for all our Brothers and Sisters who are suffering. I feel more obligated to pray for others and trust that I may be worthy to do so.

I feel that the only way to move the hand of God is in unity of minds in prayer; to overcome these latter day trials and temptations; so that we can continue to march on the King's Highway until we reach the end of our journey and rest from all our troubles and be with Christ for all eternity.

Your Brother in Christ,  
William DiFranco



**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****Lorain News**

I would like to share with you an experience had by a little girl, Rachel Jenkins, age five.

She is the granddaughter of Sister Katherine Cocco of the Lorain Branch.

Rachel had been told by a specialist that she had to have her tonsils removed. She did not like the idea of going to the hospital. All week, before a Sunday meeting, she told her grandmother that she could not wait until Anointing Day, which to her was Sunday. She said she wanted to be anointed so God would be with her when she went to the hospital. That Sunday morning, she was anointed. She knew God heard the prayer and was going to be with her.

That following Tuesday morning she had an appointment to be checked by the doctor, before being hospitalized. The doctor told her that there was no need at all for the surgery. You could just imagine how happy and pleased Rachel was that God had healed her, and that He was with her and performed the operation without her even having to go to the hospital. She went home and told everyone that God had healed her and that she did not have to go to the hospital.

The next Sunday she went up front after Sunday School and gave her testimony of what God had done for her. This is a beautiful experience of that Child-like Faith. God can work the same with everyone. Remember, "Prayer is the key to Heaven, but Faith unlocks the door."

Sister Leona Nardozzi  
Lorain Branch Editor

**News From Niles**

On Sunday, February 1, 1976, the Niles Branch had a glorious meeting. It started with our Sunday School. We had a large crowd and the *Fifth chapter of Alma* was discussed.

There was a good discussion about the welfare of our souls. Sunday school closed with a good spirit of singing which carried over to our morning meeting. Brother Dan Corrado opened in prayer, and Brother Bob Ciarrochi spoke on the *16th chapter of Revelations*, emphasizing how we must be prepared to overcome the future tribulations. Brother Joe Genaro followed re-emphasizing the words of Brother Bob. The words spoken really filled all, as both Brothers spoke with the Spirit of God. Our afternoon service was equally blessed as the same strong spirit was present in singing, prayer and testimony. There were 21 anointings and many healings and experiences. Brother Joe Genaro had anointed Brother Ron Genaro, and as he prayed he spoke in the gift of tongues. This was the first time he had ever done this in his many years in The Church. Brother Russ Martorano had the interpretation; "In the name of Jesus Christ, be made whole." Many claimed healings and strength after coming under the hands of the Elders.

Brother Dick Ciarolla testified that he heard the door of The Church open and shut during the afternoon service

and saw a light come in. Sister Sandy Scarna testified that she felt the Lord compelling her to say these words, "Today is the cleansing of My Church."

Sisters Charlene Gregel and Kathy Elliot, from Perry visited with us this day. We all went home blessed and filled with the Spirit and love of God. Pray for us that we might continue to go forward in the Lord.

Sister Wanda Pandone  
Branch Editor

**News From Sterling Heights,  
Michigan Branch**

On Sunday, January 4, the first meeting of the New Year, we were honored by two members of the Quorum of Twelve, Brother Gorie Ciaravino of Branch No. 2 and Brother Nick Pietrangelo of Branch No. 1.

Brother Louis Vitto announced that in a meeting with the Deacons prior to Sunday School, Brother Sam Di Falco related a dream he had on Saturday night in which he saw these very same two Elders in our meeting. He reminded the congregation that our motto for '76 was that each member was to "Strive to bring one Soul to Christ".

Brother Pietrangelo opened in prayer and Brother Ciaravino became our first speaker. He expects to go to South Carolina with his wife, to hold a series of meetings there. He stated that the true meaning of Christmas was to celebrate the birth of Christ, and that before this birth, it was impossible for anyone to enter into Heaven. In the 12th Chapter of Exodus, Moses, who was directed by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, was given the beginnings of the months. He compared the slavery of the Israelites with the slavery of free labor in the United States before the Civil War. He stated that this was not the beginning of an ordinary year, but the 200th birthday of this country. God promised us prosperity as long as we remained a righteous nation. We are now the second nation in power, will God allow this? He told of pyramids in South America, Central America and Mexico, identical in construction to the famous pyramids in Egypt. This proves there must be some connection, some knowledge of how to build them.

Brother Pietrangelo then took over, telling of his desire to start the New Year with a visit to Sterling Heights. When the Spirit of God starts work, it is marvelous. He said that we are thankful for the Gospel and that prayer is greater than all the resolutions. America is the most blessed of all lands, rich in the natural resources, but also, rich in the Gospel restored. As the power of God allowed Moses to part the Red Sea, this same power, this same God is here in this land of America. Those who really appreciate this land are those who have come here from other countries. He told of how his father had come to America and worked on the railroad and how he had thought he would become rich. When he found the Church of Jesus Christ, he did become rich in the service of God. We should not glory in our accomplishments, but thank God for allowing us to possess a home, a car, or whatever it may be. The forty years Brother Nick has spent in the Gospel have been years of joy, peace and fellowship which far surpasses the bad things that have happened. He said we should look back to '75 and ask how have we done, what has been our service to the Lord? The first true

evaluation of our lives is to first seek the Kingdom of God and its righteousness. A man must worry about his soul, the most intelligent man is not so smart if he forgets about his soul. There is a day when time comes to an end. We walk the last mile alone — and if our lives have not been what they should have been, it will be a long mile. When the Book is opened, will our name be in the Lamb's Book of Life? We all need the assurance from God that we are doing our best. If you seek, you will find; if you knock, the door will be opened. God promised this and His promise is not void.

Brother Kenny Lombardo, visiting from New Jersey, gave his testimony. (He stated that we had boasted of our building long enough, he had come to see for himself.)

Brother Louis Vitto ended the meeting by saying "Today is the beginning of your life — everlasting life. Listen to the call of God. Stand still and listen, listen to the Lord as He knocks on the door of your heart. Be concerned of your soul's salvation."

Brother Carl Frammolino dismissed in prayer.

\* \* \*

It isn't often that we write of a Wednesday night service, but January 11 was an exception. After Brother Lou Vitto made some announcements, he stated that he had no plans for the service, but would leave it in God's hands. Brother John Buffa spoke to us about the three Nephites. He made several references to those in The Church who had gone to their reward, and how they had possessed marvelous gifts. He related that when he was in the service of his country stationed in Alaska, he had a great desire one night to talk to the Lord, and finding it impossible in the barracks, he went outside and knelt in the snow and poured out his heart to God. Some months later, back in The Church, Sister Marietta Ruzzi approached him and told him that she had seen him in the bitter cold, away from home and friends, kneeling in the snow, seeking solace for his soul. Brother Lou Vitto then asked "Where are those gifts today?" He stated they are still here but we have to work harder to receive them. He suggested we all go home and pray that God would reveal our special gift. The meeting was then turned over for testimonies and songs of praise to our precious Lord. The presence of God was so near, the meeting so beautiful, that we had no desire to leave.

Sunday morning was a continuation of the Wednesday night service. The subject was "Believe". Sister Josephine D'Amico, who has been ill for some time, was anointed. The meeting from this point on was an almost exact replica of our previous service. Members were still referring to the old ones who had already passed away and of their gifts. A visitor not of our faith, made a remark that this was the most beautiful service she had ever sat through. After the service had been dismissed, Rocco Paternoster asked for his baptism. He was baptized by Brother Lou Vitto, after cutting through two feet of ice, and confirmed at the night service by Brother Spencer Everett. This was also a very enjoyable meeting.

As the Angel of the Lord said as he stood by the empty tomb, "Come and see, go and tell" — We invite all to come visit us and see what the Lord has wrought.

Sister Hazel E. Zoltek  
Editor

## Four Ordinations At San Fernando Valley Branch

On Sunday, February 8, four ordinations took place in the San Fernando Valley Branch. Brothers Enos Genaro and Patrick King were ordained Teachers, Brother John V. Azzinaro was ordained a Deacon and Sister Martha Lotgering was ordained a Deaconess.

Brother Enos' feet were washed by Brother Frank Verardo, and Brother Frank Genaro ordained his son to the office of Teacher.

Brother King's feet were washed by Brother John Azzinaro, and Brother Charles Curry ordained him to the office of Teacher.

Brother John's feet were washed by Brother Emmett Hood, and he was ordained into the office of Deacon by his father, Brother John Azzinaro.

Sister Martha's feet were washed by Sister Edith Genaro and ordained into the office of Deaconess by Brother Edmond Buccellato.

All who were ordained testified and told of dreams and their feelings of new responsibilities. There were many in attendance, with visitors from various Branches.

May The Lord inspire and direct them in their efforts to fulfill their new duties of serving The Lord and The Church.

Sister Bernadette King

## Whiter Than Snow

On December 7, 1975 we were pleased to have with us Brother John Griffith and his family. Brother John's visits to Detroit, Michigan's Branch No. 1, are far and few in between. For anyone who hasn't heard Brother John speak, you are missing a rare treat. His sermons come across smooth and gentle, yet contain a definite firmness.

Brother John began by telling us that no matter where we go in The Church we recognize a familiar spirit, "The Spirit of God". He said, God touches us that we might reach out and touch the souls of mankind. We ought to thank God that He is interested in us. We should kneel in prayer that God might use us, and we may be an inspiration and blessing to others.

Finally he told us what we must do to be used of God—submit ourselves. The Brother of Jared submitted himself to the will of God. By the power of God, he built barges and came across the ocean, to the land of promise. God brought him to a land never before traveled by man.

Without questioning, the Brother of Jared fulfilled all the desires of God. Because of his exceeding faith, the Lord showed "all things", to the Brother of Jared. He was even redeemed from the fall. That took place nearly 2000 years before the coming of Christ. (That's quite some reward for his faith!)

That led Brother John to another point. If we truly desire to be close to God, He will manifest Himself to us. God foresees all things and if we have faith in Him, God will work through us and by us.

In his final remarks, Brother John told us we must

keep ourselves clean. The scripture says that God can not work in an unclean vessel. We must be *whiter than snow*. He said a snow flake has a nucleus made up of a dirt particle. The inner man, he concluded, must be completely white.

Sister Diana Thompson

### *Submitted by Sister Florence Benyola*

In Days of old, to show God your love and affection of appreciation, God required you to sacrifice something to Him that you cherished the most. Then God gave us His only begotten Son as a sacrifice to us so that we may have eternal life.

On November 23, 1975, it was our Lord's will to take the soul of the first-born child of our loving friends. This was their sacrifice to God. Not because it was their will but because it was God's will.

This poem was written by Steven and Susan Ward, parents of Christine Suzanne Ward. Christine lived in the world for only six hours.

Dear Lord and Maker of all good things,  
You have the power to grant the angels wings.  
Our daughter's life we have given to thee,  
To love and protect through eternity.

Giving us Christine on that happy day,  
Showed us your love is with us to stay.  
Christine was as beautiful as an infant can be,  
Some looks from Susan and some from me.

She left us that day on a heavenly flight,  
To be held in your arms Lord that very night.  
Lord you blessed us with a child to see,  
If our love was great enough to give her to thee.

Lord we remember Jesus died for us all,  
To forgive us our sins and help us stand tall.  
We must stick together to help those in need,  
So that we may complete our worldly deed.

Lord there are those who don't know you still,  
"Go into the world" that is your will.  
Help all the people to see your heavenly light,  
Will always guide them through the darkest night.

### Note of Thanks

Being sick for over a year I was awaiting the results of a test which I was sure would be bad. As I had all the symptoms of a terminal illness, I was anointed and I prayed for weeks. When the results came they were normal. What a load was taken from me. I wanted to thank God so much. I could not find words to speak. Then the Spirit of God came to me with these words:

Some day God will give a song that only I can sing.  
A song of great rejoicing of the things I've seen.  
I'll lift my eyes to heaven for 'tis to His glory I shall sing  
Of life and health, and Jesus... Oh hosanna to my king.  
I've wanted not, not waited long the answer to my prayers.  
God knows my voice, my heart's desires, He sees my deep despairs.

And quickly sends to my side a garment to be touched.

Just seeing it this close, I reach, hoping to feel its touch.

And when this life is over and His glory I shall see  
I'll look at that beautiful garment and behold its wonderful touch.

Brother Bud Aldous

### In Remembering Me

Dear Brothers, Sisters and friends, I recently suffered my fifth miscarriage. This time I approached death's door, but God generously spared my life. Because of this new chance at life, I have since had many deep thoughts.

Things I had often taken for granted began to surface and focus more clearly. I realized more often than not our priorities are sadly misplaced. This caused me to ask myself, "Diana, when you pass from this life, how and what do you want to be remembered for".

I thought of the many possibilities; personality, beauty, talent, etc. The list was virtually endless. After thinking about this unending list, there came a very simple conclusion. When I pass from his life I want each person to remember how much I loved them.

I reasoned, "To reach inside and touch another human being with love, is the finest experience life has to offer".

So if someday my life touches yours, I pray that you may say of me, "she truly cares and loves me". And when I reach the end of my days, you will pause, and tenderly remember that love.

Sister Diana Thompson  
Branch No. 1  
Detroit, Michigan

### It's A Wonder That He Doesn't Forget Us

(The following poem is directed to me first, as I think of all the things I put before God, in my daily life, not intentionally but out of habit. I sometimes think of how He has blessed me now and wonder how much He would do, if only I gave Him some extra time to do it in.)

Do we cast aside Jesus  
To watch the late show?  
Do we prefer to go swimming  
Than study our BIBLE  
Is our life full of pleasures  
to satisfy ourselves  
or do we depend on Jesus  
To help someone else?

Sister Denise DiFalco

### Something To Think About!

A time of resolutions and many promises. What makes it a more significant year is that it's been 200 years since our country was founded. Now, more than ever, we must sit down and think of God and how He has blessed us. The scriptures clearly show us that this is the Promised Land, and as the poet has written; "God shed His Grace

on Thee." How powerful His grace must be to bless and watch over us as He does.

My mind goes back to those people who sit and wonder when they will get their next meal, or when they can be reunited with their loved ones. Surely it has been a blessing to be able to enjoy all that we have, but can we complain? Times are hard and things come as easy, and if this is the promised land, why is there suffering? Our own suffering comes from the lack of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Man puts his faith in man. History dictates that George Washington is the father of our country, but is he? Maybe to many, but to me, God is the Father and Jesus is the Son. Believing this, I am able to enjoy the splendor of His work, my family, and the pursuit of happiness. This to me is the true wisdom America needs for a peaceful existence for the next 200 years.

Brother Joseph L. Scarna, Jr.  
Niles, Ohio Branch

### Note of Thanks

To all of the Brothers and Sisters of  
The Church of Jesus Christ:

Brother Rocco Ensana would like to take this opportunity to express his deepest appreciation and gratitude to the body of the Saints for their cards and prayers offered on his behalf during his recent illness. It is our pleasure to inform you all that Brother Rocco is back in our midst and thanks to God, appears to be in good health once again.

All our love,

The Edison Branch

### — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Brett Andrew to John and Karen Foy of Warren, Ohio,

Christina Lynn to Philip and Linda Benyola of Hopewell, N. J.,

Carri Lynn to Dennis and Rita Gehley of Homer City, Pa., (Greensburg Branch)

Benjamin Adam to Paul and Carol Davey of Metuchen, N. J.,

Richard Dominic to Richard and Lorraine Thomas of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan.

October 13, 1975. She was born on September 10, 1950 and was baptized on September 2, 1962.

Brother James Grazan conducted the funeral services. Left to mourn are Bonnie's husband, Tony, her mother and father, and one brother.

Our Sister was quick to stand and bear her testimony of God's goodness. May the Lord give all her loved ones the assurance that she is resting in God's Paradise.

### ANNA FRAMMOLINO

Sister Anna Frammolino passed on to her reward on March 5, 1976. She was born in Italy on March 5, 1888. Sister Anna was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ, in Detroit, Michigan on April 24, 1921.

She is survived by one son, four daughters, 10 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, and one brother.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul Vitto and Gorie Ciaravino.

Sister Anna, who was one of our charter members at Branch No. 1, was ordained a Deaconess on August 14, 1921. As a Deaconess she willingly fulfilled all of her duties. It was said of her, that where or whenever there was a need you could depend on Sister Anna to be there.

### GEORGE A. ROUSE

Mr. George A. Rouse, 75, passed on to his heavenly reward on March 16, 1976. He was born on February 2, 1901.

Left to mourn are his wife, Sister Alma Rouse, who has been a faithful member of the Monongahela Branch for many years, one son, one daughter, one sister, one brother and five grandchildren.

Mr. Rouse attended The Church along with his wife and we pray that the Lord will bless and comfort his family and loved ones at this time.

### BENJAMIN GIOVANNONE

Mr. Benjamin Giovannone passed away suddenly on March 16, 1976. He was born March 16, 1925, the son of Brother Domenick and Sister Marietta Giovannone.

He is survived by his wife, four daughters, two sons, a grandson, his parents, three brothers and a sister.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers A. A. Corrado and Joseph Calabrese.

May God comfort his surviving family and relatives.

### ● OBITUARIES ●

#### BONNIE LOU (LAKTASH) MROCHEK

Sister Bonnie Lou (Laktash) Mrochek of the Monongahela, Pa. Branch passed on to her heavenly reward on

### — 1976 Church Calendar —

#### JULY

10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio  
24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas

# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

June, 1976

Volume 32, No. 6

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## MISSIONARIES

### NIGERIA BOUND:

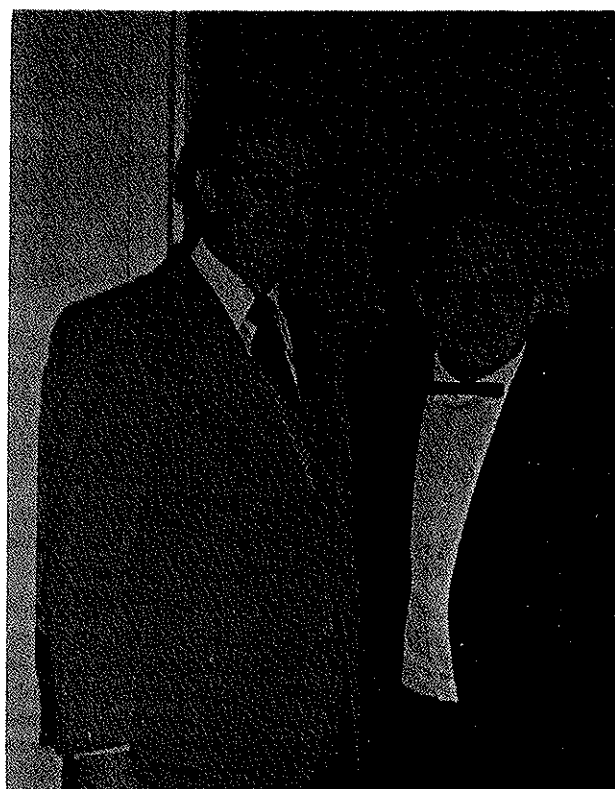
On Tuesday, April 27, 1976, a combination "Farewell Meeting and Dinner" was held in the Aliquippa Branch. The occasion was to bid a temporary farewell to Evangelist John Ross on the Church's missionary trip to Nigeria, Africa. The Aliquippa Branch has become accustomed to this event for Bro. Ross as this trip marks his sixth missionary trip to Nigeria.

A goodly crowd was gathered from Pennsylvania and Ohio at the meeting. Brother Meredith Griffith, Chairman of the General Church Mission Board, opened the service by relating the determined thrust of The Church in its missionary efforts. He emphatically stated, according to scripture, this was the commission and responsibility of The Church of Jesus Christ to *spread the Restored Gospel throughout the world*. Reminding us that this can only be accomplished with the assistance of the members by both prayers and financial support for the missionary endeavor.

Brother Frank Giovannone of Warren, Ohio expanded further by quoting *Revelation 14:6*, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." He told of The Church's dedication in spreading the Gospel everywhere and the restoration of Israel.

Joseph Ross then followed by recapping the previous five missionary trips of John Ross. He also related John's experiences regarding missionary work in foreign lands. The following is a capsule report of the five trips to Nigeria:

1. In 1960, was accompanied by Brother Alvin Swanson. Obtained a leave of absence from his employer and stayed six months. Baptized 891 converts there. On the return trip to the United States, stopped in Italy for twelve days visiting all but one mission.
2. In 1962, got another six months leave of absence. Was accompanied by his wife, Mary, and both stayed six months again. Sister Mary was the first woman to visit Nigeria.
3. In 1964, returned alone for four months again to Nigeria.
4. In 1971, then President of The Church of Jesus



*Brothers Griffith and Ross*

Christ, Brother Gorie Ciaravino went with John to Nigeria for one month. They visited the Saints there and by authority granted by the Parent Church, authorized the building and opening of our Technical Secondary School at Atai Otor, Abak.

5. In 1974, Brothers Joseph Bittinger, Gorie Ciaravino and John Ross went to Nigeria for one month to visit our people, and attend the formal opening of the Technical Secondary School. Brother Ciaravino's trip was financed by the Pennsylvania Area M.B.A.

Now, in 1976, Brothers Nephi DeMercurio and Ross will stay two and one-half months in Nigeria to:

1. Visit all 49 Branches and Missions.
2. Initiate the building of a mission home. Then visit one month in the nation of Ghana. If conditions are



*Coffee, Cake and Conversation*

favorable in accordance with the word and Spirit of God, he will establish The Church there.

Apostle V. James Lovalvo, Second Counsellor of the Church, will go to spend the last two weeks with the Brothers in Nigeria, and accompany them to Ghana for the month. All three Brothers will return home together.

Then, Presiding Elder, Paul Palmieri, presented a gift to John Ross from the Aliquippa Branch.

Brother Ross then spoke briefly of feeling honored to serve the Lord in this capacity. He related to the congregation the wonderful God-fearing Saints we have in Nigeria. Of their love of God and firm belief in the Restored Gospel. He requested constant prayers for those going to Nigeria and all mission fields of The Church.

Following the service, Brother Paul Palmieri invited all to stay for hot sausage sandwiches, cake, coffee, lemon blend, etc. We all had a wonderful time.

John Ross departed from the Greater Pittsburgh Airport on Thursday, April 29, at 1:10 p.m. A group of Saints, including Apostle Joseph Bittinger, Chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee, and members of Brother John's family were there to bid him farewell. He would rendezvous in New York with Brother Nephi DeMercurio coming from Detroit, Michigan. A group of Saints from the Atlantic Coast District were there to see them depart for Nigeria at 6:45 p.m. They would arrive in Nigeria on Friday morning, April 30, at 3:30 a.m. our time.

A few days later, Sister Mary Ross received a cablegram that they had arrived safely, thank God!

Continue to pray for our Brothers there, and also for Brother Lovalvo when he joins them the latter part of June.

Dear Readers:

A few months ago we ran a special plea for financial help to the *Gospel News*. Your response has been wonderful. We ask that you continue to help us in bringing to you the news of The Church.

Again Thank You,  
and God Bless You,  
The Editor

## "OH GOD OUR CHURCH"

*by George Heaps*

The word in itself is very interesting as to the original meaning. According to the Encyclopedia the word comes from the original Greek "Kuriakan" from which came "Kuklas" and later the Latin form "Kirk". The meaning as set forth in the original word is "Those that belong to the Lord." The Greek word Ecclesia which means "A group called out for an assembly with authority." It is very interesting to note the true intent of the writers of the scriptures as to what they meant; which meaning has been reworked and installed in our Bible by the many translations through the years. Let us take an example using the original intent of the word and see if we can glean what the writer was really saying. Acts 2:47 "The Lord added to the church daily". Let us use the thought, "Those that belong to the Lord instead and we have "The Lord added to those that belong to Him daily" or those that were "called out", or to "the assembly with authority". If we do this with the scriptures where in church is mentioned we find a very interesting thought.

The word Church means in today's language "The Building where we worship", or "any denomination or creed for the purpose of worship."

Hence the word has a varied meaning, but what was the intent of Christ when he said "Upon this rock will I build my church". Some say the rock was Peter, but we know He was talking about the rock of revelation, but what about *The Church*? It was not an organization as the world has today thousands of churches, but if He meant through the rock of revelation I will *call them out* and they will *belong to the Lord*, then He is talking about a much more important thing. Jesus said IF we keep ALL of His commandments then He will be in us and we in Him. He said in his prayer, "Those that thou hast given me" and "Those that were called out of the world". Peter says "to the elect". John says "to the elect lady and her children". There are many other scriptures which bring forth a more intent meaning than just a church or belonging to The Church. The Lord said in III Nephi, The Church must be built on his Gospel or teachings or commandments and if we *individually* do not follow these things, how can we belong to the Lord even if we are a member of a so called church? This brings us to a very important item which each one of us must examine for his or herself. The question, do we belong to the Lord or do we belong to an organization?

If we say we love the Lord with all our heart, mind and strength then we must be keeping all of his commandments. Now you may say I have been baptized into The Church. I take of the sacrament. I wash feet, but what about the real meaning of Christ being in us and we in Him. What good is baptism without a true understanding of Christ which thing is pure faith. The Bible teaches how can you come to God except you believe that He is and how can you really believe unless you know within your heart and mind. The woman at the well said to the townspeople "I met a man that told me all things about myself", but they wouldn't believe until they personally saw Him and talked to Him and then they said, "we believe not because of what the woman said but because we have seen and heard for ourselves. Many people are baptized into the organization because of what some-

(Continued on page 4)

## NIGERIAN ECHO

by Joseph Bittinger

Good tidings echo from the Church in Nigeria. In recent communications Elder Edem A. Ebong gives thanks to God for the tremendous healing He wrought upon him. We are thankful too that God has answered the prayers of the Saints offered in his behalf. We were much concerned because of our Brother's ill health. He is one of the traveling Elders appointed to visit and assist the outlying Missions. He says, "Though personal transportation has made it impossible for me to cover as much as I could, I am trying my possible best to visit as many near-by Stations as I can till such time as I will be provided with a Machine (Motorcycle)." We hope to see his need provided for in the near future.

Brother George F. Arthur who is also one of the traveling Elders for the Church says, "We are enjoying the blessings of God every day. Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The most important thing I can tell you is that the Nigerian Church of Jesus Christ has gained a firm root and can never be blown off. Very many people are receiving baptism into the Church.

More than a hundred souls were baptized into the Church on January 9, 1976. Very many people are withdrawing from other churches into The Church of Jesus Christ. The Saving Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ has won the hearts of many people.

The importance of the Comprehensive Secondary School here in Atai Otoro, in promoting the growth and progress of the Church cannot be weighed. The students often worship in the Church at Atai Otoro irrespective of whatever Church they worship in at home."

We of the Parent Church are very happy and thankful to learn that many of the students attend the Church at Atai Otoro. We wish them God's rich blessings and divine direction.

Brother G. Arthur further states, "We are expecting some Parent Church representatives in April 1976, to visit the Nigerian Church and School. I am sure that by the grace of God everything is going to be easy for them. God bless all of you. God bless the Parent Church in U.S.A."

By the time you are reading this article we expect our three brethren will be in Nigeria. The Lord willing. They are John Ross, V. James Lovalvo, and Nephi De-Mercurio. They expect to leave the last week of April. They will be very busy during their tour of duty in that great country. Past experiences have proven that there are always more things to be done, then there is time to do them all.

My wife and I in returning home from an extended stay in Florida, were very happy and thankful to have had the opportunity to spend Sunday, March 21 in meeting with the Brothers and Sisters at Palmetto, Georgia where Brother and Sister James Moore, Sr. have established a small Mission. We were doubly happy to have Brother and Sister (Augustine) I. Etukudo in the service with us and be able to rejoice together in the worship of Almighty God. Brother Etukudo is an Elder in the Church. Presently they are both students attending College in

Atlanta, Ga. Upon completion of their education they expect to attend the services at the Mission as frequently as possible.

We pray God will bless the efforts of the Brothers and Sisters in their dedication to the work of God by a steady growth of their Mission.

## SPANISH WORK IN TAMPA

Brother Joe Calabrese has the responsibility in The Church of Jesus Christ of responding to the many, many inquiries that the General Church receives from all over the world. Some months ago a young Spanish man by the name of John Arigolos wrote Brother Joe about the Restored Gospel. A reply was sent and before long another inquiry came and this time a request was made by this man to have a representative from the Church come and visit with him.

With God's help Brother Joe was joined by Brother Ishmael Valdez (he speaks fluent Spanish) and arrived in Tampa, Florida on Wednesday, February 11.

Upon his arrival Brothers Joe and Ishmael met this young man and his family which consists of his wife and a small child.

In the days to follow Brothers Joe, Ishmael and Bill Tucker (Presiding Elder at the Tampa Mission) visited with him and exhorted him about the Church of Jesus Christ and the Doctrine on which it stands. In their visits a woman requested to be anointed for an affliction she had on her leg that wouldn't heal. Several others were visited and indicated a desire to come to Church on Sunday.

When Sunday came the Mission was filled to capacity. Brother Bill Tucker who teaches Sunday School was confronted with a rather unusual circumstance. The Spanish people in attendance spoke little or no English. Thanks be to God for Brother Ishmael as he summarized the lesson and translated it into Spanish for them.

In the afternoon services Brother Joe Calabrese spoke on the Fourth Chapter of Luke, verse 18. Brother Ishmael again summarized and translated into Spanish.

A highlight of the meeting came when a Hymn was chosen "The Gift of God's Love". The first two verses were sung in Spanish and the last two were sung in English. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the meeting as the Spirit of God was quite evident. The woman who asked to be anointed a few days before thanked God for healing her leg and truly enjoyed being with all those in attendance as God's glory was upon them. Her name is Candetia Roche.

Praise God for the visitation of these Brethren in this part of the Vineyard for truly there is much work here and with God's help He will surely bless ALL those who will strive to spread His Gospel.

## "THE TWO JOSEPHS"

(continued)

by Richard Scaglione

*III Nephi 21:22-26* reads "But if they (the Gentiles) will repent and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance; And they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem. And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem. And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst. And then shall the work of the Father commence at that day, even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people. Verily I say unto you, at that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people; yea, even the tribes which have been lost, which the Father hath led away out of Jerusalem."

We, the Gentile members of The Church of Jesus Christ, are the people mentioned in the above quoted scripture. It is the mission of The Church to preach the Gospel among the remnant of Jacob, or the Seed of Joseph. We have the spiritual food necessary to sustain the life of the house of Israel. It is our duty to deliver this food — the Restored Gospel — to the Seed of Joseph. Thank God, there are some who are feeding this flock. Our job is plainly stated in the 9th verse of the 10th Chapter of *II Nephi*: "Yea, the kings of the Gentiles shall be nursing fathers unto them, and their queens shall be nursing mothers; wherefore, the promises of the Lord are great unto the Gentiles, for He hath spoken it, and who can dispute?" How much plainer can it be said?!

Our job in these latter days can also be seen in the words of *Nephi* as he interpreted his father's vision of the olive tree. (Read *I Nephi 15:12-18*.)

The prophet *Ether* beheld the day when the Seed of Joseph would be restored to the knowledge of God and would build a holy city on this land. (Read *Ether 13:4-8*.)

Thus, the American Indian plays an important, if not THE most important, role in the future activity of The Church of Jesus Christ, if the scriptures are to be interpreted to their fullest extent. Of course, there are many other scriptures describing the glorious results of the return of Israel and the establishment of God's kingdom in the latter days. Further study and meditation will enable the full impact to be realized when it is understood that many promises must be fulfilled and that The Church is now at the brink of seeing and taking part in these wonderful and completely edifying situations. In total, only when the events of the past can be related to the promises and blessings of the future can a more complete awareness of the delicacy and yet sturdiness of The Gospel and all its various offices and duties be more fully appreciated.

To serve as a help to the missionary work among the American Indian, the Lay Missionary Program was de-

signed to give lay members of The Church of Jesus Christ the opportunity to actually take part in this great work of The Church. For information on the Lay Missionary Program and how you can become involved, write to David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Ave., Charleroi, Pa. 15022.

(To be continued)

## "OH GOD OUR CHURCH" . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

one else told them or because Mommy or Daddy belonged to that group, but I'm afraid this does not qualify them to say they belong to the Lord.

The next thing Jesus said is, "Ye must be born again". Just what is a born again Saint? Jesus said ye must become as a little child. Now I'm sure, as many of you are, that He did not mean we must return to our childish ways and play with toys although some adults never do leave that area as they treat The Church as a toy. When they want to play they take it from the closet and when they tire of it they put it back. What Jesus meant was that we must as an adult become as a child in pure love willing to accept chastisement and still love with all of our heart. Be willing to forgive and forget. I always think of the two young boys that got into a fight and the two fathers came out and started arguing about who caused the fight. The children started playing again, but the grown up adult daddies held a grudge for years. The commandment to repent is not to say I have done nothing wrong, but rather to acknowledge the fact that without Christ in our lives we are nothing. Maybe your life has not been full of sin but I remember my mother's testimony in which she said "I never did anything in the world except go to a movie once, but when I gave my heart to the Lord at the waters of baptism there was a load rolled off my back that I never knew I carried". There are sins of our lives that we never admit even ourselves because we have a tendency to justify our wrongs and sins. How many times do we hear, "maybe I do have that fault, but there are people in The Church who are worse than me".

My standard answer to those who say "I will not go to church because there are too many hypocrites in The Church", is yes there are some, but at least they are trying in The Church. True repentance to God is not looking at others but looking, seeing, understanding and acknowledging our own sins before God and crying unto Him that we may belong to the Lord. Then comes the act of baptism which the Bible states that the act of baptism is an outward sign of an inward work. The inward work spoken of previously is the way we become a born again saint, a little child or how we become a member not of the organization, but of the Lord which in reality is The True Church.

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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### ARE YOU A THERMOMETER OR A THERMOSTAT?

by Robert A. Watson, Guest Editorialist

There is a vast difference between the operation of a thermometer and a thermostat. They are both used to measure the room temperature; but upon close investigation, we find there is a difference. What is that difference?

The thermometer has no self-governing regulation; the mercury shoots up and down the tube, indicating the room temperature, in complete servitude to the commands forced upon it by the rise and fall of its environmental master. The thermostat on the other hand, measures the room temperature, but it has as an integral part of its mechanism a self-regulatory switch that can be preset at a desired temperature; by so doing, it has exercised a certain control over its environment and has the capacity to shut itself off when extremes are forced upon it.

What does this mean in terms of living? I am sure you already see the analogy. There are many people today who, like the thermometer, exercise no control over their moral or social environment. They constantly are compromising their principles and morals when they are with people who challenge their God and religion. These small concessions seem harmless at first, but soon they turn into mighty taskmasters that enslave us with unbridled passions and hate. Let us for a moment look at Aaron, the brother of Moses. He was in many ways like the thermometer, while Moses was like the thermostat. When Moses went to receive the Ten Commandments, Aaron was left in charge of the Israelites. It wasn't very long after the strong regulatory influence of Moses was lifted that Aaron succumbed to the nature of the thermometer. As the heat of passion and idolatry welled up in the hearts of the people, Aaron failed to check these evils before they burst into open rebellion against God and His law.

This tragedy came because Aaron allowed himself to be overcome by the environment of mass hysteria when the masses cried for a God that they could see and touch. He gave in to their cries and allowed the golden calf to be formed. He tried to justify his weakness by telling Moses that it was the people's fault. In *Exodus 32:4* we have his reply, "Whosoever hath any gold let them break it off. So they gave it to me; I cast it into the fire and there came out this calf." Aaron was saying the things about him were stronger than the things within him. We know it was impossible for such a thing to take place. The golden calf just could not spring out of the fire, without someone forming it into shape. Things just don't happen to force us into sin, without our willingness to cooperate.

When Moses came down from the mountain, his eyes beheld the children of Israel bowing down before the golden calf. He at once activated his self-regulatory spiritual mechanism and challenged a whole nation to return both to God by rising above the environment imposed upon them by fear, selfishness and impatience.

We must learn from past experience and realize that we too are faced with opposition in many forms. I especially think of the young people who are constantly being exposed to the influx of evil. Believe me when I say the world respects and is desperately looking for those who can show them a way of life that is free from corrosive and destructive elements. The Apostle Paul says in *Timothy, Chapter 4, Verse 12*, "Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

I trust that you will reach the place within your life wherein you will show such spiritual magnetism that when you walk into a room, everyone will feel by your very presence the spiritual temperature of their lives being regulated by your testimony, good works, and by your countenance.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### THE STORY OF EVE

Dear Girls and Boys,

The story of the first woman begins with Eve. She lived with her husband Adam in the Garden of Eden. In *Genesis* we read God created her from the rib of Adam. God created Eve as a helpmate for Adam. As God created all things, sun, moon, stars, animals, birds, etc., he said, "It is good." His creation then was beautiful and perfect.

The Lord planted a garden eastward in Eden, and in it grew every kind of plant and herb. Every tree that was pleasant and good for food was there. Also in the midst of the garden grew the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam was to dress and keep the garden. He was commanded to eat freely of every tree with the exception of the tree of knowledge. If he disobeyed he was told he would die.

In the garden was a serpent and he told Eve she would not die if she ate of the forbidden tree. Eve listened to him and ate of the fruit, and then persuaded Adam to eat also. Soon after this, the Lord came to the garden. He found Adam and Eve hiding from Him. They knew they had done wrong. The Lord called to them and asked if they had eaten of the tree which He commanded them not to eat. They told the Lord how Satan had tempted them. The Lord was displeased and said, "Because thou hast eaten of the tree which I commanded thee, saying thou shouldst not eat of it, cursed is the ground for your sake. In sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee and thou shalt eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread." Adam and Eve were then put out of the beautiful garden. How different life was now.

Eve's first son was named Cain and she said, "I have gotten a man from the Lord." Her second son was Abel. The boys grew to be very different. There was soon jealousy between them. Abel became a shepherd and Cain tilled the soil or was a farmer. They were taught to love the Lord but Cain rebelled. He was disobedient and selfish. The Lord did not accept his sacrifices. As a result Cain killed his brother Abel. Eve experienced heartache and sorrow over this.

Later Cain married and Adam and Eve had a grandchild, Enoch. Enoch was the father of Methuselah, the oldest man who ever lived. He was 969 years old. He was the great-grandfather of Noah who built the ark. Other sons and daughters were born to Adam and Eve. Among these was Seth, whose descendants, "called upon the name of the Lord".

In the *New Testament* Eve is mentioned twice. Paul said to Timothy, "For Adam was first formed and then Eve." The other reference is also in Paul's writings, to

the Corinthians. God must have seen how alone man was without a helper. This helper was Eve whose name means, "life", and in her life we see one who can rise above transgressions.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

### District Conferences . . .

#### California District News

The California District held the main business conference in Bell California in the month of February. A short session was held Friday evening but the main portion of business took place Saturday. Brother Tom Liberto was reelected President with Brother Leonard Lovalvo as 1st counselor and Brother Ben Ciccati as 2nd counselor.

The evening session started by having Brother Tony Piccuto show slides of the progress on the mission in Lindsay, Calif. Afterward a program was given by the San Diego Branch. It portrayed a situation between a believer, a non believer, and someone undecided about what to believe. Appropriate musical selections were performed at various intervals emphasizing the skit. It turned out to be a fine evening.

Sunday Service began with several musical selections offered to a church-filled congregation. Brothers Jim Scalise, Tony Piccuto and Dick Christman spoke to the Saints on the subject of knowing what we have to do to experience God in our lives. Many challenging thoughts were given by our brothers that provoked much soul searching. The words were very timely and needed as we face so many philosophies today it is easy to be turned aside to another way if we don't carry the Lord's Spirit wherever we go. We thank God for the messages He gave us. After conference was closed we had lunch together and spent time renewing relationships with our loved ones. Our weekend will be remembered with fond memories. We in the West hope all of you in the East share the same love and warmth that the Church of Jesus Christ is known by.

In the cause of Christ.

Brother Ken Surdock  
California District Editor

#### Michigan - Ontario District Conference

The Michigan-Ontario District Semi-Annual Conference convened on Wednesday, March 10 and Thursday, March 11 at the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Branch.

The business sessions of the Conference were well attended by the priesthood and there was a good spirit of unity displayed throughout the Conference.

The following were elected to the respective offices: Recommendation for District President, Paul Vitto.

First Counselor, Dominic Moraco.

Second Counselor, Anthony Scolaro.

Brothers Nicholas Pietrangelo and Anthony R. Lovalvo, former president and second counselor respectively, were given a vote of thanks for their service the past year.

On Sunday, March 14, 1976 the meeting was held at South Lake High School, St. Clair Shores, Michigan. The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Nephi DeMercurio.

Brother Paul Vitto was the opening speaker and used for his text *I Kings* 18:21, "...How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: ..." He pointed out that this scripture deals with making a decision; either to serve God or not to serve Him. Also when one delays in making a decision to serve God, the evil one uses the "tool of time" by our not making a decision to serve God. By not delaying in making a decision to serve God, one is able to conquer evil.

Brother Anthony Scolaro then followed telling of the fast and prayer service held at Tijuana, Mexico. He told of the spirit of humility that was present in their meeting and the many experiences of Christ being in their midst.

Also Brother Dominic Thomas spoke about the fast and prayers service at Tijuana, Mexico. He stated that it was difficult to capture the spirit of what happened in Tijuana. He related how the Lord was pleased that they had come to humble themselves before Him. Brother Dominic admonished us to cleanse and purify ourselves as a people. He stated that we can no longer be a marginal member and we must be united and committed. We have a responsibility to preach the Gospel to the seed of Joseph and to the whole world.

Brother Nicholas Pietrangelo concluded that we have run out of time for dissension and we must call upon God for guidance, direction and illumination and also remove the things that are hurting us.

In closing "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" was sung and prayer was offered by Brother Frank Vitto.

Nephi DeMercurio, Editor



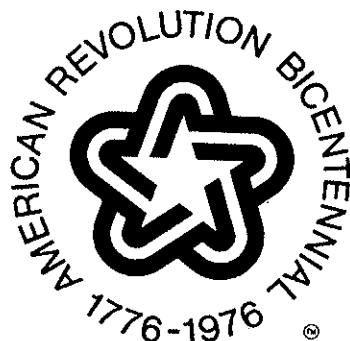
### Note of Thanks

We thank all of the Brothers and Sisters throughout The Church for their prayers in behalf of Cleveland Nathan Baldwin, the Grandson of Brother Cleveland and Sister Margaret Baldwin of Chattahoochee, Florida.

Early in 1976 little Cleveland, nine years old, was struck by an automobile while visiting with relatives in North Carolina.

We know that God surely answers prayers and we're grateful for the concern and the prayers of our Brothers and Sisters.

Brother and Sister Cleveland Baldwin



### "WITHOUT HIM"

By Sal Moccio, Jr.

Would we be able to live a life,  
With little trouble and not much strife,  
Without Him?

Without Him, where would I be?  
Without Him, I could not see  
All His goodness and blessings He bestows on me.

While I'm asleep, when I awake,  
The Lord, He follows me through each day,  
Providing correct answers to questions I pray.

When I need some assistance,  
Shall I look unto man?  
I'll just call to the Lord for He's always at hand.

Not only for important things,  
Should we look to Him and pray,  
But also for the tiny things  
That we must face each day.

So you see, for us to survive,  
We have to follow the ways of Christ.  
For without Him I dare say,  
We might not even be here today!

\* \* \*

I would like to add this postscript.

Sal Moccio, Jr., a teenager, gives life to this verse by making his poetry live in the beautiful testimony he bears on Sunday. God has indeed lavished this boy with a sensitivity and depth that is rare in such a young person.

We, in Lake Worth, are privileged to have many young people among us and Sal is a fine example of the quality of youth we have in our branch. My prayer is that God will continue to work and bless the youth of our Church everywhere.

Sister Letti Obradovich  
Lake Worth Branch Editor



### "No Time For Strangers"

This life is just a brief short walk  
Through streets of deep despair.  
I'll only pass this way one time  
Then climb the golden stairs.  
And should I pass your way and stop and say hello,  
And find we have something in common  
As we all carry some kind of load.  
Let's walk and talk not as strangers,  
But as friends, not foes.  
No, I have no time for strangers  
As I've not yet met one of those.  
We will speak of the love of Jesus  
And how He cares for me,  
For I know He loves you also  
And that surely pleases me.  
Oh, we may not be as pure as gold  
But some day we will be,  
So I have no time for strangers  
He made you and He made me.

**BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—****Tampa Florida Mission  
Blessed With Ordination**

Sunday, February 1, was a wonderful and spiritual meeting for the Brothers and Sisters of the Tampa Mission.

Brother Jim Lovalvo, the Apostle responsible for starting this mission, and Sister Mary Lovalvo had brought Brother Sam and Sister Ann Costarella from the parent Branch in Ft. Pierce. We were also blessed with a surprise visit of Brother Gorie Ciaravino and Brother John Ross and Sister Ann Ciaravino and Sister Mary Ross.

The Presiding Elder, William Tucker opened the meeting in prayer. Brother Gorie Ciaravino followed by speaking on the life of Joseph in Egypt. Brother John Ross related to events in Jacob's life and exhorted us to pursue God in prayer and be persistent in obtaining answers to the problems that occur in our life.

Brother Sam Costarella then proceeded with remarks pertaining to Christ and the need for Baptism. To conclude, Brother Jim Lovalvo spoke on the 37th Chapter of Genesis which pertained to the dream of Joseph and what we have today to look forward to when his dream is truly fulfilled.

Upon completion of the dissertations from the Brethren, Sister Betty Ann Lowe was ordained a Deaconess. Sister Mary Lovalvo washed Sister Betty's feet and a wonderful spirit was evident during this part of the ordination. Brother Gorie Ciaravino then ordained Sister Betty Ann Lowe in the office of Deaconess.

At this point I would like to explain the events that led up to Sister Betty's acceptance of the office of Deaconess in the Tampa Mission. As you know it has been the Church's position that the ordained offices be called of God. When Sister Betty was approached about accepting this office she related she wanted God to confirm it first. She prayed in earnest that if it was His Will that Sister Mary Lovalvo would be granted a dream to substantiate whether she should accept or not.

Several weeks passed and then one Sunday Sister Mary was telling Sister Betty about a dream she had about her. As each detail was related Sister Betty knew that God had answered her prayer and she in turn told Sister Mary what she had requested from God.

This was the first ordination of a Deaconess in the short history of the Tampa Mission. We truly felt the Spirit of God that day and pray that God will bless and direct Sister Lowe in the performance of the duties of this holy office.

**Deacon Ordained At Erie**

On March 7 at our afternoon meeting, a special hymn was called in behalf of Brother Rodney and Sister Judy Dyer because they would soon be leaving Erie Mission to live at Muncey Reserve. There was some sadness in the Mission because of this young couple moving away, and while we were singing, Brother Harold Burge said he received an experience, that during the song, the Lord

told him Brother Rodney should be ordained a Deacon this day. When he sat down, Brother Mark Kovacic stood up and told of how much he had been praying for Brother Rodney and his work in the Church. Then Brother Rodney stood up and verified all by telling of a dream he had about Muncey and now he began to realize the meaning.

As the meeting continued on, Brother Harold washed Brother Rodney's feet and Brother Delbert Lockwood ordained him. We all felt a special blessing at the meeting. How wonderful is our Restored Gospel when we have the Lord speaking to us today as in days of old. May God bless Brother and Sister Dyer as they venture forth in their Church work at Muncey.

**Deaconess Ordained At Warren, Ohio**

The Warren Branch experienced the blessings of God in the calling and ordination of a Deaconess on Sunday afternoon, March 28, 1976. Sister Georgiana Love of South Bend, Indiana had her feet washed by Sister Vera Edwards (sister in the flesh as well as in the Gospel) and Brother Mitchell Edwards ordained her to the office of Deaconess.

We pray that she will be inspired by the Lord to fulfill her holy office.

Visiting for the day were Brothers and Sisters from the Lorain Branch. Also visiting was Brother John Love, husband of Sister Georgiana, and family and returning from a three months stay in California was Sister Eleanor Martin, mother of Sister Love.

Brother Joe Calabrese from Lorain was the morning speaker. He opened the service with the Fourth Chapter of Ephesians.

Another highlight of the day was the ordinance of feet washing.

The Saints felt greatly uplifted this day. We truly felt the presence of the Lord. We thank God for His blessings and presence among us.

Sister Karen L. Brown  
Branch Editor

Sister Georgiana stated that she saw a vision of her father standing in the meeting. The late Brother Sam Martin.

**Vanderbilt Ordination**

From the first hymn sung in Sunday School, "If That Isn't Love", to the closing hymn of the day, the Spirit of God was felt by the Brothers and Sisters in Vanderbilt. Brother Joseph Shazer opened the morning meeting by giving a brief account of his companions and his trip to Arizona, and then continued by reading from St. Matthew Chapter 12:18. These were words spoken by the prophet Isaiah concerning a servant. We were also reminded of the servant to come, "The Choice Seer". Brother Shazer used both *The Bible* and *Book of Mormon* during his sermon in which he answered a question that had been asked by a Brother. Brother Milford Eutsey followed Brother Shazer and related the question asked of him and answered in similar words that morning. The question was, "Why is the *Book of Mormon* so called when

Mormon was only one writer?" The Spirit was with both Brothers throughout their sermons. Brother John Fleming and Sister Ruth Keller both asked to be anointed as they had been ill the past week.

Brother Shazer then related an experience that he had had the night before. Brother Shazer stated that he had talked with the angel Moroni during the night and felt by the Spirit of God that Brother John Fleming should be called and ordained a Deacon. Brother Fleming said that he'd prayed for several weeks concerning the Branch's need of this office and if it would be God's will that he be called, to give him a dream, or show him in some way that was His Will. He felt Brother Shazer's experience was an answer to that prayer. The Spirit continued with Brother George Fuller as he gave the closing remarks and his thanks to God for His many blessings.

That good Spirit remained as the afternoon meeting was opened by Brother Emmett Dale, who made a few opening remarks as there were many there to testify and to conduct the ordinance of washing feet. Brother John Fleming's feet were washed by Brother Emmett Dale and he was ordained into the office of a Deacon by Brother Joseph Shazer. We pray that God will continue to bless us and use us each as He sees fit.

The blessings of God continued as the MBA had previously announced a talent night, which took up in the evening. There were many visitors from various locals. Truly a full day spent in the service of God.

Sister Shirley Eutsey  
Vanderbilt Branch Editor

## Baptism At Aliquippa Branch

Sunday, April 4 was a good day for the Saints of the Aliquippa Branch. Robert Hall, formerly of Tionesta, Pa. and now residing in nearby Ambridge was welcomed into the fold.

Brother Bob Hall was baptized by Brother Paul Palmieri. The scene was the pool near Brother Bob Bufington's home. Many from Aliquippa and Imperial viewed the baptism.

Brother Bob was later confirmed in the afternoon meeting. He was introduced to the Gospel by Brother Roy Barlett of the McKees Rocks Branch. They became acquainted while attending the same classes in Community College. May God bless and sustain Brother Bob in his new way of life.

## Ordination And Baptism At Niles, Ohio Branch

The Niles Saints enjoyed a wonderful day in the Lord's service on Sunday, February 22. During the afternoon meeting, Brother Bob Ciarrochi was moved to rise and proclaim by the Spirit of God that Sister Cathy Genaro should be ordained a Deaconess.

Since Brother Ron and Sister Cathy were to leave the next day for New Orleans, Brother Rocco Biscotti and the Elders agreed it would be good to ordain her in that meeting.

Sister Cathy's feet were washed by Sister Jean Genaro and she was ordained a Deaconess by Brother Bob Ciarrochi. It was a good day for the Niles Branch and all visiting Saints.

Sunday, March 21, was another day of rejoicing for the Niles Branch. Brother James Lovalvo first sang "The Angels In Heaven Must Have Cried." His text was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world..." He enlarged upon the great love of God in giving His Son for the redemption of the world.

At the close of the meeting David Beach asked to be baptized. Brother Russell Martorano baptized Brother Beach and Brother Joseph Genaro confirmed him.

There were many beautiful testimonies during the afternoon meeting.

## News form Branch No. 2

Sister Madelyn Carole Kolver was reinstated into the Church by Brother Frank Morle on February 22, 1976, in Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan.

Sister Kolver expressed herself, stating that she had several good experiences of God which encouraged her to make this decision. We are all very happy to have Sister Madelyn back with us in His service. May God continue to bless her.

On February 29 Sunday the Saints of Detroit Branch No. 2 and No. 4 witnessed a full day of blessings concluding with the baptism of Sister Pentha (Penny) Jo Brouse.

It seemed like a special feeling was permeating about as you walked into the church building that morning. Opening the service with scripture, the 24th chapter of the book of Joshua, Brother Leonard Lovalvo introduced the thoughts as spoken by Joshua, "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve" Joshua concluding with but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord".

Brother Leonard cautioned that we ought to evaluate our status in life and make a commitment.

Brother Alex Gentile followed pointing out that we need the Lord's help to keep the commitment that we may serve God, for the reward is great.

As the afternoon service started a spirited season of song brought many memories of branch baptisms to our minds.

Various groups that were baptized at the past GMBA campouts came forward to sing their campouts favorite song, starting with Brother's John Straccia, Emil Lambert, Gary and Kerry Carlini, the first Branch campout converts.

The trio of Sisters Cathy Gentile, Loretta Lovalvo and Sandra Cotellesse then sang.

After a few opening remarks by Brother Paul Francione the meeting was opened with testimony. As expressed by one of the Elders he had never experienced such a strong desire for the members to testify.

At the conclusion of the service a ring was formed of all those there, which filled the perimeter of the auditorium and Brother Harold Batalucco led us in prayer.

In the course of shaking hands, Sister Penny requested to be prayed upon for she felt a desire to serve God. After the prayer, by Brother Alex Gentile, she then asked to be baptized. It was decided to go straight to the waters where she was baptized by Brother Frank Morle.

That evening in the confirmation, prayer was first offered by Brother Domenic Thomas and she was confirmed by Brother Tony Lovalvo. Sister Penny then proceeded to relate her experience on how she met the Church. A year ago she was on her own seeking God and a place to worship and where upon looking through a telephone directory she came across our branch address. In coming to church on her first Sunday she met a group of the young people meeting in the parking lot to go across town for a district conference and spent the day with the Saints.

Brother Gary and Kerry Carlini

### Three Ordinations at Lorain, Ohio

The Lorain Branch enjoyed a full day in the service of the Lord on Sunday, April 4.

In addition to enjoying the presence and spoken word of visitors, the Saints were also uplifted in witnessing the ordination of three new Branch officers, namely: Sister Rosa Palacios, Deaconess; Brother Frank Palacios, Jr., Teacher; and Brother Joel Calabrese, Deacon.

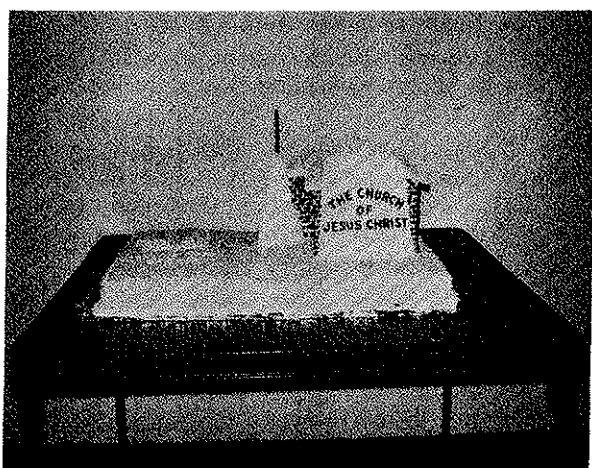
Brother Frank Palacios washed the feet of his son, Frank, Jr. and Brother Gorie Ciaravino ordained him to the office of Teacher.

Brother Joseph Calabrese washed the feet of his son Joel, and Brother Dominic Thomas ordained him to the office of Deacon.

May the Lord strengthen and direct them as they endeavor to serve in the duties of their holy offices.

### Sterling Heights First Anniversary

Sunday, April 11, 1976 marked the first anniversary of our branch in Sterling Heights. God has truly been with us, thirteen children have been blessed, we have had seven baptisms and two renewals.



Sister Sarah DiFalco baked and decorated the cake shown in the picture. This is an exact replica of our

church. She spent much time as she made each brick, a lot of love went into this work. It was a masterpiece.

Brother Rocco Biscotti and wife were with us, also Brothers Nick Pietrangelo, Tullio LaCivita and many other visitors. Brother Biscotti taught our Sunday School class and he told us of his early life in The Church. As we entered into our meeting proper, Kris, the young grandson of Mrs. Harless, was anointed and prayed upon. This young child is blind in one eye.

Brother Biscotti, using as his text, the 3rd chapter of *Exodus*, told how Moses watched the burning bush which was not being consumed and when he went up to investigate, the voice of God told him to remove his shoes as he stood on Holy Ground, and the great "I Am" commissioned him to lead the Israelites out of bondage, but because of his lack of faith when God told him to strike the rock and water would come forth, he was not allowed to enter into the Land of Promise, but viewed it from the mountain top. Joshua was given the privilege of completing the journey. Brother Biscotti admonished us to walk in the Light so that the world will know we are the Saints of God.

Brother Pietrangelo, having been here for our dedication, remembered one of the prayers, that we might have unity and that we might prosper. This we have done. He said he was going to make a map and pinpoint our churches to show how the church had grown. In his youth, there were six branches, there are now fifty-four. He told of how "The stone has begun to roll" but it must have the help of us all. The Church of Jesus Christ is Holy Ground, higher ground, we must strive for the mountain top. As it took God's hand in the days of old, it takes His hand today to make us free, we cannot do it by ourselves. If we seek, we will find, if we knock, He will open. Ye shall know the truth and the truth will set you free.

We were dismissed by Brother Tullio, after which we had lunch in our basement, which had been prepared by the Sisters of our church.

We came back for an evening service and enjoyed preaching by Brother Pete Capone from Branch No. 3, who said "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." There was a beautiful period of testimonials and Brother Biscotti spoke in Italian by special request. His last words to us was the 121st Psalm "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord." We were dismissed by Brother Frank Vitto, and refreshments of coffee and cake were served.

We are now looking forward to our second year and expect our accomplishments to double.

Sister Hazel Zoltek, Editor

### Bell Branch

Bell Branch was happy to have many young people from various parts of California in our Sunday meeting this day. Members of the MBA locals of the district had discussed getting together at Disneyland and had decided on Saturday the day before this meeting. There were young people of all ages from early teens to middle age and beyond who traveled from all parts of our state to join in. They remained in our area to attend the various branches here on Sunday. We at Bell had a wonderful

group representing branches from the whole district, some baptized and some friends of members.

The group came forward to form an impromptu choir and sang several selections for us praising God with song.

Brother Tom Liberto and Brother Paul Liberto and their families from the San Diego Branch, were with us and Brother Jim Scalise, our Presiding Elder, invited them to take charge of the meeting. Brother Paul opened our service with scripture from the 6th chapter of *Matthew*. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal." Brother Paul spoke to the group of young men and women about the importance of finding out early in life which treasure is important to them; that of the world or that in the kingdom of Heaven. He told them he knew they would be confused at times but to always remember the words of Jesus, "Let not your hearts be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Brother Tom followed with thoughts from the 13th chapter of *Matthew*. He talked about the importance of finding out about Heaven and this chapter tells us somewhat about it. He warned us about following the masses in daily life. His message was "Seek to be moderate in all things in life and peculiar only in service to God. Brother Tom said that while gathered in Mexico God gave them a message that we have to make some changes and we must become humble so He can work with us. We must seek God above all other things and we will find that the mansions prepared for us in His kingdom are something more beautiful than anything we could hope to obtain on earth, but we need to prostrate ourselves to become worthy.

The Ladies Circle of Bell had prepared a spaghetti dinner for all of our visiting brothers and sisters and their friends. We gathered in the kitchen building and the fellowship lasted into the late afternoon.

Sister Betty Capone  
Bell Branch Editor

## News from the Perdues

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just a few lines to let you know that on March 4, 1976 there were seven baptisms in Mexico City (a total of 23 members plus visitors). Brother Joe Ciarrola and Brother Sam Randy left on March 24 to go to Mexico City to help put up a church. On their way down there they stopped at our mission in Sinaloa and helped fix the roof which was in need of repairs.

On Sunday, April 11, two young men are going to be ordained as Deacons. They are about 20 years old and very ambitious. We have known them as small children.

Remember us in your prayers. We send our love.

Brother and Sister Perdue

## Youngstown, Ohio

On Sunday, March 28, 1976 we enjoyed the visit of Brothers Joe Genaro, Ron Genaro, James Campbell, and

their families. Brother Joe opened the service reading from *Matthew, Chapter 21*, "And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Brother Campbell followed on the subject of prayer. "We should pray for everything. It is our communication with God. All that we have in this life is a gift of God."

On Sunday, April 4, our afternoon service brought forth a good spirit of testimony. Sister Lucy Costarella related a dream she had recently concerning the American Indian. The hymn, "He'll Hold My Hand", was then called and sung. Brother Adam Costarella related a vision he had just prior to the hymn. "He saw a hand and arm covering the mirror over the fireplace in his home." He thanked and praised God, realizing this guiding hand had blessed him so abundantly through the years in raising his family.

Our visitors on Sunday, April 11, were Brother and Sister Harold Burge, from Erie, Pa. Brother Burge spoke from *Matthew, Chapter 26*, on "The Last Supper, and the betrayal by Judas." He also related his calling into The Church, and encouraged everyone to keep the everlasting covenant with our Lord. A baby, Joann Carol Weamer, was then brought forth to be blessed. She is the daughter of Roy and Sister Carol Ann Weamer. Our feet-washing service was held in the afternoon. A spirit of prayer and humility accompanied this beautiful ordinance as set forth by our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sister Betty Gennaro  
Youngstown Editor

## Windsor, Canada News

Since its beginning, Windsor Branch has been a foundation of righteousness for many people. Many coming and then leaving. Those who have left hold many memories, I'm sure. Those who remained and many more who have entered in throughout the years have found it a haven of rest. Some being baptized in American waters, some Americans baptized in Canadian waters, thus binding our hearts and our service to God. Showers of blessings, trials come, all needful for growth and maturity. Experiences given to establish and nurture us in this beautiful Restored Gospel. We want to thank our own Elders and visiting Elders for their words of life and encouragement. Also Brothers and Sisters who come and visit with us from time to time, displaying their love towards God.

Sister Didi Collison,  
Branch Editor

## Note of Thanks

Praise God for all our wonderful Brothers, Sisters and Friends who helped us in many ways during our recent sorrow.

Your prayers, cards, phone calls and words of encouragement have truly been appreciated.

May God richly bless all of you is our prayer!

Brother Domenic, Sister  
Marietta Giovannone and  
all the family

New Address:  
812 - 26th Avenue  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

## Forty-Fifth Anniversary

Brother and Sister John M. and Susan Olexa of the Monongahela Branch observed their 45th wedding anniversary on Saturday April 10, 1976. Brother and Sister Olexa were guests of their children and grandchildren at a family dinner at the home of their son Brother Fred Olexa.

They are the parents of three children, two sons, Brother Fred Olexa of Charleroi, Kenneth Olexa of Mercer, Pa. and Sister Carolee Sutch of Charleroi. They have eight grandchildren.

Brother and Sister Olexa were married on April 15, 1931. Sister Olexa was Susan Evans before her marriage.

Brother Olexa is retired from Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Company.

## A Tribute to Sister Anna Frammolino

The Saints of the Michigan-Ontario District wish to acknowledge, with regret, the passing of our beloved Sister Anna Frammolino.

Our Sister was the first member baptized in the city of Detroit in 1921, and was responsible for bringing the Restored Gospel to this city.

When our late Brother DiBattista came to Detroit at her invitation, our Sister opened her heart and her home within a short time, she along with four (4) others were baptized.

Today, there are more than 500 members, along with hundreds who preceded her in death, who are indebted to our beloved Sister for her action which resulted in the establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ in this area.

She sacrificed, she fasted and prayed, she witnessed for Christ, and she gave freely of her time and substance. She fought a good fight, she kept the faith, she endured to the end. She died, as she came into the world, poor in material things, but rich in heavenly treasures. She leaves indelibly imprinted in our memories a lively testimony of the truthfulness of the Resored Gospel, and a dedication to the office of Deaconess in The Church she dearly loved and served for nearly 55 years.

She died happy in the knowledge that there awaited her a crown of everlasting life in those heavenly mansions not made by earthly hands.

The Saints of  
The Michigan-Ontario District

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Terrence Justin to James and Janice Elaine Campagna of Ft. Pierce, Florida.

Karenita to Charles and Wilma Mull of San Carlos, Arizona.

Amy Michele to Mike and Marsha Phillips Aquilino of Lorain, Ohio.

Joann Carol to Roy and Carol Ann Weamer of Youngtown, Ohio.

Crystal Marie to John and Cindy Altomare Hogue of Lorain, Ohio.

## — WEDDINGS —

### COATES — PRESUTTO

Mr. Daniel Coates, Jr. and Miss Susan Presutto were united in holy wedlock on April 24, 1976 at the home of the groom's parents in Lorain, Ohio. Brother Joseph Calabrese officiated at the ceremony.

The couple will reside in Lorain, Ohio.

### BUFFA — NARDOZZI

Brother John P. Buffa and Sister Leona M. Nardozzi were united in marriage on April 3, 1976 in The Christian Temple in Lorain, Ohio.

Brother Joseph Calabrese officiated at the ceremony. Sister Donna Amormino was vocal soloist; piano accompaniment by her husband, Brother Eugene.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### ALEXANDER S. BIRO

Brother Alexander S. Biro of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch passed on to his heavenly reward on January 7, 1976. He was born on August 1, 1911, and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on May 16, 1963.

He is survived by his wife, one son, two brothers and three sisters.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Frank Mazzeo and Sam Sgro.

Brother Al will be greatly missed by all the Brothers and Sisters in our Branch. He was always a joy to be with and was always praising the Lord in every Sunday meeting.

## — 1976 Church Calendar —

### JULY

10 — General Ladies Circle Conference — Warren, Ohio  
24 to 31 inclusive — G.M.B.A. Campout — Wichita, Kansas



The Church of Jesus Christ, Monongahela, Pa.

**Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.**

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## "THE TWO JOSEPHS"

(continued)

by Richard Scaglione

We can trace the efforts of The Church of Jesus Christ in taking the Gospel to the American Indian as recorded in the Church History.

On November 8, 1861, Brother John Dixon had the interpretation of two different instances of the gift of tongues. The first was recorded as follows: "Thus saith the Lord I will purify my Church, and my Servants shall go and preach the Gospel to the Indians of America. Go saith the Lord and I will go with you, and they shall humble themselves before you, for the day and the hour of the Lord is come." The second interpretation of tongues is as follows: "I have told you to go and preach my word saith the Lord God of Hosts: Therefore you must go to the right and to the left, to the east and to the west, to the north and to the south. You must do your part and I will do my part. Go and the gifts and the blessings shall go with you. When you go to the Indians tell them that Jesus Christ died to save them. Tell them they are the seed of Abraham. Tell them what I did for their forefathers when they were carried away captive into Babylon how that I brought them again into their own land. And tell them that I will again gather them to their own lands for I the Lord have spoken it."

In 1868 three brothers were sent to preach to the Indians of the Cherokee nation. They were William Cadman, Benjamin Meadowcroft, and William Bickerton. They stayed less than two months, and in the July, 1869 conference the Indian mission work was abandoned. William Cadman stated, "I fought against this step desperately, but was overwhelmingly defeated."

Brother William Cadman referred to a mistake made by many latter day saints concerning adoption into the House of Israel. He said, "They have been encouraging themselves by the promises made to Israel, under the covenants, and have neglected the first step in that direction, which is preaching the Gospel to the seed of Jacob."

In he July, 1894, conference Brother Cummins Cherry told of an experience while preaching from the *Book of Mormon*. It was felt to be the will of God that the Gospel should go to the Red Man. A motion was made and seconded that The Church consider the Indian Territory Mission as binding on The Church at this time as ever at any time previous.

A resolution was passed in the April, 1900, conference which stated, "Resolved: that we do not consider ourselves safe in not making more efforts than we have in the past, in the spreading of the Gospel... and we should not consider it safe if not greater efforts were not put forth in carrying the Gospel to the Indians."

In July, 1904, six brothers were sent to Oklahoma on a mission but they returned in October and reported no success and no encouragement.

In the April, 1907, conference Brother McCandless Diaz spoke in tongues and the interpretation given was, "Go and I will carry you through." This was in consideration of carrying the Gospel to the Indians, as this subject was being discussed.

There was some work done in 1922 as Brothers Ishmael D'Amico and Joseph Dulisse traveled to Athens, Michigan, to preach the Gospel to the Indians there. They traveled 141 miles, one way, from Detroit on these missions. They became acquainted with Chief Sam Mandoka, who visited many of the conferences. In October, 1923, Brothers W. H. Cadman and Charles Ashton reported visiting these Indians at Athens.

Feeble attempts were occasionally made until the year 1933, when a letter by Indian Chief George Nicholas of the Muncey Reserve in Canada was read in conference. The Gospel had been taken to his people by Brothers Anthony DiBattista, Paul Love, Wm. H. and Alma Cadman. The Chief's wife was the first one baptized there.

In the Saturday meeting of the January, 1936, conference, "... a great deal of time was taken up over the matter of having an Elder at Muncey, so as to be with the seed of Joseph permanently to minister the Gospel unto them, but to no avail. It does seem strange that after all our years of existence, and it seems so much more strange in view of our profession relative to carrying the Gospel to the Redman, that we as a Church are so slow in performing our duty in this respect, yet we talk so much about the matter. Lehi says to his grown sons on one occasion: 'Be men.' I ask, is it not time we were doing something worthwhile?"

It is recorded in our History how others were called by God's spirit to work at Muncey. Brothers Joe Lovalvo, Frank Ford, and Clifford Burgess were blessed in their efforts and wrote, "We have had to undergo many trials in taking the Gospel to the seed of Joseph and to the Gentiles, but by the grace of God we have been able to overcome all obstacles. Knowing that it is our duty to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ancient inhabitants of this continent, we have endeavored to the best of our abilities to be worthy ambassadors of this glorious cause, the ingathering of Israel. No hardship is too great nor any labor too difficult when we know that we are living in the days that the Prophets and Apostles foresaw and foretold, the greatest of all ages and dispensations of time."

Sister Nicholas wrote to Sister Sadie Cadman in 1936 and expressed her thankfulness for the Gospel. She wrote, "How God has blessed us poor Indians to send His Gospel to us, that we may know that we are the seed of Joseph and the chosen people of God. We never knew that before and many times, when I think of it, I thank God for sending Brother Cadman and other brethren here. ... There are quite a number of us here, about 19. There are others yet to come, but we know when God is ready, they will all come."

We are familiar with the work done in our day. We have seen missions established throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico to care for the seed of Joseph. No doubt many more missions will be established in the near future. The enthusiasm of our brothers and sisters, especially the young, has been felt as we see our own loved ones leaving our midst to perform the same work as Joseph of old was commissioned to do. With our Lay Missionary Program a greater number can participate in this work of God. (If you are a lay member of The Church of Jesus Christ and would like to become actively involved in American Indian mission work by actually visiting an

(Continued on page 4)

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO

By Joseph Bittinger

Due to circumstances beyond our control we did not receive the report of the Nigerian Church Conference held November 1975. Therefore, we are very thankful and appreciative to all the brothers of the ministry for their informative letters written to us and the Gospel News readers, sharing their activities and spiritual blessings with us.

The Church of Jesus Christ is one Spiritual Body, as such, when you are blessed and rejoice, we; or all the body rejoices with you. Likewise when any part of the body suffers, we are all affected by it.

We thank God for His blessings bestowed upon the Nigerian Church, and efforts being put forth by the Ministry to visit and strengthen the outlying Stations that constantly need help.

A letter received recently from Elder Edem A. Ebong. I will quote him in essence. He states, "Here is some news for the Gospel News-Nigerian Echo, IRRESISTIBLE Words of God."

It has been a long time now we have been unable to hear from each other due to certain impediments around us. May God remove the obstacle away from us so that our communications may be as before.

Learn that though the impeditive actions abound, the work of God is sure — the gospel work is still in order according to God's will. On January 9, 1976, 103 souls were added to The Church by baptism from Stations in Abak Division.

February 22, 1976 was a "big-day" the day which we visited Mbiabong Ikot Udofoia Circuit and 20 souls from 5 Stations were added to The Church, i.e., Mbiabong Ikot Udofoia, Itak Ikot Obio Ise, Nkor Urak Usor, Asanting Ikot Nyah and Asanting Obot Obom. A "Big Day" because, that is the first time our sisters accompany us to visit with other districts.

Making this trip were Brothers E. U. A. Arthur, Timmy Umanah, Archibong Umo, G. F. Arthur, Udo J. Udofoia and Sisters Rachael Arthur, Atim C. Ukwak, Edna E. Ebong, Lily Jacob, Ester U. Emene, Sarah Noah and myself.

Utilizing the Comprehensive Secondary School Van and driver, Mr. Aniefiok Udo did the driving throughout the day. Communion was served in the afternoon after the confirmation service. Several testimonies were given. They were more than happy seeing so many of us paying them a visit.

On February 15, 1976 Brother Emmanuel A. Ekanem was reinstated into the ministry for Ukana Mkpa Eyop. I washed his feet and Brother E. U. A. Arthur ordained him. All felt the presence of God in the service of that day.

On March 26, 1976, I, in company of Brother Jimmy Umanah were sent to Calabar to examine and ordain the recommended members into the ministry if found qualified. As a result, Brother Akpan Mendie was ordained an Elder by me after Brother Reuben Iba, their Presiding Elder washed his feet. Brother Udo Akpan was ordained

(Continued on page 4)

## THE REST WERE BLINDED

By Jeremia Giannascoli

We read in *Romans* 11:7-8 and *verses* 25-26:

Verse 7: "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for, but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded?"

Verse 8: "According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear."

Verse 25: "That blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in."

Verse 26: "And so all Israel shall be saved."

Do we understand these scriptures to mean, that God had caused a spiritual blindness to fall upon Israel, (except the elect) for the purpose of giving the Gentiles an opportunity to accept the Gospel?

If this were true, then we must conclude that the atonement of Christ was only for those whom God did not cause a spiritual blindness to fall upon. So now, we have a doctrine which some in this world believe in, which is called, "Limited Atonement."

I ask these questions: Does God's word confirm such a doctrine? Did Christ or His Apostles preach it? Let the scriptures answer these questions.

*Mark* 16:15-16: "And He said unto them, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned."

*1 Timothy* 2:3-4: "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the truth."

*Hebrews* 2:9: "that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

*1 John* 2:2: "And He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

According to the above scriptures, Israel as well as the Gentiles came under the atonement, even from the time of Adam unto the last man upon the earth. Israel as a nation was given a chance to obey the Gospel, but refused to repent. A small number out of Israel did obey, which the Apostle Paul called, "a remnant according to the election of grace."

We read in *Romans* 11:7: "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for, but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded."

How were they blinded? Did God bring about this blindness? Did they of themselves choose blindness? Let the scriptures answer these questions.

*John* 5:39-40: "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."

*John* 12:37: "But though He had done so many

miracles before them, yet they believed not on Him."

*Acts 7:51-52:* "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost, as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? And they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One, of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers."

Let us turn to *II Nephi 2:16 and 27*: "Wherefore, the Lord God gave unto man that he should act for himself. Wherefore, man could not act for himself save it should be that he was enticed by the one or the other. Wherefore, men are free according to the flesh, free to choose liberty and eternal life, (with Christ) or choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil."

Also in *Moroni 7:12-13*: "For the devil inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually. But God inviteth and enticeth to do good continually."

*The Book of Mormon* shows us that all men are free to choose good or evil. It is then clear that blindness is happened unto Israel, because they chose to remain in darkness of their own accord. The power to choose was theirs, they choose darkness instead of light.

Therefore, God gave unto Israel their desire, even as the Apostle Paul said, "According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear, unto this day."

In *Romans 1:28* the Apostle Paul speaks of Israel's past: "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient."

So it is with any man or nation. God will grant man according to his own desires. The scriptures state that this blindness would remain until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in, and so all Israel will be saved.

Through the foreknowledge of God, He saw that Israel as a nation would reject His Son, and only a remnant would obey. Because they have chosen darkness instead of light (Christ), God has allowed them to remain in this blindness until the Gentiles had the opportunity to hear the Gospel.

The fulness of the Gentiles involves three (3) things. In *III Nephi 16:10* we read of these three things: (1) "When the Gentiles shall sin against my Gospel,..." (2) "And shall be filled with all manner of (wickedness,..." (3) "And shall reject the fulness of my Gospel,..."

Finally, "...Behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fulness of my Gospel from among them. And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them." (*verses 10, 11*)

The Apostle Paul wrote, "And so all Israel shall be saved, as it is written, there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn ungodliness from Jacob." (*Romans 11:26*)

## THE TWO JOSEPHS . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

Indian reserve and helping one of our missionaries. For information write to David Majoros, 1006 Meadow Ave., Charleroi, Penna. 15022.)

In conclusion, I will refer to Brother William Cadman's comments concerning a dream he had. It is recorded in the pamphlet, "Religious Experiences and Expectations." He says, "It (the dream) signified that the Almighty had resolved to use this people to accomplish the great and grand purpose of carrying the Restored Gospel to the seed of Jacob, which will eventually result in the restoration of the whole house of Israel. By accepting the Gospel of Christ, they will be restored to the favor of Heaven, as in their former condition. The covenants made unto Abraham, and unto Jacob, in their behalf, will be fulfilled."

## THE NIGERIAN ECHO . . .

(Continued from page 3)

a Deacon by Brother Jimmy Umanah after his feet were washed by the same Sister Affiong Okon Udo was ordained a Deaconess by me after Sister Nyong Ekpenyong had washed her feet. The Lord blessed our trip and we returned home safely on Monday.

Beside these ones, I have been making a lot of trips to several Stations, during which, children were blessed. On March 14, 1976, I visited the latest established Station, Ikot Imana-Ikwék, where a child was asked to be blessed and I did so. I see for sure the words of God (Gospel of Christ) are irresistible, nothing can stop its progress.

"Please brethren forget not this vineyard."

## PSALM 20

The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble;  
The name of the God of Jacob defend thee;  
Send thee help from the sanctuary,  
And strengthen thee out of Zion;  
Remember all thy offerings,  
And accept thy burnt sacrifice;

Grant thee thy heart's desire,  
And fulfil all thy counsel.

We will triumph in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners;

The Lord fulfill all thy petitions.

Now know I that the Lord saveth his anointed;

He will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses;

But we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought down and fallen; but we are risen and stand upright.

Save, Lord: let the king hear us when we call.

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### 200 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

July 4, 1976 marks the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The original document is enshrined in the National Archives Exhibition hall, Washington, D. C.

Facsimile reproductions and printed texts of this eloquent and noble document are on display in many public buildings and institutions throughout our beloved country.

#### *A Precious Heritage*

Americans can rightly be proud of our precious heritage of independence that has endured for two centuries. We are indebted to Almighty God for divinely inspiring the Founding Fathers in their quest for liberty which prompted them to courageously and eloquently declare: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our Sacred Honor."

Truly, this bicentennial year should be a time of national celebration and ceremony. However, it also behooves us to solemnly pause in reverence and gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

Surely, the Hand of God directed and supported the colonization of this land by the Pilgrim Fathers and others. Eventually, He inspired the Founding Fathers to declare their independence, and sustained them during the Revolutionary War. We are moved with awe and sorrow when we think of those who bravely laid down their lives, and also many others who survived the desolation of war, fighting bravely and victoriously for the cause of freedom.

#### *Birth Of A Nation*

This historical event, the birth of our nation, was accurately prophesied some 600 years before the birth of our Lord. In the *Book of Mormon*, I Nephi 13:13-20, the prophet Nephi details a portion of his remarkable vision:

"And it came to pass that I beheld the Spirit of God, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth out of captivity, upon the many waters. . . . I beheld many multitudes of the Gentiles upon the land of promise; . . . And I beheld the Spirit of the Lord, that it was upon the Gentiles, and they did prosper and obtain the land for their inheritance; And. . . I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles who had gone forth out of captivity did humble themselves before the Lord; and the power of the Lord was with them. And I beheld that their mother Gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to battle against them. And I beheld that the power of God was with them, and also that the wrath of God was upon all those that were gathered together against them to battle. And I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles that had gone forth out of captivity were delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations. And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that they did prosper in the land. . . ."

We are reminded here of that noble and prayerful line from our national anthem, "Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven rescued land Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!"

*Our Father's God! To Thee, Author Of Liberty, To Thee We Sing;  
Long May Our Land Be Bright With Freedom's Holy Light;  
Protect Us By Thy Might, Great God, Our King.*



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### RAHAB

Dear Girls and Boys,

After the death of Moses, Joshua was the leader of the Israelites. He was to take them to the Promised Land. But the great walled city of Jericho was in the way. God told Joshua, as He had been with Moses, so would He be with him. He would not fail or forsake him. He was to be strong and courageous.

Joshua wanted to see how strong Jericho really was. So he sent two young men to spy out the land. They slipped into the city and found lodging in the home of a woman named Rahab. She hid the spies up on the flat roof of her house under some flax. Her house was built on the wall. The walls of the city represented the city's great strength. The king heard about the strangers and sent soldiers to arrest them. When they came to Rahab's house, she said the men were not there. She took this risk because she had heard of all the wonderful things God had done for the Children of Israel, and these two men were Israelites.

To the young spies Rahab said, "Promise me since I have shown you kindness, that you will show kindness to me and my father's house and save us. Give me a true token or sign." The spies promised that if she kept their mission a secret, she and all her family would come to no harm when the Israelites would attack Jericho. Since the house was built on the wall of the city, Rahab let the men down from a window by a long rope made of strong, scarlet linen thread. She told them to flee to the hills and hide there until the soldiers had given up looking for them.

As the spies were leaving they told Rahab that when the attack would begin she should get all her relatives into her house. Then she should put a piece of scarlet cord in her window as a signal and no harm would come to them. The two spies went back to their camp. They reported to Joshua that it was possible to take Jericho. And when the time came, the Children of Israel marched around the city once a day for six days, not making a sound. The priests only blew their trumpets. But on the seventh day they all marched around the city seven times, with a great shout and loud blasts on the trumpets. These were strange instructions but the walls of Jericho crashed, fell flat to the ground and burned.

Rahab was not forgotten. She and all her relatives were brought out of the city safely, all because of her great faith in Israel's God. She became a great and honorable woman among God's people. Later she married an Israelite and they were the parents of Boaz, who married Ruth. In Matthew's writings it states that the great-grandson of Boaz was David, who became Israel's greatest king.

When I toured the Holy Land, I visited the site of this old city of Jericho. There was a curse placed on it that would never be rebuilt. Today it is a heap of stones, a very arid area. Nearby is the modern city of Jericho. Here there is an abundance of orange, grapefruit and banana trees, also beautiful vegetable fields. This area is watered by Elisha's Spring, whose waters were made sweet when Elisha put salt in them. People still come to the spring to draw water. After reading the story of Rahab these places become very precious.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### CALIFORNIA DISTRICT LADIES CIRCLE

The California District Ladies Uplift Circle meeting was held in Bell, California, May 1, 1976.

We are always anxiously awaiting surprises that seem to always happen at our District Ladies Circle meetings and we weren't disappointed this day.

It was beautiful to see our Sister Mary Saczko in our midst from San Diego after having both feet operated on and in much pain. Also, our Sisters Sarah Watson and Elaine Jordan from Arizona.

In her opening remarks, our President, Sister Sylvia Curry commented on how many in our midst were afflicted, but yet were here. We know our Lord is pleased with these efforts and He will not hold back His blessings.

Scripture was read by Sister Marian Meo who was just released from the hospital. Doctors thought she had a heart attack and because of the afflictions of her body she felt she would be limited in what she could do for The Church. The scriptures read were: *Acts, Chapter 9, verses 36-43 and Philippians, Chapter 4, verses 1-23.* She felt through these Scriptures the Lord was telling her that no matter how afflicted she would become, as long as she did what she could for the Lord, He would be satisfied.

Testimonies were given. The theme was, when you have the opportunity to do something for the Lord, do it! These opportunities may only come once.

Each circle gave a report. There were many blessings in these reports. Our Sisters are really active making layettes, having rummage sales, selling candy, etc. to raise funds. Our Sisters are also busy visiting the sick and making meals for those who are in need. Our Red Lake Sisters even had a rummage sale which is a first. The Navajos even made fry bread and coffee to sell. Our Sisters made over \$300.00!

Donations were as follows: \$50 *Gospel News*, \$200 Tijuana for food and medical, \$500 Red Lake for a tractor, \$100 Pinetop for whatever they need. A special collection was taken for San Carlos radio broadcasts, \$132 was collected. What generous Sisters we have! Sister Virginia Surpenant was nominated to head fund raising drives to help get the tractor for Red Lake.

Sister Evelyn read a letter from Brother Grazan from

Pennsylvania pertaining to the meeting in Tijuana and San Diego in March. God had directed His people to meet in Mexico and that He would be there. Several experiences were related in this letter that verified God's presence and direction.

Brother Jim Scalise spoke. He said God has blessed the woman. She is able to be a leader in the community and, in the Jewish belief, God created woman because He couldn't be everywhere at once. He read in Proverbs concerning the praise a woman gets from her husband and children. Even at Christ's crucifixion His disciples deserted Him but the different women never left His side.

Since it was so close to Mother's Day, Bell gave a program honoring the famous mothers of the *Bible*. The mothers being honored were Eve, Jochebed, Sarah, Ruth, Elizabeth and Mary. It was done as an interview with each mother. The lessons learned through each interview were, to trust God, have faith in Him and believe in prayer, and, after prayer is answered, accept the answer.

Thanks to Bell for their hospitality. A special thanks to the Brothers for helping in the kitchen and for taking care of the children so the Sisters could attend the meeting.

Sister Joan McNabb

## GREETINGS FROM RED LAKE!

"Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days." We can truly testify to the faithfulness of God in keeping this promise. It might have been this same thought which inspired Ammon, the son of King Mosiah, when he chose to be a servant of King Lamoni. Our inspiration has been to follow this example in our effort on the Navajo Reservation. Ammon wanted to be a faithful servant and wait for an opportunity to speak of the Glory of God to the Lamanites when the Lord would provide an open door. That time did come for Ammon as the Lord showed great physical power, and through his testimony, many thousands of souls were brought to the knowledge of the true points of Christ's doctrine.

A break-through came in the work at Red Lake about a month ago during our Sunday service. The lesson that very day was of the Sons of Mosiah and our Brother Dwayne Jordan brought forth this teaching under great duress because of pain from an ulcer. He was anointed for this condition. Later in the service, our Brother Rob Duncan was discouraged that we hadn't had great spiritual successes and that many Navajos were not yet attending services. So he challenged God for a blessing and a sign that the work we are endeavoring to do was according to His will. Our Brother was anointed for spiritual strength, followed by his own prayer of supplication with a truly broken heart and contrite spirit. We all broke our hearts before God along with him. Immediately afterwards, Brother Rob received a blessing so great that he was too weak to arise from the chair, but a sign was still desired. Just as we were about to petition God once again, a knock on the door startled all of us. Within a few minutes, six Navajos from the community filled the vacant seats in the meeting place, and the

ministry was able to welcome them in the name of The Church of Jesus Christ. Our prayers were answered in a miraculous way, since these people had no intention of coming to our meeting. As they passed by the building, a feeling came over a passenger, Mr. John Lee, who asked the driver to stop the truck. He jumped out of the truck, ran to the building, and knocked on the door. Words can't do justice in expressing the joy that swelled both our hearts and our eyes. The power of God was felt by all in that building. Our Brother Rob saw only a bright light come in the building although he could see all of us very clearly. It did feel as though the angels of heaven had entered our humble meeting place.

We were later told by our Brother Dwayne that the severe pain from his ulcer had left him shortly after the anointing and has not returned as of this writing.

Mr. Lee has continued to attend our meetings along with his wife and granddaughter, even though they do not understand very much English. We have been able to read some passages of scripture for them from the Bible translated into the Navajo Language and sing in Navajo, but the Spirit of God has to be the reason why they return to worship with us. They have told of many experiences and healings of their own in their testimonies. The latest healing came this past Sunday as he could not get out of bed without the help of his wife, because a tree that he was chopping down had fallen on his back and head. They requested anointing and after the ministry performed the ordinance, he said that only a little of the pain remained. He put on his boots and coat, and he came over to the meeting. We all gave glory to God for another manifestation of His great power.

We have heard of the recent experience that "the last of the Moses era is dead, it is time for the Joshuas to stand up!" When we look at Joshua's life, we find that one of his first important deeds was to bring back a report of the situation which was present in the Promised Land. He brought back one of the only two true reports that, although there were obstacles, the land could be aken with the Lord on the side of Israel.

In the latter days, we must tell you of the spiritual fruits which are available in the work amongst the Seed of Joseph. *The Book of Mormon* speaks to "the Gentiles who have care for the House of Israel, that realize from whence their blessings come." It is true that our greatest blessings have and will come through our endeavors to restore the Gospel to the House of Israel. As "Ephraim is the firstborn" in the latter days, we must bring this Gospel to the Descendants of Joseph especially.

As well as from Joshua's life, we also receive a beautiful pattern from the Sons of Mosiah, as already referred to. They refused to accept the inherited throne with all of its advantages, but instead they felt a real burden for their brethren the Lamanites. So they petitioned their father who later received a promise of the Lord to protect his sons. After fourteen years of missionary work, Alma Junior met them in the course of his travels. He found them to be "men of sound understanding, for they had searched the scriptures diligently; they had given themselves to much prayer and fasting, THEREFORE they had the spirit of prophecy and the spirit of revelation." Also, "by power of their words many were brought before the altar of God to call on His name and confess their sins." We can be sure that they didn't begin

their mission with all that power, but grew and matured through the Holy Spirit during their effort. We must look to the examples before us in the scriptures and glean those attributes and fruits of the spirit so that our effort will be successful through the gift and power of God.

The members here want with all of our hearts to share the blessings that we have received with all of you for we know that many remember to pray for the work amongst the Seed of Joseph everywhere as well as here in Red Lake. Our excitement continues to grow as we have seen the glory of God in giving direction to His Church in these the Last Days. Many have been inspired with the purpose of restoring the Gospel to Israel, and as in days of old, the inspiration has come about through much prayer and fasting. This is the way for each individual, family, Mission, Branch, and the General Church as a whole to find the direction in which God would have us to go. "If we follow God's spirit, it will lead us to Israel."

With the Love of Christ,  
The Red Lake Branch

### Brother Mazzeo Made Judge

On February 4, 1976, a ceremonial session was held in the Plantation Key Courthouse to appoint Brother Gabriel Mazzeo to the office of County Court Judge.

The ceremony was attended by his mother, Sister Carmella Mazzeo. In the invocation, Brother Gabriel wanted the verse, "To love God above all; to love my neighbor as myself" inserted.

His wife Michelle placed the robe on him, and he was then escorted to his seat next to the presiding judge who asked Brother Gabriel to make a short speech. Brother Mazzeo's words were, "At this time, there is little to say, but I do thank God and all of you. How I will perform in the future will speak for itself."

He is well liked by everyone. The courthouse was filled to standing room only, even though the ceremony was not announced, due to the short notice given by Governor Rubin Askew. The judge's comments were, "I saw Gabriel perform as a lawyer and was well pleased. I know he will perform well in his duties as judge."

Brother Mazzeo lives in Islamorada Key and will preside over the Marathon and Plantation Key Courthouse.

Our very best wishes and prayers are with Brother Gabriel Mazzeo.

### Brief Note of Interest

The Lake Worth, Florida Branch is basking in the double blessing of seeing Brother Gabriel Mazzeo reinstated with his family of God and the experience of his grandmother, Sister Rose Sirangelo, who has been ailing for many months, walking without assistance the same day, Sunday, which was Mother's Day.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Ordination At Kent, Ohio Mission

Sunday, March 7 was a day of joy and edification for those assembled in devotion to the Lord at the Kent Mission.

The edifying event of the day was the ordination of Sister Mary Margaret Cain to the office of Deaconess.

Sister Cain's feet were washed by Deaconess Betty Santilli after which Brother Elmer Santilli officiated in her ordination as a Deaconess by the laying on of hands.

It was a beautiful service and may the Lord bless and direct our Sister in the performance of the duties of her holy office.

### Blessings And Baptism At Niles, Ohio Branch

The Niles Saints and visitors from nearby Warren and Youngstown enjoyed a wonderful day in the service of the Lord on Sunday, May 2.

Brother Ron Genaro opened the service and was wonderfully inspired in his "farewell" sermon. He and his bride, Sister Cathy, are taking up residence in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brother Frank Giovannone also spoke inspiringly. At the close of the service, Philip Mollica asked to be baptized. He was baptized by Brother Ron Genaro who was assisted by his father, Brother Joseph Genaro. Brother Mollica was later confirmed by Brother Russell Martorana during the afternoon meeting amidst many beautiful testimonies and prayers.

### Responsibilities Of Our Young People

We were privileged and grateful in having Brother Joe Lovalvo and Sister Virginia visit us here on the Atlantic Coast.

We were abundantly blessed in having seen them and heard him at the General Conference and then having them extend their visit to include us here. A beautiful meeting was held on Wednesday night with a large gathering of almost all the Saints of the Atlantic Coast District at the Edison Branch. The meeting was attended also by the relatives of Brother and Sister Lovalvo, who live nearby.

We gathered again on Sunday morning, May 1, in the Hopelawn Branch, with many visitors present, and in the afternoon they attended the New Brunswick Branch, during which meeting Brother Sam Sgro's wife called for her baptism, which took place early in the evening. We thank our Lord for His miracles and we pray for Sister Anna that He may bless her richly, guide her and abide in her presence throughout her life.

Our evening M.B.A. service again held many blessings for us, as Brother Joe exhorted the young people to read and study the *Bible* and the *Book of Mormon* daily. They must continue in the Gospel that they may have the gifts of the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, the inter-



pretations thereof. Fast and pray in order to have the gifts. Speak by the power of the spirit and the inspiration of God. Prepare themselves to do the work of God by becoming spiritually well informed and take their places as active spiritual citizens, helping to establish on earth the kingdom of God. Get together with their Elders to go to be a witness to the Seed of Joseph in our area, wherever they may be. Seek to become more faithful and more righteous for they are the future of The Church. This is their Church. Set the city on fire, call upon the Lord always with a sincerity of heart for His gifts and to be a blessing to The Church and to the Brothers and Sisters in representing Christ and The Church.

He continued by telling them that they as young people are the nucleus of a great potential by getting together with other young people, and that by calling upon the Lord, He will make the necessary inroads.

Above all, don't do anything Christ would not do, and don't go anywhere you cannot take Him with you.

He recalled some of his wonderful experiences to us which proved to be a marvelous blessing and we each went to our homes grateful and thankful for a day well spent in God's house. Indeed, it was a week well spent. Brother Joe has given us evidence of being a living witness of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, Lord, for the encouragement, all of us, not only the young people, have received from our faithful Brother, and for the testimony of Sister Virginia. May the Lord continue to pour down blessings from heaven upon them and keep guard over their hearts and thoughts.

Helen Kovacs  
Branch Editor, Hopelawn

## Vanderbilt Branch Has Visitor

Brother Harry Marshall of the Bell Branch in California, visited the Vanderbilt Branch following the General Church Conference this past April. Since Brother Marshall was baptized here and a member of Vanderbilt before moving to California, many Brothers and Sisters here remember him well and were glad for the opportunity to visit with him again. It was impressive to hear him quote, from memory the first Chapter of Hebrews, which was done instead of our regular Sunday School Bible reading. We also understand he can quote the whole Book of Hebrews as well as other books and chapters of *The Bible*. God has surely gifted him with a wonderful memory. Brother Marshall opened the morning service using the Second Chapter of Peter as his text. He dwelt somewhat on the seventh and eighth verses where Jesus being the stone, the builders disallowed which became head of the corner, and comparing naturally how a stone mason will turn over many stones from a pile to get just the right one for a particular place in a wall or building; and sometimes overlooking the perfect one for the position in which it would be used. Brother Marshall stayed with us for the afternoon meeting and we were privileged to hear his testimony once more. Upon visiting with Brother Marshall many fond memories and blessings were recalled from past years. We hope we may again have the pleasure of his company and may God continue to bless his efforts in the work being done in California.

Sister Shirley Eutsey  
Vanderbilt Branch Editor

## Baptism, Children Blessed At Glassport Branch

On Sunday, March 28, we felt God's Spirit as we witnessed two children being brought to God to ask His blessings upon them.

Gina Jamie Canova, daughter of Frank and Patricia Nolfi Canova, was blessed by Brother Alma Nolfi.

Brother John Ali blessed Harold Edward Little, Jr., son of Harold Edward and Mary Little.

Our prayers are that God's blessings will follow these two children throughout their life and that He may continue to bless their parents.

The following Sunday, April 3, God's blessings were again with us. Brother James Campbell opened the morning meeting by reading from *2nd Kings, 5th Chapter*, on "Obedience", and Brother Alma Nolfi followed. Immediately after the meeting, Sharon Humphrey Warner asked for her baptism. We all gathered at the river to witness her baptism by Brother John Ali.

Our afternoon meeting was filled with the Spirit of God with the confirmation of Sister Sharon by Brother James Campbell, and many testimonies of the Brothers and Sisters.

During the baptism of our young Sister it was raining and in our hearts we all felt the "Showers of Blessings." May God Bless our Sister in all her endeavors to serve Him is our prayer.

Sister Rosemarie Ali  
Branch Editor

## News At Lake Worth, Florida

The service began with the Hymn "Longing for the Gathering". After prayer, "On Mountain Tops" was then sung. A peaceful calm seemed to descend over the saints. Brother Sam Costarella opened the service using *II Samuel, 7th chapter*, expounding to great depth the house we would build to God. After which Brother Frank Rogolino spoke on the subject until the noon recess.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo was the first speaker after lunch. This feeling of calm and expectancy still prevailed. As Brother Lovalvo began speaking we could feel and see the Spirit of God coming upon him. The whole congregation was alive with the Spirit as Brother Jim was filled and used as an instrument in God's hand to extend Love, Humility, and Joy to each one present, as he was brought from the rostrum and walked among us clasping each hand. Oh how the tears flowed and they were sweet as honey as they ran down the cheeks of the Saints. For it was testified by several, both by dream and experience, that this manifestation would take place. How we thank God for His revelations before hand to confirm His movements in our midst.

Several had hands laid on them, not for afflictions, but for the desire that grew in their hearts. One Brother told of a severe pain in his chest that disappeared when Brother Jim clasped his hand. How blessed we were this day. May God be praised. Let us remember the joy of our first love and quickly return, that the Spirit of God may work among us. Surely, "The time is far spent".

Mary Glover

## Rochester, New York News

On May 9, 1976 the Rochester Branch had the joy and pleasure of having Brother Richard Santilli and wife as per the Evangelist schedule.

Brother Santilli chose his text from the *Book of Daniel*. How Daniel and his three friends didn't condemn themselves by eating the King's meat, but preferred a simple diet, that at the end they were more fair and beautiful than the rest of the men. They did not bow down to worship the idols but preferred to be thrown into the furnace of fire and into the lion's den. God used Daniel in many ways in interpreting the King's dream, that the small stone that hit the image became the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. God used Joseph Smith to bring the Restoration of the Gospel. We are looking forward for the Peaceful Reign where we will enjoy many blessings.

Brother Ansel D'Amico emphasized on the same subject, how strong and brave Daniel was and we should be like him in not doing the things of the world. He spoke on Mother's Day that the world celebrates today, we should love and respect our Parents all the days of the year and above all we should love The Church as our Mother.

The meeting was turned to testimony and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered.

A good spirit prevailed during the meeting, that God's blessings were felt by all.

We were dismissed with prayer by Brother Melvin Mountain, Jr.

Sister Carmella D'Amico  
Branch Editor

## Branch News From Greensburg

On Sunday, April 11, 1976, Greensburg Branch was privileged to have Brothers Frank and Joseph Calabrese in our midst. Brother Frank opened the morning meeting with the 32nd verse of the 10th Chapter of St. Mark: "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also Heaven." This scripture was so appropriate, because Jake and Anna Cosalter had requested their baptisms. Brother Frank went on to say that Jake and Anna will meet Jesus today through baptism and that they will begin a new life in Christ.

After lunch, the entire Branch went to the water's edge to witness Brother Frank Calabrese baptize Brother Jake and Sister Anna. During the afternoon testimony meeting, Brother Oskar Hagen confirmed Brother Jake and Brother Paul Gehly confirmed Sister Anna.

Sister Rose Palacios, who was visiting from Lorain, Ohio had a vision. Sister Rose stated that while Sister Anna and Brother Jake were being confirmed, she saw three personages dressed in white robes standing behind Brother Jake and Sister Anna. The personage in the middle placed one of his hands on Brother Jake's head and his other hand on Sister Anna's head. Sister Rose explained that our own Elders disappeared from view as the three personages appeared behind our new Brother and Sister. Upon the completion of the confirming prayers, the three personages departed. The vision was a reassurance that the confirmation was truly of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Spirit of God continued to be with us in great abundance throughout the meeting. Brother Joseph Calabrese spoke during the testimony meeting concerning baptism and used scripture to point out that we must be born again. He distinguished between the birth of the flesh and the birth of the Spirit.

After the afternoon service, all remained for a "going away get together" for Brother Reno and Sister Isabelle Bologna. They had graciously given six months of their lives to spend with the Brothers and Sisters at Greensburg and were planning to return to Detroit, Michigan shortly after the April Conference. Brother and Sister Bologna surely possess that true love of God and truly gave of themselves during their short stay at Greensburg. We will long remember the brief six months in which we were permitted to worship God with two wonderful people. We have all come to love and cherish these two Saints and will truly miss their presence. May God abundantly bless them in all their endeavors for the cause of Christ.

The Greensburg Branch

## Ft. Pierce Branch

The Saints of Ft. Pierce and neighboring Branches will long remember this Mother's Day. Brother William Tucker of Tampa opened the meeting on the theme "Mother's Day" bringing forth how our Lord used women. The importance of Sisters in The Church. Brother Dominic Giovannone continued with a few words about his Mother and his wife, Mary.

Brother Sam Costarella opened the afternoon service with prayer and he spoke of seeing Sister Mary Lovalvo although she is in California.

Brother Duane Lowe was then ordained as an Elder. His feet were washed by Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. Sister Rose Rogolino spoke in tongues, "Publish peace, love, unity. Be mindful of those who are weak. Remember His children." Brother Lowe was ordained by Brother V. J. Lovalvo. He then passed his first Sacrament along with Brother William Tucker.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo sang "Lovest Thou Me". He then spoke of the trials and blessing of the priesthood; but he cited experiences that would never be forgotten. He stated that there was no greater work or satisfaction than doing God's work.

The meeting was closed after our new Brother in the priesthood expressed himself humbly, asking the Saints to pray for him. We feel that he will be a helping hand in Tampa to Brother William Tucker who has worked diligently for so long. My observance is that he is a very humble and willing worker.

Branch Editor  
Louise Micale

## Visitors At Roscoe Branch

We would like to acknowledge our visiting Brothers and Sisters who visit our Branch in Roscoe, as we appreciate their fellowship and sharing of God's blessing with us.

On April 11, Brothers George Johnson and James Campbell and their wives were with us throughout the day. Brother George opened the meeting speaking the word of God to us, which was very encouraging. On May 2, Brothers James Moore, Jr. and Bob Buffington of Imperial attended our afternoon service and testified of the goodness of God in their lives. On May 9, 1976, William and Bonnie Hotz brought their little infant son to The Church to have God's blessing asked upon it. After Brother Fred O'lexa blessed the baby, the meeting was opened by Brother Rocco V. Biscotti, Apostle, from Cleveland, Ohio. He spoke from the Book of Enos in the *Book of Mormon*, delivering the word of God to us. Our Brother also spoke of many experiences and blessings, which was food for our soul. Brother Sam Kirschner, Apostle, from West Elizabeth was also with us and sang a beautiful song concerning Mother, being that it was Mother's Day. The Spirit of God was felt among us as we fellowshiped with our Brothers and Sisters from various Branches, enjoying the blessings of God with them. We love you all and may God bless you for your efforts in serving Him.

The Brothers and Sisters  
Roscoe Branch

### News Notes From Lorain Branch

On March 31, 1976, a meeting of the Apostles was hosted in Lorain. Principal speaker for the Sunday service was Brother Paul D'Amico, whose inspiring words are always food for thought and joy to the soul. The following weekend the Mission Board meeting was held in Lorain. The Sunday meeting was conducted by several Brothers. Principal speakers were Brothers Dominic Thomas, Meredith Griffith, Dominic Moraco, A. A. Corrado, Joseph Bittinger and Brother Tony Ensano closed the service with prayer. The messages delivered were very inspiring, especially when we consider that the expectations and desires of those Brothers and Sisters who have gone to their reward are near at hand. May the Lord bless the ministry of His Church, counsel, and direct them to execute the spreading of His Gospel to the Seed of Joseph. In preparation for the long awaited coming of the Choice Seer, (Joseph), whose mission is to convince them by the power of God of their true origin and restore them to their rightful heritage both spiritually and temporally. May the zeal evidenced in the morning service pervade the whole, and dominate their lives to fulfill the will of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who is the sole Sovereign and Leader of our Church.

During the past months we were gladdened by the presence of many Brothers and Sisters. It is always a blessing to see those we love, but have not the privilege to fellowship with, as we wish. Sprinkled with the many blessings we are often brought to soberness by the passing of a loved one. A case in point, the husband of our beloved Sister Nancy DeCredico, who is confined in a rest home due to a stroke incurred several years ago. May God who is the Comforter of the comfortless give our Sisters and family peace, and overcoming grace.

At present we are glad to have Sister Annie Ciccati from California visiting her family. Brother Frank Nardozzi was present at our meeting May 30, 1976, and bore testimony to the goodness of God in his hours of need.

Our Brother has undergone extensive back surgery, and we can't help expressing our gratitude and magnify our Lord's miraculous power, "How Great Thou Art Oh Lord! How fathomless is Thy Love! May we be ever mindful of our insignificance and sing Thy praises daily to a sick generation. Per chance someone will hear and find the way to salvation."

Sister Marie Caldwell  
Branch Editor

### News From Imperial

We Saints here in Imperial would like to share some of our blessings with you. Sunday, May 16 we had visitors from Roscoe Branch, Sister Bertha Bilsky and her husband Buch. We felt the Spirit of God as soon as we entered the building. Sister Bertha sang two inspiring and beautiful songs. Brother Bob Buffington opened the morning service with the 14th Chapter of Luke, a man made a great supper and bade many come. Brother Jimmy Moore followed on the same subject. The power of God was made manifest in the meeting and there were three souls that asked for their baptism, David and Janice Cornell and Charles Roscart. The Bible says, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." We have truly rejoiced here in Imperial.

Also on February 3 we had two renewals, Brother and Sister Yoder after being away from The Church for 13 years, which brought a blessing. It was a welcome sight. Then in November of this past year Brother James and Sister Eva Moore moved to the state of Georgia. So we have lost and gained. In Georgia they have a home mission started, with regular attendance. We have three members there besides Brother and Sister Moore. The seed is planted there in Georgia, and may it grow and be fruitful. Remember them in your prayers. The Gospel must go to every kindred, tongue and people. There will come a time that wherever you go you'll meet a Brother and Sister. Won't this be beautiful. I believe this time is not far off. Our prayer is that the Lord will keep blessing the Saints everywhere.

Sister Jean Moore  
Branch Editor

### A Note From Palmetto, Georgia

We are enjoying God's blessings in our endeavours to spread the Gospel here in Georgia. Sunday, May 30, we had Brothers Frank Rogolino and Ray Bays and their wives to visit our mission. We were surely blessed and refreshed by the Holy Spirit of God.

We are located about 25 miles south of Atlanta and those who would like our phone number and address we would enjoy hearing from you.

Brother James T. Moore  
212 Fond Court  
Palmetto, Georgia 30268

Brother James Moore telephone number 404-463-4634

Brother Stewart Byars telephone number 404-463-4633

God Bless You All  
Sister Eva Moore

## Children Blessed

Gregory Michael Arcuri was blessed into The Church on May 23, 1976 at Ft. Pierce, Florida;

Michele Lynn Arcuri was blessed into The Church on May 23, 1976 at Ft. Pierce, Florida;

Amy Beth Keller was blessed into The Church on April 3, 1976 at Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

## Note of Thanks

The unexpected kindness  
from an unexpected place,  
A hand outstretched in friendship,  
A smile on someone's face,  
A word of understanding  
spoken in an hour of trial  
Are "unexpected miracles"  
that make life more worthwhile.

We wish to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who offered prayers in our behalf during our recent recovery from a very bad automobile accident. Your cards and expressions of love were greatly appreciated. We can only thank God for protecting us from much more harm and possible death. Just before impact I felt two hands pick up my legs and move them over to the passenger side of the car. This was a beautiful experience for me, for surely, if this did not happen, my legs would have been cut off. We could never thank God enough—He gives to us every day of our lives.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Everett, Josephine  
and Kevin Jasmin

## My Experience

This is my experience before I came into The Church on November 9, 1936.

I will start by saying that my neighbor was in real good health. One day we were talking and laughing, and the very next day she was dead.

Her sudden death preyed on my mind for some time. I couldn't eat, couldn't sleep. I was in a terrible way.

It was some time after that I joined The Church, and I am so glad I did — it brought me peace of mind. I have never been sorry that I came into The Church.

So pray for me that I will be found ever faithful.

Sister Pearl Burkett

## Lost And Found

There were a pair of men's glasses found in Brother Bob Buffington's car after General Conference. Write to:

Bob Buffington  
R. D. 1, Moore Road  
Imperial, Pa. 15126

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Heather Renee to Steve and Linda Smith of Greensburg, Pennsylvania;

Timothy Stuart to Salvatore Sr. and Lorraine Lupo of Selden, Long Island, New York;

Michael Jason to Michael Jesse and Marilyn Marie King of Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania.

## — WEDDINGS —

### PHILLIPS - WOMBLE

Mr. Ricky Phillips and Miss Rebecca Womble were united in holy matrimony at Atlanta, Georgia on April 17, 1976 by Elder James T. Moore.

The couple will reside in Atlanta, Georgia.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### CIRIACO DeCREDICO

Mr. Ciriaco DeCredico passed away from this life on May 18, 1976 to his heavenly reward. He was born on October 26, 1896 and resided in Lorain, Ohio.

Brother Frank Calabrese officiated at the funeral services at the Dorin Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, three sons and one daughter. May God comfort the family at this time of sorrow.

### ROSE D'ORAZIO DREER

Sister Rose D'Orazio Dreer passed on to her heavenly reward on May 20, 1976. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ and attended the Warren, Ohio Branch. She was born on June 11, 1902 and was baptized into The Church on February 22, 1925.

Services were held in Warren, Ohio and were officiated by Brother Jerry Giovannone.

She leaves to mourn her loss three daughters, one son, five sisters, three brothers, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Her presence will be missed by the Brothers and Sisters of the Warren Branch.

### ROSE MARIE SHOEMAKER

Sister Rose Marie Shoemaker of the Tampa, Florida Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on May 11, 1976. She was born on July 20, 1904 and her date of baptism is unknown.

Brother V. J. Lovalvo and Brother Charles Smith officiated at the funeral services which were held at the Curry's Funeral Home.

Sister Rose left four daughters, six step-children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

May God bless and comfort the family.

# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

August, 1976

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## THE QUORUM OF TWELVE APOSTLES

According to the Holy Scriptures, the Twelve Apostles were men chosen by our Lord to be with Him during His ministry, and to whom He entrusted the organization and governing of His Church. They would be witnesses of His life and resurrection.

The Church of Jesus Christ believes it to be the will of God that the Twelve should be chosen in this last dispensation of time, as living witnesses of His Church on earth. They are to bear testimony throughout the world to the Everlasting Gospel being restored; that this Church is adorned with the diverse gifts and blessings of God.

The Twelve Apostles have been given the power by Jesus Christ to officiate and regulate the affairs of The

Church throughout the world in conforming strictly with the original Twelve.

The present Quorum of Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ are pictured as follows. They are from left to right: Anthony Corrado of Youngstown, Ohio; V. James Lovalvo of Ft. Pierce, Florida; Frank Calabrese of Lorain, Ohio; Dominic Thomas of Branch No. 2, Detroit, Michigan; Russel Cadman of Fredonia, Pennsylvania; Rocco Biscotti of Cleveland, Ohio; Samuel Kirschner of Clairton, Pennsylvania; Joseph Bittering of Monongahela, Pennsylvania; Gorie Ciaravino of Branch No. 4, Detroit, Michigan; Paul D'Amico of Lockport, New York; Nicholas Pietrangelo of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan; V. Joseph Lovalvo of Modesto, California.

## A Thankful Acknowledgement

Leaving our home on December 16, 1975, my wife and I started for Florida for an extended stay. Going by way of Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Our next stop was at Chattahoochee, Florida where we spent the weekend of December 27, with Brother and Sister Cleveland Baldwin and family, also a couple of other sisters who were at their home. For the Sunday service the gathering was not large but there was a very nice spirit prevailing throughout the service. We felt a blessing in being able to visit and worship with them in their mission they have established in that part of Florida. It takes much effort and time, courage and a lot of patience well seasoned with the Holy Spirit to build up The Church of Jesus Christ anywhere in this present era in which we live.

We showed the Nigerian slides Saturday evening, and they were very much interested in them. We felt our visit with them was much appreciated. The Lord willing we hope to return sometime in the future.

Leaving there we drove to Fort Pierce about 425 miles, to the home of Brother and Sister Charles Smith, we stayed over night with them. We called Sister Rose Rogolino and she invited us to stay with her until we could rent an apartment. After four days we moved to 534 S. 5th St. where we lived the remainder of the time when not visiting other places or people. We attended more meetings at Fort Pierce than anywhere else. We also tried to attend as many other branches and missions, including other church functions as possible. We attended the New Year's Eve watch meeting at Fort Pierce, singing and praying the old year out and the New Year in. We had a nice evening and service together.

We spent several week-ends visiting and worshipping with the Saints in Miami Mission, Lake Worth Branch and Cape Coral Mission, as well as attending the Florida District Conference, in which we participated.

Other functions were M.B.A. services, and a picnic held in a park in South Miami, along with the Florida Area Campout held in the West Palm Beach Area. The Ladies Circle at Fort Pierce, was attended by Sister Bittinger quite frequently.

We were cordially received everywhere with dignity and respect, and given the opportunity of taking the lead in opening the services.

I took the lead in opening a number of services and enjoyed speaking to the congregation.

On the way returning home we stopped at Palmetta, Georgia, in order to spend the week-end with Brother and Sister James Moore, Sr., along with the others that assemble there in the little Mission they have established in that Area. They were expecting us and waiting for us to arrive. We received a joyful welcome by all.

As we met Sunday morning for service there was a nice little group assembled. We were especially happy to have Brother Augustine I. Etukudo, an Elder from Nigeria, and his wife Sister Nse, with us and be able to spend a Sunday worshipping together. (They are attending College in Atlanta). We enjoyed a very nice service and day spent together.

This small group is striving very hard to spread the Gospel and firmly establish the Church in this area. Let us remember them in our prayers that God will bless their efforts with success.

We wish to thank all the Brothers and Sisters for their gracious hospitality shown to us everywhere. You made our visits joyful and pleasant to remember. God bless you one and all is our sincere prayer.

## Note Of Thanks

To all my dear Brothers and Sisters in the Gospel and friends. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your thoughtfulness during my recent stay in the hospital. Your prayers were a great encouragement to me. Your phone calls, cards and flowers which I received were a constant life-line, giving me strength to go on, not only temporally, but spiritually also.

On the day of our District Conference, Saturday morning, March 6, 1976, the day that I would have been meeting with my Elder Brothers, a lonely feeling came over me. While in this state I suddenly felt like the air or breezes were moving in my room around me. Then I saw the Elder Brothers come walking into the room and make a circle holding hands around my bed. I heard them all praying for me and all those afflicted in the Church. I had a great desire to join them in praying for the sick, but the Spirit moved me to pray instead that God would give unto my Brothers in the ministry a great power to spread the Gospel throughout the world unto all people. I was greatly blessed and cloaked with the Spirit for quite some time. I knew then that was when my Brothers were holding their fast and prayer service before going into the Conference business.

When I returned home from the hospital and once again attended the Church service on Sunday; I arose and gave my testimony relating the wonderful experience which the Lord gave me. At the conclusion the Lord moved me to speak in the gift of tongues and the interpretation was given by two sisters — "What Jesus does, He does everything in His way to bring the Gospel to all. In the name of Jesus spread the Gospel throughout the world."

I thank God for His marvelous blessings, both spiritual and temporal. Once again thank you all for your thoughtfulness and prayers.

God Bless You all,  
Brother Salvatore Valenti

~~~~~		
District	Annual Conference	Semi-Annual Conference
Arizona	Redlake Sept. 4, 5	Phoenix Feb. ?
Atlantic Coast	Levittown Aug. 28, 29	Hopelawn Feb. 26, 27
California	San Diego Aug. 20-22	Bell Feb. 18-20
Florida	Ft. Pierce Aug. 21, 21	Lake Worth Feb. 19, 20
Mich.-Ont.	Sterling Hghts. Aug. 25, 26, 27	
Ohio	Niles Aug. 28, 29	Youngstown March 12, 13
Penna.	Aliquippa Aug. 21	Mon City Feb. ?
~~~~~		

## I STOOD STILL

By Mark Randy

AN EXPERIENCE OF JANUARY, 1960

I stood still for a long moment. I had just baptized a young man in the Mediterranean sea on the shores of Sicily.

It was a beautiful day, the water was calm, the new member just baptized was being greeted by the witnessing little crowd who had come to watch the baptism. They had never seen a baptism before.

I turned to look at the beautiful sea, when suddenly I was raptured in a vision so real. I was carried back in my imagination 32 years. I was going back to my training school of furniture making. After lunch a group of young men met me on my way back to the shop. They urged me to go swimming with them. It was a hot day in August and it was not hard to accept. At first I refused, knowing that my mother would not spare me from punishment if she found out. I was 15 years old and full of life. I belonged to the town Boy Scouts and was a bicycle racer. My mother was very particular about who my friends were. These young men were friends that she preferred, but she would not approve of my going swimming when I should be working in the shop. I finally gave in and went with them. The sea was about a mile from town.

We swam all afternoon. There were ten boys altogether. We were swimming out to a large rock about 300 feet from shore, then we would have races back. I got very tired and suggested that we all go home. They wanted to have one more race. The race was to begin from the rock. We were to dive into the water and see who could go the furthest under the water. Then we were to surface and see who could reach the shore first.

I tried to stay submerged as long as I could. As I came up I suddenly got a cramp in my left leg. The pain was unbearable and I could not move that leg. I went under water, swallowing saltwater which made me choke. I struggled with all my might as I came up but only to go under again. I stayed under longer, all the time swallowing more saltwater. I fought to stay up only a few more minutes, because my strength was gone. By this time the other boys had reached shore and missed me. As I came up again I called for help. One boy, Luigi, proceeded to come but the others stopped him saying that we would both die. When I heard this I realized that I did not have much hope.

I prayed to the Saints as taught to me in the Catholic Church. Finally I cried out, "If there is a living God, help me, I am dying."

I went under the fourth time. I do not remember anything else until I came to as a man was pumping water out of me. Luigi was crying aloud exclaiming he had wanted to come but the others had stopped him. As I sat there I looked to the skies and said, "There surely must be a God. I could not have made it otherwise."

The boys said when I came out of the water the fourth time I was able to swim towards shore until they were able to reach me. I passed out and one of the boys had run for help.

It seems very strange that the whole experience came back to me as I looked to the spot where I almost lost

my life, 32 years earlier. There I was baptizing a young man (to die there in sin, but to live in a new life in Christ.)

The new Brother came to me, tapped me on the shoulder, and asked what I was looking at for such a long time. The others also noticed my staring at the sea.

I told them and looked to the skies and said, "Now I know there is a God." I turned to the new young Brother and told him not to forget what we had done here.

At my last writing he is a very firm soldier of Christ.

## AMERICAN INDIAN MOSES

by

TIMOTHY DOM BUCCI

Will an American Indian rise up among his people to deliver them from bondage and oppression as Moses did to his people thousands of years ago? In this most interesting book, author Timothy Dom Bucci combines Biblical and American history to come up with startling parallels between the ancient Israelites and the present-day American Indians, and their restoration.

Equally startling, however, are some of the conclusions those parallels inevitably lead to, and the implications they have for contemporary American society.

In addition to discussing the spiritual and secular conditions required for the rise of an "American Indian Moses," author Bucci warns that the judgment of the Lord will inevitably be meted out to those who are unrighteous. Not only the American people, but also men and women of all nations are in grave peril if they persist in what is described in this book as a deteriorated and corrupt materialistic, hedonistic life-style.

"The immorality of our nation is high," the author writes. "Men of high position have betrayed our country. Honesty and integrity are frowned upon. . . . Our freedom and way of life, democracy, depend on the spiritual life of the nation."

*American Indian Moses* holds a timely and profound message for readers of all faiths, troubled by the increasingly sharp conflict between the spiritual and material sides of life in the United States, and a special message to the Jew, and the American Indian.

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## "FOLLOW MY SPIRIT"

"Follow my Spirit for it will lead you to Israel; Thus Saith the Lord".

Thus were the words of the Lord unto the Church by the mouth of Brother Isaac Smith as he spoke in the Spirit of the Lord Sunday, March 7 in San Diego. For me to tell you my Brothers and Sisters of the spirit of the Restoration and unity that was felt at the meetings of the American Indian Committee the week-end of March 5 is impossible. Can I speak of the glory of God in words? Can I magnify His Spirit into words of true understanding?

I have been to Campouts and have felt His Spirit. I have witnessed baptisms and have felt His Spirit. I have had wonderful experiences in my life, many comparable to those in the *Book of Mormon*, but my friends, never have I been so totally consumed by His Spirit in my life.

The fast and prayer meeting in Tijuana started at 9:30 Saturday morning. As we entered God's humble little Church, His Spirit encompassed our souls, and before uttering one word or singing one song, the tears of insurmountable joy rolled down the cheeks of the, may I say, humble followers of the Lamb. We were gathered together with one purpose in mind and one spirit amidst, with an eye single to His glory: "The restoration of His ancient and long dispursed covenant people." The words resound through my mind as we heard the words of the Spirit unto young Brother Bob Womack; "The ministry are the leaders, the members are the followers, exercise our liberty and freedom in Jesus Christ and God will exercise liberty and freedom to the Seed of Joseph!" With the ending of his words we fell to our knees to petition the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to direct us with respect to the work of the restoration of His people. The prayers of the Saints ascended to the throne of the Holy One of Israel, both in Spanish and English. Upon rising to our chairs came the directive, "Has any one received a spiritual experience?" Sister Palacios arose, "Yes, I had a vision. I saw the Lord walking slowly down the street toward the church building in Tijuana, and that He would be here shortly." Then Brother Joe Lovalvo began to weep with tears of joy saying, "My Brothers and Sisters, I didn't want to tell you this experience unless the Lord confirmed it first with another person. He has with Sister Palacios. I had a vision, and I saw the Lord Jesus Christ come into The Church with His arms outstretched saying, 'How long have I waited for my people to humble themselves'."

Then came the spirit of compassion for His people. The priesthood began to anoint, and as many as came forward, numbering about 37, were anointed unto Jesus that the gift of healing would fall upon them. Speaking from today, three weeks later, many were healed; confirming without question that our prayers and supplications were accepted and our commission sealed to the restoration of the House of Israel. The Lord's final message to us was to sanctify and cleanse ourselves and go back to our Branches and become a part of this work, for the Lord has set His hand again the second time to recover His people, "The House of Israel."

Brother John Mancini  
Editor, American Indian  
Committee

(to be continued)

## The Sixth Nation News

What joy and happiness fills our souls when we sing this beautiful hymn, "Shall we gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river, that flows by the throne of God."

Yes, the Saints of Six Nation, did gather at the beautiful Grand River, on Easter Sunday, April 18, 1976. We witnessed the baptism of our young Sister, Dorothy Lynn VanEvery. She was baptized by Brother Jerry Benyola from Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan and confirmed by Brother Ken Wright of Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

The following month, on May 30, 1976 our Brother Ken Wright opened the Sunday service with the 17th *Chapter of III Nephi*. It was a marvelous and touching scene, as Christ visited this land of America after His crucifixion. How beautiful it was when Christ showed His love and compassion upon the Nephites. He told them, because of their exceeding faith, to bring the sick, the afflicted, the lame, the blind, the dumb and He would heal them.

The multitude came forth and bowed before Him. They worshipped Him, kissed His feet, and did bathe His feet with their tears.

They brought their little children and set them upon the ground. Jesus stood in the midst of them. He took them one by one and blessed them, praying unto the Father in their behalf. Such great love the Savior bestowed upon the little children. The scripture reads, "And when He had done this He wept".

The multitude, "cast their eyes towards heaven and saw the heavens open, and they saw Angels descending out of heaven as it were in the midst of fire; and they came down and encircled these little ones about, and they were encircled about with fire; and the Angels did minister unto them."

"The multitude did hear and bear record."

How could we not help to shed tears of joy and feel His Holy Spirit burn within us, as we visualize this glorious event. Brother Ken Wright instilled within our hearts the great love and compassion our Master displayed unto all mankind, most of all, how Christ had made the Supreme Sacrifice, so that all men may have everlasting life.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo followed on the very same Chapter, expressing many wonderful words. He told also of how he loved this beautiful Chapter and what great meaning it held for him personally.

The meeting was turned over to testimony. Many wonderful testimonies were given and the Spirit of God prevailed in our midst.

As Sister Wanda Sandra Stoats bore testimony, she called for her baptism, speaking with a truly broken heart and contrite spirit. She was baptized by Brother Ken Wright and confirmed by Brother Anthony Lovalvo.

Sister Anne Hill bore a beautiful testimony also and asked to be reinstated back into the fold again.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo prayed for a very sick baby with a very high temperature, and when the meeting finished the baby no longer had a fever.

We can truly say we were blessed to the utmost. The love did prevail in our midst and we went home rejoicing and remembering how great and glorious the Lord is. What more can we ask? For we know His blessings are free.

Sister Mary Dicheria



## THE GOSPEL NEWS

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## Editorial Viewpoint —

### A MIGHTY NATION

In last month's issue of the Gospel News, the front page and the editorial page were devoted to the bicentennial theme of commemorating that momentous event in United States history, the signing and adoption of the Declaration of Independence two centuries ago.

We were reminded that the colonization of our shores and the eventual founding of our nation literally and accurately fulfilled the ancient (600 B.C.) prophecy of Nephi.

#### Divine Direction

What is more, the very discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus was also divinely predicted by this same prophet in *I Nephi* 13:12, "And I looked and beheld a man (Columbus) among the Gentiles, who was separated from the seed of my brethren (American Indians) by the many waters (Atlantic Ocean); and I beheld the Spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man; and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren, who were in the promised land (America)."

Nephi was additionally blessed with a prophetic vision of the rise and prosperity of our nation which he recorded in *I Nephi* 22:7, "... the time cometh that after all the house of Israel have been scattered and confounded, that the Lord God will raise up a mighty nation among the Gentiles, yea, even upon the face of this land..."

Nephi's young brother, Jacob, was also highly blessed with the gift of prophecy. Let us note the word of the Lord to Jacob in *II Nephi* 10:10, 11, 12, "But behold, this land, said God, shall be a land of thine inheritance, and the Gentiles shall be blessed upon the land. And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles, and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles. And I will fortify this land against all other nations."

Finally, our Lord Jesus also, prophetically pronounced His personal blessing upon our nation and people, during His visit to His covenant people on this land, shortly after His resurrection.

#### A Free People

In *II Nephi* 21:4 the Lord declares, "For it is wisdom in the Father that they (Gentiles) should be established in this land, and be set up as a free people by the power of the Father, that these things (Book of Mormon) might come forth from them unto a remnant of your seed (American Indians), that the covenant of the Father may be fulfilled which He hath covenanted with His people, O house of Israel."

Thus, as a nation of people, we have reason to rejoice that we live in a land of liberty, that the Lord God has promised to fortify this land against all other nations, that we have been set up as a free people and become a mighty nation by the wisdom and power of our Heavenly Father.

What is more, if our nation and people submit to the will of God and obey the Gospel of Christ, we will be used instrumentally in the Lord's purposes and designs in the restoration of the House of Israel, and the adoption of the Gentiles.

Thank God for America!



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Ruth and Naomi

Dear Girls and Boys,

Our story this month is taken from the Book of Ruth in the Old Testament. Once there was a man named Elimelech, whose wife was Naomi. They had two sons named Mahlon and Chilion. Their home was in Bethlehem. There was a famine in their land so they moved to Moab. They were not in the new home long until the father died. Naomi was left with her two sons.

In the land of Moab lived two sisters Ruth and Orpah. Naomi's sons fell in love with these sisters and were married. Naomi loved the girls as she would have loved her own daughters. For ten years they were all very happy. But one day all was sad. Naomi's sons died and she wanted to return to their homeland. She heard the famine was over. She and her two daughters-in-law started to the land of Judah.

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

As they came to Bethlehem it was the time of barley harvest. Many in the city remembered Naomi and her family. They saw a great change in her and asked, "Is this Naomi?" She replied, "Call me not Naomi, but Mara," which means, bitter. She had left Bethlehem happy with her husband and sons and now was returning without them.

It was the custom for the poor to gather grain in the fields after the reapers were through. It was the law given by Moses years before this. There was a relative of Naomi's husband named Boaz, who was very rich. Ruth said to Naomi, "Let me go and gather corn in this man's field." Naomi consented. One day as Ruth was gleaning, Boaz saw her. He inquired who this stranger was. He greeted the workers with, "The Lord be with you", and they replied, "The Lord bless thee." Boaz was very attracted to Ruth. He told her to glean in his fields often and gave her permission to drink from the vessels when thirsty. Ruth was pleased and asked, "Why are you so

good to me a stranger?" Boaz replied, "Because I have heard how good you are to Naomi. May the Lord bless thee."

Boaz continued to favor Ruth. She was asked to eat with him. He gave her extra parched corn and told the reapers to let fall more barley than usual so Ruth could have plenty. At the end of the day when Ruth returned home to Naomi and related the events in the fields, Naomi blessed the Lord for His care. Naomi said it was good for Ruth to glean in Boaz's fields. As Boaz watched Ruth day after day, he fell in love with her. Soon they were married and everyone was happy. The happiest day came for Naomi when God sent a baby boy to Ruth and Boaz. The baby was named Obed. Naomi was like a nurse to baby Obed. The neighbors saw how happy she was and said, "There is a son born to Naomi." They all blessed God that he had not left Naomi without a kinsman. Ruth was better to her than seven sons. This is a beautiful love story.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### THE 36th CIRCLE ORGANIZED

The 36th Ladies' Uplift Circle was organized at Levittown, Pennsylvania, on June 5, 1976 at the home of Brother and Sister Bruce Large. The General Circle officers, Sisters from New Jersey, and from Monongahela were in attendance, along with a nice group of Sisters from the Levittown Mission.

The meeting was opened by singing, "Our Church" and Sister Josephine Dell offered a beautiful prayer. Sister Dorothy Gandley was in charge of the devotions. She read about Mary and Martha and this was followed by the reading of several poems and hymns. Sister Mabel spoke about the original organization of the General Circle and the many blessings the Sisters have received since then.

The election of officers was as follows: President, Sister Dorothy Gandley; Vice-President, Sister Darlene Large; Secretary, Sister Adelaine Connors; Indian Miss. Treas., Sister Cheryl Cervone; General Treas., Sister Linda Micale; Teacher, Sister Josephine Dell; Word Giver, Sister Mary Jane Cervone; Librarian, Sister Nancy Speck.

Sister Margaret Johnson offered a special prayer for the new Circle and the meeting was closed by singing, "Shall I Empty Handed Be". It was a wonderful day spent in the fellowship of the Brothers and Sisters.

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#### NOTICE:

The Ladies' Uplift Circle is publishing a new COOK BOOK. Anyone wishing to contribute their favorite recipe please send to Sister Mary Criscuolo before October, 1976. Her address is:

Mary Criscuolo  
46771 Patnick,  
Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48043

## WARREN CIRCLE HOSTS CONFERENCE

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Warren, Ohio, on July 10, 1976. The Circles were represented from Canada, Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington, D. C.

Sister Mabel Bickerton addressed the conference by thanking God for the Circles—through the circles the Sisters could have a part in The Church. She reported that a new circle was organized at Levittown, Pennsylvania.

The Sisters of the Warren Circle sang the hymn "In the Beautiful Garden of Prayer" and the scripture was read from *St. Matthew* 6:5,13.

The business part of the conference began with the roll call of officers. All officers were present but one. The minutes of the last meeting held at Aliquippa, Pennsylvania was read and accepted. The delegates report was read either by letter or by delegate. The delegates reported that money was sent to the Concordance Fund, Africa Fund and layettes were sent to the Indian Reservations, along with the usual donations to the General and Missionary Funds.

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Sister Filomena Rossi, Sister Anna Frammalino, and Brother Al Biro.

The answers to the questions are:

1. Who are alive in Christ from the foundation of the world? *Book of Mormon, Moroni* 8:12
2. Who was it that the light of everlasting life was lit upon the soul? *Book of Mormon, Alma* 19:6
3. To whom will the Lord give the Morning Star? *Bible, Revelation* 2:26,28
4. Who set a mark of red upon their foreheads? *Book of Mormon, Alma* 3:4

Money was donated from the General Circle Fund for Africa and Italy work, and for the *Gospel News* expenses. From the Indian Missionary Circle Fund, money was donated to the General Church Indian Missionary Fund, Mexico and Relief Funds.

A new cook book will be published. The Michigan-Ontario Area Circles are in charge of this project.

All officers were reelected for the coming year. The next General Circle will be held at Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania, on October 2, 1976. A vote of thanks was given to the Warren Circle for their hospitality. At the end of the conference a circle was formed by the Sisters and the song, "Alleluia" was beautifully sung.

Officers for 1976-1977 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.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Vanderbilt Ordinations On Mother's Day

Beginning with Sunday School we can say that we were blessed with the Spirit of God throughout the day. It being Mother's Day the program committee prepared a program with Brother Milford Eutsey's Teenage Class having the main part. Both Mothers, young people, and those present felt a special blessing as each young person stepped forward and expressed what was special to them about their own Mother. The Spirit continued into our morning service as Brother Frank Giovannone opened with prayer and Brother Russell Cadman continued, touching on Mother's Day and remembering the hardships of many Mothers and The Church as our Spiritual Mother. Before going into his text of *Ephesians, Chapter 4*, he remarked on *Ephesians, Chapter 4* how the natural body is fitted together to work perfectly and the Spiritual body in unity of Faith unto a perfect Church. Brother Frank continued likening the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* to the Liahona, giving direction in the wilderness and directing Nephi to the promised land, so the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* will direct us in this life to eternal life.

The afternoon meeting continued with an outpouring of the Spirit. The quartet sang "Kneel At The Cross" and "He Touched Me"; followed by a request for Brother Ken Staley to sing a solo. He sang "I Will Serve Thee" which he dedicated to Brothers Lawrence and James King as they were to be ordained Elders in this meeting. Brother Bittinger made a few remarks and turned the meeting over to Brother Rocco Biscotti. Brother Russell Martorano was asked to open with prayer. Brother Biscotti proceeded choosing the *Thirteenth Chapter of Alma* and directing his speaking to the Brothers that were to be ordained.

Brother Lawrence King's feet were washed by Brother Fred Olexa and Brother James King's feet were washed by Brother Frank Giovannone. Brother James King was ordained by Brother Russell Cadman and Brother Lawrence by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

Sister Edna Bittinger related a dream she had concerning Sister Donna Fleming. In reference to this dream, Brother Charles King, in his testimony said that it was given to him by the Lord that this day Sister Donna would be ordained a Deaconess. The Priesthood felt to call and ordain Sister Donna Fleming a Deaconess. Her feet were washed by Sister Newanna King and she was ordained by Brother Rocco Biscotti. During his prayer he spoke in the gift of tongues which were interpreted by Brother Russell Martorano that "she would be blessed by the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ".

Before closing Brother Milford Eutsey, Sr. remarked how thankful he was that we have a God who answers prayer, as this had been his prayer as he had felt the evening before upon hearing Sister Shazer's dream that Sister Donna would be called and ordained this day.

The Brothers and Sisters were invited to Brother and Sister Eutsey's home where the Sisters had prepared food that we might continue to fellowship and our visitors may rest and refresh themselves.

We also want to say how much we appreciated the

many visitors of which six Branches of the Pa. District and three Branches of the Ohio District were represented. Finally, we want to let you know we missed the presence of Sister Elvia Shazer who is still in Uniontown Hospital where she will be placed in a body cast in about two weeks and will remain about two more weeks at least in the hospital. The body cast is expected to be on for six months or more. Sister Elvia's testimony is that she thanks God she has no pain and can remember very little discomfort. She will still need your prayers for the coming months confined in bed with a body cast.

Humbly submitted by

Sister Shirley Eutsey

## Ordination In Cleveland, Ohio No. 1

May 2, 1976, the presence of the Lord was felt throughout the day. Brother Vince Gibson opened the service using *The Book of Mormon*, for his text. "Prepare for the coming of Zion." Are we prepared? Have we done everything pleasing unto the Lord? Are we humble before God? Brother Vince stated how depressed he becomes at times because he feels he has failed to live up to the expectations of the Lord.

Brother Mario Milano followed on the same theme. He questions himself daily, if what he has done is to the good of the Lord and to keep himself prepared for the coming of Zion.

After a light lunch, we fellowshiped with our visiting Brothers and Sisters from West side and Perry, Ohio. Many friends also visited us this day.

The afternoon service continued on the same theme, "The coming of Zion." Brother Elmer Santilli of Perry, Ohio opened in prayer and Brother Rocco Biscotti called the hymn, "We Are Longing For The Gathering." Brother Rocco read a few verses from *Psalms* 137. He spoke of living righteously, the reality of the Gospel, to be ready for the coming of Zion. Brother Santilli spoke of the establishing of Zion, in God's own due time. Will we be ready to walk the streets of Zion?

After singing the hymn, "Behold Thy Sons and Daughters Lord", Brother Biscotti read the duties of a Deacon. Brother Albert Ventura washed the feet of Brother Tony Calvarese, and then Brother Vince Gibson ordained him.

Sacrament and feet washing were then performed with the Spirit of the Lord continually with us. Sister Angeline Biscotti told how thankful she is for all the Lord has done for her during her recent illness and this next month would bring more medical problems. The Spirit of the Lord at this time spoke to Brother Gibson, "Now is the time for Sister Angeline to be anointed." After a prayer of thanks to the Lord, Brother Gibson anointed Sister Biscotti. It was as if the hand of the Lord touched each of us.

Sister Betty Santilli told of a short dream she had while her youngest son Matthew was ill recently. He is recovering slowly. In her dream she felt the need for Brother Biscotti to anoint Matthew. After a few calls, she finally got Brother Rocco on the phone. She said, "Brother Rocco, will you anoint Matthew?". She then was

awakened. Brother Biscotti anointed Matthew and during his prayer he spoke in the gift of tongues.

Sister Roberta Hufnagle sang a solo, "Sweet Peace, The Gift of God's Love." Brother Mario Milano told of his brother in Italy suffering a stroke and the great progress he is making through the Lord. Brother Milano sang a hymn in Italian dedicating it to his brother. A handkerchief was then anointed to be sent to Italy.

While we sang, "Pass Me Not" Sisters Leda Prentice, Carmella Ventura and Laura Calvarese came forward to be anointed. Sister Leda Prentice spoke of her need for prayers and how much better she is feeling because of the persistent prayers and anointings in her behalf. In my own simple way, I want everyone to know what a wonderful day we spent with the Lord, we pray that everyone could feel the Hand of the Lord and His presence as we did. May God bless you all is our prayer.

Sister Margaret Abbott  
Cleveland, O. Branch No. 1

## Monongahela Branch News

On Friday evening, May 21, a special District meeting was held in Monongahela. Our guests were Mr. Russell Simms, the Executive Director of the Three Rivers American Council of Pittsburgh, and several members of the Council.

Brother James Grazan, Chairman of the American Indian Committee for the General Church, opened the meeting and spoke briefly of the warm and friendly relationship that exists between the Indian Council and The Church of Jesus Christ. This has come through our efforts in becoming involved in a work program at the new Indian Center site at Dorseyville, Pa. Brother Jim introduced Mr. Simms who, in turn, introduced the members of his Council. Russell spoke of the main purpose in having the Indian Center—that is, to offer social services during the day and to maintain cultural activities in the evenings.

Billy Hayes, assistant director, gave a history of the Three Rivers Indian Council from its origin in late 1969 to the present time. He explained the purposes of the Council and the Indian Center and their future expectations. At the present time there are fourteen programs operating with the expressed purpose of helping the urban Native Americans to become self-sustaining and to make the general public aware of their existence in the Pittsburgh area.

The CETA manpower training programs were explained by Anne Hightower. She mentioned that this program, which is spread throughout 22 counties in Pennsylvania, helps in the major economic needs of the Indian community.

Lydia Hale, also involved in the Manpower training program, told how the Lord, through her sincere prayers, directed her to work at the Indian Center. Sister Lydia is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ in the West Elizabeth, Pa. Branch. She felt not to tell The Church of the Pittsburgh Indian Center, but knew if the Lord wanted us to become involved that He would direct us

to them. She testified that she knows her prayers were answered, because this is exactly how our involvement came about.

Mr. Simms reviewed the housing assistance program designed to provide adequate housing for the Native Americans coming into this area. The legal aid program offers assistance to all members of the Indian Community as the need arises. He explained "Indian Law," which is legislation designed specifically to deal with Indian tribes and nations. A cultural library contains materials that reflect an authentic and true picture of the Native American. Books, films, tapes, etc. will assist the community in studying the culture and heritage of the Native American. In the future, a mobile traveling library is expected to bring Indian culture to various parts of Pennsylvania by means of the above mentioned media. A health and dental program will also be in operation. Members of the Indian Community will be involved in preventive health programs.

Russell expressed his thanks for "people power," which helps to turn failure programs into working programs. He explained that many programs do not receive the necessary financial aid to insure the success of that particular program. Thus, the term "failure program." However, with groups, companies, and individuals offering their assistance and man power, the programs are successful. An example was given using our small efforts in supplying people power.

Norman Jacobs spoke of the "American Indian Hour," a radio program carried on station WYEP in Pittsburgh. It is the only program in this section of the country that is written, directed, and produced by Native Americans. Early this spring, the station threatened to take the program off the air. Several Branches of The Church in our District responded with letters to the station management and the program was kept on the air. We were commended by the Indian Council for our response. It is another example of "people power" in action.

Ellen Fisher commented on the cultural enrichment program offered by the Indian Center. Beadwork, costume-making, singing, dancing, and drumming are shared, rather than taught. There is an equal responsibility on the part of everyone in the program in which they try to see eye to eye in all things. This program is open to Indian and non-Indian alike.

Finally, Russell explained the purpose of the Indian Newsletter, to disseminate information to all Native Americans on the national, state, and local levels. He commented on how misinformed most people are about the Indian. There are too many stereotypes that don't present the Indian as a real person. Public awareness is perhaps the greatest area of concern of today's Native American.

An informative question-and-answer period followed the presentation. The meeting was closed with remarks by Brothers Jim Grazan and Fred Olexa. We were reminded of the genuine friendship that has grown between our groups. The love of God has motivated us to this concern of the Native American, whom we know is the Seed of Joseph. People power is an essential factor in The Church, and it calls all of us to become interested and involved in the work that must be done in our day.

Brother Richard Scaglione

## Levittown Mission Baptizes Two

The new but growing Mission at Levittown, Pennsylvania is pleased to have two new members. On April 4 Brother Samuel Dell immersed Jack and Betty Sedore in the nearby Delaware River. They were confirmed the same day, also by Brother Sam.

Jack and Betty were invited to the Mission by Brother Anthony Micale and have attended quite regularly. It is a blessing to see them in Church with their five children, Phil, Joan, Mary, Ira and John.

May God be with them all their lives.

## New Jersey News

On June 20, 1976, the New Brunswick and Metuchen Branches gathered in the New Brunswick Branch. Visiting from Detroit, Michigan was Brother Gorie Ciaravino. He gave a very enlightening talk on the life of Christ from the time he was baptized in Jordan until his death on Calvary. He quoted the 6th Chapter of Isaiah, 2nd verse. He told how we must follow Christ and not allow the Devil to tempt us.

We also had the privilege of a visit from Brother Cleveland Baldwin of Florida. He spoke concerning how the people who attend the Church are usually seeking something they can only find in the fold of Christ. He used the 11th Chapter of Matthew and the 2nd Chapter of Daniel.

Brother Frank Mazzeo followed with an inspiring talk on Jesus before Calvary, and how the Jews doubted him even while he hung on the cross. Brother Frank made reference that we should be dead to the world and always alive in the Lord Jesus Christ.

In our afternoon meeting, Brother Paul D'Amico from Lockport, New York gave us many beautiful dreams and experiences he has had. We had a beautiful meeting filled with love and the spirit of God. Many beautiful testimonies were heard from the Brothers and Sisters, and we all enjoyed a bountiful spirit-filled day.

Sister Rose Bonaduce

## One Busy Month

There are some months in which there is neither enough paper nor space to cover all the events taking place. Last month Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan was honored to have with us many visiting Elders and their families. All of which we were most grateful for.

In one week's time alone we were honored by the presence of Brothers Joe Bologna and Joe Lovalvo. Brother Joe Bologna was guest speaker at our Branch on Wednesday, April 14, 1976. It was to say the least an unexpected pleasure. Brother Bologna in a very short period of time covered many areas of the Bible.

He brought to our attention how Christ performed His first miracle at a wedding, turning water into wine. Again wine was used at the last supper, which closed His work upon this earth. Through examples, Brother Bologna showed us how the happenings within the Bible were very often signs of what was yet to come.

On Sunday, April 18, 1976 Brother Joe Lovalvo was our guest speaker. Brother Lovalvo spoke to us on the life of Christ and His sufferings. Then he took us down the road called Calvary where Christ died for you and me.

Brother Lovalvo seized that moment to give an account of some of the healings and other experiences which had touched his life. He finally concluded his beautiful sermon by asking those who had not yet repented and asked for their baptism, "How are you going to face Him when He calls you?" "What excuse will you have?"

Both of our Brothers gave to everyone present greater knowledge and increased faith in this the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Before closing I would like to relate an experience given by Sister Elvira Maness. Because of the nature of this experience it is important for you to know that Sister Maness is of the Seed of Joseph.

Sister Maness said while she was listening to Brother Joe Lovalvo speak she was taken away in the spirit. She found herself kneeling by a stream. It was given to her that it was the springs of living water.

One after another, as she knelt there, she was filling pails of water. She handed these pails to a person behind her. She did not see who this person was. But it was given to her that these pails of living water were going to her people.

God preserve and bless the American Indian people. May their eyes be opened and may they soon obtain that which God has promised them.

I want also to thank all the visiting Elder Brothers and our numerous other visitors, for making April one very lovely month in the family of Christ.

## Our Bicentennial

On May 23, 1976 we at Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan presented our Bicentennial Concert. It took place at the South Lake High School in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. It started out as a small project that was to be held at our Branch. Once news of the concert was spread about, voices were heard from all the area Branches, saying they would like to attend our concert. So our once little concert had to be transplanted to a larger building.

As the Sunday night concert drew near, all of us were just a little nervous, but God was with us.

The program began with our Presiding Elder, Brother Spencer Everett, introducing the various other Presiding Elders within our District. This was done because of the many new faces we had among us.

A prayer was said and our concert proceeded. The first half of our program was dedicated to spiritual songs, giving honor and praise to God. The finale for the first half was the stirring spiritual, "Onward Christian Soldiers".

Before the second half of our program began, Brother Spencer Everett read to us from the scriptures. He covered briefly some of the prophecies past, present and future, concerning this wondrous land of America. Our flag was then brought upon the stage as all present sang the "Star Spangled Banner".

The second half commenced by singing, "Happy Birthday", to our blessed homeland. Our evening concluded with, "I am thankful to be an American". My husband, as well as the majority of our audience, was very much impressed by this particular song. We then closed with prayer.

The entire program contained 4 solos, 3 duets, a trio, 2 Branch assemblies, our choral presentations and several narrations.

The names of all those responsible for the success of our program could never be listed. Each and everyone associated with the evening's events contributed something in making it the pleasurable experience it was. I, as just one lowly member was honored to be a part of our Bicentennial Concert. I was honored also to work along with all the very wonderful people in our group.

There is one person whose name I would like to mention. In behalf of everyone in our group, I send this note of thanks to Brother Frank Conti, our director, for having patience throughout all those long months. You're the best!

And of course, we want to thank all those who attended our concert. We hope you enjoyed hearing us as much as we enjoyed performing for you.

Most of all, we pray that our voices, united as one, reached and pleased our glorious Father up above.

Sister Diana Thompson

## Mini Conference At Branch No. 2

Branch No. 2 experienced a wonderfully full day recently. We were privileged to have in our meeting several visitors from various parts of this country and Canada. Brother Joseph and Sister Lena Bologna and Brother John and Sister Pauline Dulisse from California, Brother Charles Micale and his family from the Miami, Florida Mission, Brother John Fleming and his family of the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch, Brother Salvatore and Sister Villa Vitello from Sudbury, Canada, Sister Grace Francione of Rochester, New York, and Sisters Karen Milantoni and Inez Caldwell from Arizona were all visiting. Combined with members and friends of Branches No. 2 and No. 4, we truly did experience a "mini conference."

Brother Joseph Bologna chose his text from Matthew, Chapter 28:19-20. Christ was telling his disciples their mission in life and that He would be with them "always even unto the end of the world." The disciples are long gone, but Christ's promise to be with all those who will serve him continues.

Peter, who thrice told of his love for the Lord, eventually denied Him. Persecution became so rampant throughout the lands, that the Lord's teachings were denied again and again until there came a time of total darkness. But God's glory did shine once more when the Gospel was restored by a young man, Joseph Smith. Once more, Christ came to man's rescue. This time is still continuing and Christ's promise of being with man until the end of the world is realized.

Brother Bologna made this more vivid by relating several experiences he had before and after he made his commitment to serve God. His life was spared many times

in his youth and he feels this was because God knew he would eventually join in His Gospel and he would share his testimony with others that they too might know that God is still with us.

Brother Dulisse continued with a unique comparison of the word of God to a hearty meal. We can look at food as being delicious but we really don't know how tasty it is until we partake of the meal. The analogy was drawn to some individuals who view the Church and its teachings as true and agree that it's very appealing; however, that is as far as they go. Others taste, enjoy it, and commit themselves to God's service. These people receive far more enjoyment of this spiritual meal.

Brother Dulisse posed this question to the congregation—"How many of us had denied Christ as Peter did?" Presumably, many did, until they began to examine their lives and see the need for dependence on Christ. Yet, it takes much more than just hearing and listening, but giving of yourself. He admonished the congregation to let their light shine, not only through testimony, but also in the manner we conduct our lives. We must reflect the Lord's teachings so that others about us can readily see a difference—without us even saying a word at times. Brother Dulisse went on to relate several experiences exemplifying just this.

Both of our Brothers surely were inspired to relate so many wonderful experiences God had given them thus far in their service to Him.

Now, if you recall, I stated that we had a full day. It continued with the afternoon service during which the Saints participated in two ordinances which fulfill Christ's commandments. Sacrament was passed by the elders and then we went into the ordinance of feet washing. All members participated in this experience as they showed their humility to each other while kneeling and washing one another's feet as they prayed. A blessing was felt by all, especially in realizing that we are following the example set forth by Christ in *St. John*, 13:4-15.

Afterward, a number of our visiting Brothers and Sisters gave their testimonies of God's goodness to them and requested that we continue to remember them in their respective branches. The children of Branches 2 and 4 concluded our meeting with two selections, "Try a Little Kindness" and "Do You Know My Jesus?". Yes, we indeed had a full day in God's House.

Sister Jan Buffa  
Branch Editor

## Blessings At San Carlos, Arizona

Our little mission has been greatly blessed this past Sunday, June 27, and we would like to share this blessing with our Brothers and Sisters.

Our blessings began as our regular Sunday School was dismissed and that portion was turned over to our visiting young people, Brothers David Majoros of Monongahela, John Mancini and Virgil Link of Red Lake, Paul Holan of Ohio, and Sisters Diane Surdock of San Diego, Carolyn Mortorano of Ohio, and Iva Fedorka of Glassport, Pa. Brother David took charge and asked the young Brothers and Sisters to express their reasons and purpose in coming to San Carlos. As Brother David asked of each, "Why have you come?", God's blessings fell upon all of

us as they expressed their desires and hopes for the future. After this group had expressed themselves, Brother David asked the Gentiles to also answer the question, "Why have you come?". After my husband, Brother Joe Griffith and I spoke, my mother, Sister Sara Vancik, expressed herself. Brother David then asked my father, Brother Paul Vancik, his feelings of now living in San Carlos. The Spirit of God came upon him and with tears streaming down his face he asked to be reinstated in fellowship with the Saints. What a glorious blessing we all felt in welcoming our father, and now Brother in Christ, back to the fold. It was a beautiful sight when the young Brothers joined hands encircling Brother Paul as Brother David prayed for him, restoring him to fellowship in the Church. After sacrament was administered, Brother Virgil Link of Red Lake told of a dream he had that Friday night. In his dream he saw a group of young people gathered across the front of the church building speaking in a tongue foreign to him. His understanding was that they were praising God for a soul coming to Him. What a beautiful way to end our meeting. In closing, Brother Joe Milantoni mentioned that our Sunday School hadn't ended and it was now 12:30 p.m. We then dismissed and we could truly say our cups were overflowing.

The Spirit we felt that morning was carried over to our singspiration scheduled for Sunday evening. We were privileged to still have with us Brother Paul Holan and Sisters Iva Fedorka and Carolyn Mortorano. Everyone participated in singing and praising God.

The highlights of the evening were when our Sister Anita Hopkins sang Hymn No. 11, "An Angel Came Down" in her native Apache tongue and when her son Jerry, with tears streaming sang Hymn No. 361, "I Love Him". The Lord has blessed Jerry much with many dreams and visions. Pray for Jerry that he will soon dedicate his life to the Lord.

We thank Him for a glorious day in His service. Remember our mission in your prayers and our missionaries, Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantoni that God might bless them continually.

God Bless You.

Sister Paulette Griffith

## Ordinations In Cleveland

The Cleveland Branch enjoyed two ordinations on Sunday, June 6, 1976.

Sister Sevilla Gibson was ordained a Deaconess. She was ordained by Brother Rocco Biscotti and her feet were washed by Sister Gladys Brandt.

Sister Nancy Mayhu was also ordained a Deaconess on June 6, 1976. Her feet were washed by Sister Erma Milano and she was ordained by Brother Mario Milano.

## Baptism In New Brunswick

Brother Joe Lovalvo was visiting our area on May 2, 1976. All the Branches had a joint meeting in the afternoon. Brother Joe spoke on the Love of God and Baptism in our Church. He also spoke on the unification of our people. Other Brothers followed him with inspiring words of life.

Sister Anne Sgro called for her baptism and was baptized by Brother Sam Sgro. She was confirmed by Brother Frank Mazzeo.

The love of God was truly felt deeply by all who were there.

### Fort Pierce News

Two ordinations took place in our Branch this month. Brother Robert Collison was ordained a Teacher, and Brother Carl Romano, Sr. a Deacon. During the reading of their duties, tongues were spoken, the interpretation given, and a humble and joyful Spirit prevailed.

We have also enjoyed visitors from several parts of our country, and rejoiced with them. It surely is true, that where the Spirit of God is sincerely desired, its presence is felt.

Many times we feel sadness along with joy, as we share the sorrow of Brother James and Sister Josephine Campagna, as well as Brother Dominic and Sister Marietta Giovannone over the loss of their respective sons.

We are enjoying the fellowship of Brother Sam and Sister Anne Costarella, who have transferred from Youngstown, Ohio, to the Fort Pierce Branch. They have moved into a new home in Lakewood Park.

Remember us in your prayers, for we along with you, are striving to receive that reward, at the end of the road of life.

Branch Editor  
Sister Mary Glover

### Thank You Note

I want to say thank you so much for your prayers, cards and warm expressions of love that you have sent my way. After many months and several illnesses, I can finally say I am improving a little every day.

God Bless You All  
Sister Rose Alessandro

### — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Jason Donald to Joseph and Deborah Castelli of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan,

Joshua Peter to Patrick and Bernadette King of San Fernando Valley, Calif.,

Alice Marie to Harry and Nellie Hopkins of San Carlos, Arizona,

Julie to Roger and Kathy Kirshenphad of Miami, Florida.

### — WEDDINGS —

#### HENDERSON - GOODFELLOW

Brother Larry Henderson and Sister Cindy Lou Goodfellow were united in holy matrimony at the Windsor, Ontario, Canada Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ on Saturday, June 26, 1976.

Brother Ken Wright of Windsor, Ontario officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Brother Eugene, pianist, and Sister Donna Amormino as soloist.

The newlyweds are residing in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

#### PRENTICE - GIBSON

Brother William J. Prentice and Sister Cindy R. Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ were united in holy wedlock on Saturday, May 29, 1976.

Brother Vincent J. Gibson, father of the bride, officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were presented by pianist, Brother Wayne Martorano and solos by Sister Roberta Hufnagle and Brother John Straccia. The newlyweds will make their home in Bratenahl, Ohio.

#### DANIELS - ARNOLD

Mr. Steven Daniels and Miss Donna Jean Arnold were united in marriage on Memorial Day, May 31, 1976 at Cleveland, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother Vincent J. Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio, uncle of the bride, officiated at the ceremony. Musical selections were presented by Patti Gibson.

The newlyweds will reside in Willoughby, Ohio.

#### McDUFFIE - WEINMAN

Mr. William J. McDuffie and Miss Kristin A. Weinman were united in holy wedlock on Saturday, June 19, 1976. They were married in the Roscoe Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ.

Brother John Kendall officiated at the ceremony and musical selections were presented by Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky.

The newlyweds will reside in Eustis, Florida.

### ● OBITUARIES ●

#### BEATRICE BRIGGS

Sister Beatrice Briggs of the New Brunswick, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her heavenly reward on May 29, 1976.

Funeral services were officiated by Brother Sam Sgro. She was baptized on November 28, 1957 by Brother Nathan Peterkin.



# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

September, 1976

Volume 32, No. 9

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

## GMBA CAMPOUT "76"

By JAMES D. GIBSON  
GMBA Editor

The annual GMBA Campout was held in Augusta, Kansas. The site of the camp was approximately 10 or 12 miles from Wichita, Kansas.

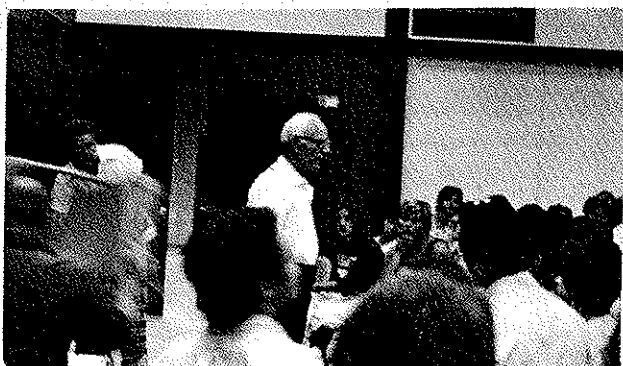
Camp officially opened 1:00 P.M. July 24 and closed 1:00 P.M. Saturday, July 31. When I arrived with the chartered bus at 1:30 P.M. we found many had already arrived. The chartered bus left Aliquippa, Pa., Thursday, July 22, made a six hour tour of Nauvoo, Illinois on Friday and arrived in camp Saturday.

We were greeted as were all campers by the reception committee, others who had arrived previously, and the "heat." It seems the "heat" was to be with us throughout the week.

People were assigned their bunks and began to get settled. The first evening we gathered together for orientation; already many began to be acquainted one with another. Finally the East and West had met at a common meeting place.

On Sunday we held our Sunday Service and partook of the Lord's Supper together. Many inspiring words were spoken by the Elder Brothers to set us in the right frame of mind for the ensuing week.

The regular day's activities were scheduled as follows: Chapel, recreation, seminars and evening meetings.



Brother Rocco Biscotti addresses the seminar group taught by Brothers James Gibson and Dan Tamburrino.



The seminar group held in the dining hall (it was air conditioned), 55 years and older.

The recreation time and seminars were switched early in the week due to the weather condition.

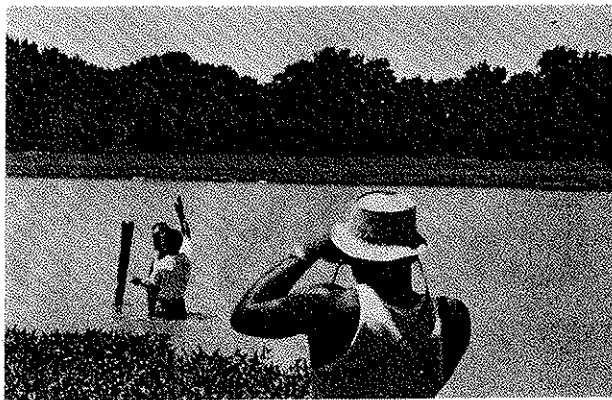
We were also encouraged by our Camp Director, Brother Joe Ross to meet at least two people a day and spend at least 10 minutes with them. This was done as you could see constantly people going up to one another and making new friends.

The seminars proved very fruitful, there was good participation and were well attended. Each day a new theme was presented to each age group. The instructors were provided with ample study material.

We understand that there was well over 500 people



Throughout the week we went to the waters of baptism. Brother Joe Ross is baptizing Sister JoAnn Ali of Glassport, Pennsylvania.



*Brother Dennis Calabrese is baptizing Brother Ronald Dziak of Lorain, Ohio.*

in attendance, therefore the seminar groups and evening meetings were of a large size. The evening meetings were varied with preaching, singing (solos, groups, etc.), testimonies and presentations.

We were not disappointed in baptisms at this camp as we witnessed nine people surrendering their lives to God. Throughout the week God's Spirit penetrated our hearts and caused even these nine to obey the Gospel:

1. Douglas Obradovich, Lake Worth, Florida
2. Ronald Dziak, Lorain, Ohio
3. Jo Ann Ali, Glassport, Pa.
4. Randall Ciccati, San Diego, California
5. James Speck, Fairless Hills, Pa.
6. Mary Kellams, Red Lake, Arizona
7. Brian Smith, Pinetop, Arizona
8. Constance King, Vanderbilt, Pa.
9. Jean Chiaverotti, Sterling Heights, Michigan

We pray God will bless and sustain them throughout life.

We greeted each day with a Chapel Service to set our minds in tune with the day's events. The youngest to the oldest were seen to enjoy themselves.

Softball games were played by all age groups. An All-Star game was played on Thursday. The East All-Stars played against the West All-Stars. The East team defeated the West by a 14 to 13 score.

The heat did not dampen the ballgame efforts and



*Pictured here is six of the nine baptized at camp. Others asked to be baptized at camp, but we decided they should wait until they got home. Pictured are, left to right, Randall Ciccati, Mary Kellams, Jean Chiaverotti, James Speck, Douglas Obradovich, and Brian Smith.*



*In attendance was a nice group from Arizona. The group from the Reservation sang a few selections. They were led by Brother Ron Dyer of San Carlos, Arizona.*

much soda pop was sold throughout the week. Over 4,100 cans were sold during the week spent in camp. The Can-teen did a lively business and it became necessary to extend the hours.

Brother Bruce Large presented the camp with three items that were sold on three evenings; Monday saw us eating "Tacos" (some for the first time), Wednesday was pizza (an old stand-by) and Friday "Nigerian Peanut Butter stew." (Wow)

All money earned by all endeavors was turned over to the GMBA Treasury.

On Friday evening many were already beginning to say Farewell, but with a Hope and Prayer to meet again soon. During the week we had four Apostles in our midst.

Many fond memories are carried from the camp and will remain for many years. We hope to meet again as God permits.

Plan to attend the next campout and enjoy the blessings.



*No campout would be successful without the younger group having their "equal time."*

### — Corrections —

Ordination correction — June Issue: Frank Palacios, Jr., ordained a DEACON, not a TEACHER.

A Thankful Acknowledgement — July Issue: Written by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

## Pennsylvania Evangelists Visit Wakpala, South Dakota and St. John, Kansas

Brothers Dan Casasanta and George Johnson and their wives left Monongahela on the 28th of April.

We arrived in St. John, Kansas on April 30th, after visiting with Sister Lizzie Kendall who resides on the Richard Gabauer Air Force Base.

After a very warm welcome we were taken to Zion Valley where William Bickerton slept on the prairie. We also visited the grave of William Bickerton and The Old Church Building.

We held meetings with the Brothers and Sisters there Saturday evening, and a very good manifestation of God's Spirit was felt.

We left St. John on Monday, May 3 and arrived at Wakpala on the 4th of May. After locating Brother and Sister Demarias, we arranged to meet with them the next day at The Church Building.

Prior to our meeting with them, we visited the towns of McLaughlin and Little Eagle, attempting to locate some people whose names were given to us by Brother Joseph Bittinger. We located one, but had no success. We then returned to Wakpala, and met with Brother and Sister DeMarias and his father who is baptized.

We met with them, and conversed on the status of their membership, which is eight, and their mission. The report will be turned in to the District.

We found that because of the poor condition of their building, they have been meeting in their homes.

After leaving Wakpala, we went to Eagle Butte to visit Brother and Sister LaBlanc. Brother LaBlanc is 73 years old and not well. We had a sacrament meeting with them and blessed their granddaughter whose name is Dyan Lorrie LaBlanc.

We also visited a man who had written to The Church, but he was not interested in our message.

We then proceeded to Omaha, Nebraska, arriving there on May 7th. We met at Sister Dorothy Miller's home Friday evening, and Mary Stone's home on Saturday evening.

Our Sunday service was held at the Community Center with three members in attendance.

We left Omaha Sunday afternoon and stopped at Sister Dorothy Matthews' home in Bedford, Iowa. We met with her and her daughters, Sister Joyce and one who is not baptized, but who expressed her love for The Church.

We left there on May 10th arriving back in Pennsylvania on May 11.

We are grateful and thankful to God for the safe trip we had and for His blessings throughout our journey.

Brother George Johnson

## TESTIMONY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

*By Sister Phyllis Wergin of Wichita, Kansas*

My father and mother, Brother and Sister Rees Jones, were born in England. Dad was born on June 14, 1876, and Mother on December 19, 1878. They had a great desire to come to America. Leaving England in 1906, they settled in Fairmount, West Virginia. There were two families there who were members of The Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Meriman was the Elder at that time, and he held cottage meetings. Mother and Dad were invited to the meetings and enjoyed the services. Later, Brother Meriman found a building which he remodeled; he made some benches and a pulpit. Then we had a building to worship in.

There were just a few members who lived in West Virginia. Our Elders from Pennsylvania, Brothers Bloom and Federer, would visit us from time to time. When they would come, the meetings were turned over to them as long as they were in the district. My folks became quite interested in this Church, and their hearts were touched. They attended the meetings regularly. Mother testified, asked for baptism, and was baptized the following Sunday. The love of God was in her heart. Within a few meetings, Dad asked for his baptism. They both grew spiritually, praise the Lord!

Within a few years, our family moved to Roscoe, Pennsylvania. While there, Brother William Cadman ordained Dad an Elder. Dad remained faithful to his calling and enjoyed meeting with all the Saints. There were two families in Roscoe—Sister Drusella Garlick and Sister Minnie Kennedy. Brother John K. Penn who lived in Dunlevy would meet quite often with us. We would have a wonderful fellowship with the Spirit of God in each heart. At conference time, we all met in a large building just across the road from where we lived. We would have the Saints to meet there from various branches, and what a happy time we would have altogether with one love and one spirit. Very often we would go across the Monongahela River in a fairyflat and would meet with Brother and Sister Federer. He also remodeled an old building for a Church.

As I grew older I began to feel the love of God in my heart, and in one of those meetings, I arose and asked for my baptism. Soon after that, my brother Godfrey was baptized the same Sunday by Brother Penn from Dunlevy, Pa. We enjoyed many wonderful meetings with the Spirit of God felt in the hearts of all. God's love is great. Within a few years we moved to Allenport, Pa., where Brother and Sister Furnier lived. We held meetings then in Roscoe and Allenport. Brothers Penn, Furnier and Dad would preach in turns, and would enjoy the blessings of the Lord altogether. My sister Maudie was baptized by Brother Furnier in Kansas. Also, my husband Edward was baptized by Brother William Cadman here in Kansas. As well as I can remember, the Church sent Dad and the family to the Colony in Aetna, Kansas. How we did enjoy the farm. We met with Brother George Neill, Sr. and enjoyed the fellowship there with the Saints. Later we moved to Wichita, Kansas where Brother and Sister Vernon Chester lived. We held cottage meetings there, and visitors would come to Church. In 1919, we moved out west on a farm. One Saturday afternoon Brother

Charley Sanders, along with Brother Furnier, visited us and told us there was a Church in St. John, Kansas, so we went there to Church for several years and enjoyed many good meetings together with the love of God in each heart. Occasionally Brother Charley Sanders would come down to hold meetings in our home. How we miss the old Saints we used to meet with; but they have been called home to reap their reward. At the present time, Brother Alex Robinson is the Elder there now, and we have enjoyed many good meetings.

Since I have never driven a car before in my life, I generally have to wait until someone will pick me up to go to Church. If not, I generally go on serving the Lord as when my husband was with me. Edward passed away on July 10, 1974. He is missed by all of us; he kept faithful to the Church to the end. May the Lord be with all the Saints throughout the Church. Remember all the Saints here in Kansas in your prayers. We will pray for one and all.

God Bless Everyone,  
Your Sister in Christ,  
Phyllis M. Wergin

## PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Sister Denise Ricco has given her personal testimony of her impressions during her association with The Church of Jesus Christ.

"Like many other people have already said, I think one of my biggest impressions of our Church is the LOVE of the Brothers and Sisters toward one another. Since the first time I came to Church, I was always greeted with a handshake, kiss or some kind word, (sometimes all three). The fact that everyone is always willing to help those who need it. There are many other things that I have seen while going to Church that impressed me greatly. One of them is the visions that God sends to some of His people, but what is really something, is when they come true. The same goes for when someone is blessed with the "gift of tongues", (I think that's what it's called) and interpreting them. It just seems to give me more courage to go on, knowing that God is speaking to us. When I first started coming to Church, I thought that all you had to do was follow the commandments, be a good person, and that was it, as far as doing things to insure your place in heaven. Well, I was wrong. It didn't really sink in that you had to be baptized and repent of all your sins and live righteously from then on to go to heaven, until about one year ago. But still I was worried that I might not be able to give up all of the worldly things I was doing and that I would backslide in my promise. I knew that was worse than not getting baptized at all. But over the past year I wrestled with myself so many times and yesterday I finally gave in and I know that's probably the best thing I ever did.

Now I hope and pray that I will be able to accept the fact that we, the children of God, must give up worldly things and be a light unto the world. For I know that The Church of Jesus Christ is the true Church and I'm so lucky to have gotten into it."

*Editor Comments:* Sister Denise is 15 years old. She and her grandmother now belong to the Church. Please pray for her parents that some day they might be able to see the light.

## MISSIONARIES RETURN



Brothers John Ross and Nephi DeMercurio returned from their three-month missionary visit to Nigeria and Ghana on Sunday, July 25, 1976. They are both fine and in good health.

They had a very successful trip. The Church was established in Ghana by our Brothers.

A thorough report of their trip will be published in the next issue of *The Gospel News*.

## DOES GOD ANSWER PRAYER ?

Sister Christie Johnson of Lorain, Ohio requested prayer for her five year old son Eddie. The cataract in his eye was ready to be removed and surgery was scheduled for June 29, 1976. The boy was anointed on Sunday by the Priesthood for God's protection at the hour of surgery. This being a very painful and delicate procedure, the family was very apprehensive, as were we all. During the anointing, Sister Rose Palacios saw the arm of the Lord encircle the boy. When the surgery was performed, Eddie had no fear, experienced no pain or discomfort before or after. He recovered speedily and was discharged the second day. The physicians, family and friends were all amazed and happy. All praise and glory be to God, the same yesterday, today and forever.

## Note of Thanks

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Just a note of thanks to all of you for your prayers in behalf of my wife, Sister Angeline during her recent surgery. She is recovering fine and we are thankful to God for this.

We have received many cards, phone calls and visits. Truly this is the Love of God that we enjoy in The Church of Jesus Christ.

Thank You and God Bless You  
Brother and Sister Biscotti

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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### Voices Past . . .

## THE END IS NOT YET

By W. H. CADMAN

II Thessalonians, Chapter 2, verses 1-4. — *"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."*

In the foregoing scripture it is evident that the Thessalonian brethren were looking for the return of the Saviour in their day. I might add that it was only a natural thing for them to do, for in the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 1-11 it says: "this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven." In Paul's day then, some got it into their minds that the second advent was about to take place. The mission or purpose of God's Spirit is to lead men into all truths and show them things to come: hence the Apostle was in a position to correct his brethren, and he makes a positive statement that: "that day shall not come except there come a falling away first." According to Paul, an evil condition had to, or would develop before that day would come. All Protestant writers practically agree that Paul had reference to the seat of power that eventually seated itself in the city of Rome. Many centuries have now passed and the condition of which he speaks is here today and Christ has not yet come.

It is easy for us to see how far wrong the Thessalonians were, yet how terrible are the blunders men are making today, and in a day when we as a world boast of our learning. Many men (and apparently wise ones) have set the time of the descension of Christ and of the end of the world. There is no doubt in my mind that such a procedure on the part of professing men is increasing the spirit of infidelity in this world among men. If all men would sincerely repent of their sins and be immersed, or baptized, for the remission of sins as it is plainly taught in the New Testament scriptures, they then would be in a position to be led by the Holy Spirit and would not blunder nor walk in darkness as they are doing today. Just as sure as we live, this old world will come to an end sometime.

God's power knows no bounds, it has no limitations, but the fact remains that He has spoken and His word cannot be broken, neither will it return unto Him void but will accomplish that of which has been spoken. Jesus taught His disciples to pray: "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven," etc. All Bible readers ought to realize that the chosen people of God (Israel) must be gathered back to the lands of their fathers before time comes to an end. *Jeremiah 31:8-9* says, "Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the coasts of the earth and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together; a great company shall return thither. They shall come with weeping and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel and Ephraim is my firstborn."

(Continued on page 6)



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### The Daughter of Jairus

Dear Girls and Boys,

I want to tell you a beautiful story of a girl who was twelve years of age. Her father was the ruler of the synagogue. His name was Jairus. One day he came to Jesus and falling at his feet, he begged Jesus to come to his house. His little daughter was very, very sick. It was thought she was going to die. The parents were heart broken as she was an only child. Jairus knew if Jesus would come and lay His hands on the girl she would be healed.

As Jesus went with Jairus many people followed and crowded about Him. A woman who was in the crowd pushed forward and touched Jesus' garment. She had been ill for twelve years and spent all she had on doctors. She never received help. As she touched Jesus' garment she was healed immediately. Jesus turned around and asked, "Who touched me?" His disciples said, "You see all this multitude thronging about thee and thou sayest, 'Who touched me?'" Jesus knew someone touched Him because He perceived that virtue had gone out of Him. When the woman saw that she could not hide, she came trembling and falling down before Jesus. Jesus said, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole, go in peace." This pause must have been a great test of Jairus' patience and faith.

When Jesus stopped to speak to the woman, messengers came from Jairus' home and said the little girl had died, and there was no need to trouble the Master now. Jesus hearing this, said to Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe." They continued on to the home. As they entered the house they heard great wailing and weeping. Jesus asked why they were making so much noise because the girl was not dead, she was only sleeping. They laughed and made fun of Jesus' remarks. Jesus put them all out of the house with the exception of the girl's parents and Peter, James, and John. They went into the room where the little girl was lying. Jesus took her by the hand and said, "Talitha cumi; (which is being interpreted), Damsel, I say unto thee arise." Immediately she arose and walked. They were all astonished. Jesus told the parents to give her something to eat. Then He said to tell no man of this miracle. But the fame of Jesus went abroad throughout the land.

Jesus went to His own country and His disciples followed Him. When the Sabbath Day came He began to teach in the synagogue. Many who heard Him were astonished. They asked, "From whence hath this man these things and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?"

Sincerely,  
Sister Mabel

### VOICES PAST . . . continued from page 5

In *Jeremiah* 16-16 the prophet says, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks." The prophet *Isaiah* in Chapter 2 verses 4 and 5 says: "And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob (Israel) come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord." Please read *Isaiah* 65th Chapter, especially from verse 17 to the end thereof. The last verse reads thus: "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord." The Kingdom of Jesus Christ shall be triumphant upon this earth before He comes to reign a thousand years with His resurrected ones. The end of this world is not yet, but it is time that all men were turning unto God, for the time may not be far distant when the little stone shall smite the image on the feet and the nations become as the chaff of the summer threshing floor, and the little stone becomes a great mountain and fills the whole earth. In other words, the kingdom of Christ is triumphant, they shall not plant and another eat, and they shall not build and another inhabit, and they shall long enjoy the work of their hands. Yea, well did the Savior say, "Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth." Beware of men who set dates for the world to come to an end. This world will not end before His words as given by the prophets are fulfilled. "Heaven and earth will pass away but my word will not pass away," saith the Saviour.

	<i>Annual Conference</i>	<i>Semi-Annual Conference</i>
District		
Arizona	Redlake Sept. 4, 5	Phoenix Feb. ?
Atlantic Coast	Levittown Aug. 28, 29	Hopelawn Feb. 26, 27
California	San Diego Aug. 20-22	Bell Feb. 18-20
Florida	Ft. Pierce Aug. 21, 22	Lake Worth Feb. 19, 20
Mich.-Ont.	Sterling Hghts. Aug. 25, 26, 27	
Ohio	Niles Aug. 28, 29	Youngstown March 12, 13
Penna.	Aliquippa Aug. 21	Mon City Feb. ?

## OUR WOMEN TODAY —

### Mother-Daughter Banquet Michigan-Ontario Ladies Uplift Circle

On Tuesday evening, May 11, 1976, the Michigan-Ontario Area Ladies Uplift Circle held its second Mother-Daughter Banquet at the Gormet House in St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

A group of 275 ladies, including mothers, daughters, and grandmothers representing the Detroit, Sterling Heights, and Windsor Branches, along with a few of their friends, met for an enjoyable evening.

The dinner prayer was offered by Sister Mary Vitto of Detroit Branch No. 1. After dinner, the ladies spent some time in socializing and getting acquainted, after which Sister Mary Criscuolo, Area President, introduced the area circle officers as follows:

Mary Di Chiera, Vice President  
Mary Coppa, Secretary  
Elizabeth Gerace, Assistant Secretary  
Antoinette Ciaravino, Financial Secretary  
Ilene Coppa, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Gerace and Pierina Di Falco, Auditors  
Mary Vitto, Editor

Seated at the head table were the six circle presidents of the Detroit and Windsor Branches.

One Sister from each local served on the hospitality committee.

Sister Anita Behr led the community singing.

Sister Donna Amormino sang a solo entitled, "Eternal Life".

Sister Virginia Carlini, Program Chairman, introduced a mother and daughter from each local, who spoke on "The Fruits of the Spirit". Sister Carlini also read a short poem entitled, "What Is A Mother". The poem ended with these words, "It takes a mother's endless faith, her confidence and trust to guide us through the pitfalls of selfishness and lust... and that is why in all this world there could not be another".

Pink carnations were presented to the oldest Sister, the mother with the most daughters present, and also to the youngest mother.

Special recognition was given to our Sisters who had been in the Gospel for many years. Sister Rachael Riffin was baptized more than sixty years ago, and Sister Mary Giansante is the last survivor of the first five members to accept the Gospel in the city of Detroit.

Sister Mary Criscuolo read "The Legend of the Carnation", and how it has been used to honor mothers throughout the years. It also tells how mother is a gardener planting the seeds of faith, truth, and love, that develop into the fairest flowers of character, virtue and happiness in the lives of her children.

It was an evening long to be remembered, and enjoyed by all who attended.

\* \* \*

The Michigan-Ontario Area Ladies Uplift Circle met at Detroit Branch No. 2 for our quarterly district conference. A large number of Sisters and Brothers were

present. We were very pleased to see our visiting Brothers and Sisters from California and Pennsylvania.

Brother Reno Bologna led us in prayer, after which we sang "Rejoice, Ye Saints of Latter Days". In her opening remarks, Sister Mary Criscuolo stated how this hymn is a personal testimony to her, and we were reminded of the many times we sang this hymn years ago without piano music and we were very blessed.

The meeting was turned over to Branch No. 2. Sister Alice Romano informed us that she invited Brother and Sister Casasanta to show us movies of their trip to Italy last year.

Brother Dan stated how happy he was to see so many present and also the interest to hear about the work of the Lord. He showed movies of all the Missions and answered our questions. The Elders in Italy are endeavoring to keep up the work of the Lord but are finding it very difficult. The people there are very poor but so warm and kind. They desire to have missionaries from the United States at least every other year if it would be possible.

\* \* \*

A luncheon and meeting was held at my home for the Sisters of the West Elizabeth, Glassport and Monongahela Circles. The afternoon was spent in singing hymns and reading Scripture. We enjoyed having Sister Mary Stone of Omaha, Nebraska with us. She was formerly a member of the West Elizabeth Circle. Sister Elizabeth Davidson, age 104, was able to meet with us and offered a prayer of blessing on our gathering.

Sister Mabel Bickerton

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### Lindsay Church Dedication Set For September 12, 1976

The Saints of Lindsay, California have worked together since the latter part of November, 1975 to reconstruct an old store building which is located on the most used street in Lindsay about one block from the city park. The building is centrally located for everyone—the Saints as well as the townspeople. *The Dedication is set for Sunday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m.* Saturday evening, September 11, the young people of the Lindsay Branch are planning a program. We are all looking forward to seeing everyone who can attend the Dedication.

Our first meeting in our Church was on July 11, 1976 with over 40 in attendance. Brother Leonard Loyalvo, of Modesto, sang "Fill My Cup" and introduced the service stating that "This Church is another candle that has been lit." He stated that The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a Lighthouse. He used the 5th chapter of Ephesians pointing out that we are followers of God and that we are to walk in love. We need to be examples to our children and follow the formula that God laid down for mankind. God offered his own Son for us and Abraham was ready to sacrifice Isaac—following God's command. We must follow the plan of redemption—we cannot give 50% of ourselves to the Lord, we must give our all to Him.

The Lindsay Branch enjoyed the two car loads from Modesto and the visiting neighbors.



## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Happenings In Jacksonville, Florida

Our first meeting, Sunday, March 21, 1976, was a day of blessings as we held our first Church service in Jacksonville in our home. We were honored to have Brother and Sister Eugene Perri, Jr. and Sr., my parents, Brother and Sister Jack Constantine, along with my aunt and uncle, Brother and Sister Raymond Cosetti. We also had the pleasure of having Sister Dora Maynard and her three daughters. They are formerly from Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Many hymns were sung praising the Lord before Sunday School. Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. opened our Sunday School with hymn No. 6, "Longing For The Gathering". Sister Flo Perri had classes for the young children who gave us a blessing when they came forward to tell us what they had learned. Tina Maynard, Jammie and Joseph Hickman sang, "I've Got The Joy Down In MY Heart", and "This Little Light of Mine". Jammie gave the memory verse "There is nothing too hard for God".

Our morning service was opened by Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. He spoke on *St. John, 14th chapter*, "Christ Promiseth the Comforter." Brother Perri also told us of miracles he had witnessed over the years performed in God's name. Brother Raymond Cosetti then spoke on *Mark 16:15*, "Go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." We had wonderful testimonies in which we all shared before taking the Lord's Supper.

Our cup surely runneth over with the blessings of our Lord. We are always so grateful to see our Brothers and Sisters of the Church and we wish to extend an invitation to all, to visit with us when in our area.

We will be meeting for Sunday School, as often as possible, with Sister Dora and her children. Brother Jim Hickman was asked to take charge of our Sunday School, and I will be teaching the young children. Please remember us in your prayers as we have a lot of work ahead of us in Jacksonville.

Once again we have been showered with blessings from the Lord. On March 29 we had services with Brother Richard and Sister Annabell Santilli, who were vacationing in St. Augustine. Brother and Sister Santilli, from Youngstown, Ohio, called the previous Thursday, and asked if we could have Sunday Service here. We were so overjoyed to have the Santilli family in our home.

Brother Santilli opened the service and spoke on the Restoration of the Gospel. This was very uplifting for us as we both are learning about the Church and how it was restored to the Saints. We all shared in testimonies and were told about the dream a Brother in Tampa had, where he saw the Gospel spreading throughout Florida. As it spread, lights came on in several cities, and one of them was Jacksonville. We hope that some day there will be a mission here with God's help. Our Brother and Sister departed after a wonderful day with us. We need your prayers to give us the strength to help spread the Gospel.

Sister Jackie Hickman

### Blessings In Tampa, Florida

On June 20, 1976, which was also Father's Day, we enjoyed a glorious day of worship in our service at our regular meeting place. Brother Duane Lowe opened the service with a good spirit prevailing. Jean Zekoll, the daughter of our recently deceased Sister Rose Shoemaker, asked for her baptism, and we all went to Davis Island to witness her baptism into The Church. Brother Billy Tucker performed the baptism, and upon returning to our place of worship, Sister Jean was confirmed by Brother Lowe. Everyone was overjoyed to see the spirit moving in Tampa, and we hope to grow in the grace of God and also in His Spirit.

The following Sunday, June 27, the Tampa Mission was blessed by the visit of Brothers and Sisters Frank Giovannone, Victor Ciarolla of Warren, Ohio and Ray Bays from Ft. Pierce, Florida. To add to our blessing, Brother and Sister James Velardi, Brother and Sister Joe Constantine and Brother and Sister Rocco Loverro of Cape Coral came with Brother Frank to visit and bless the Tampa Mission. Brother Frank Giovannone opened the service, taking his text from the *Book of Mormon* and encouraged everyone to walk in the straight and narrow way. Brother Velardi followed and also encouraged everyone to follow the footsteps of the Lord.

The Tampa Mission certainly was blessed by our Brothers and Sisters coming so far to be with us and felt the wonderful LOVE for each other that exists in The Church.

Our spirits were dampened somewhat by Brother Joseph Tucker taking ill near the close of our meeting, but thanks be to God, through the anointing and prayers, he is recovered and back home again. After the service we all had a wonderful fellowship together and since this Sunday was Brother Billy Tucker's birthday, we cut and ate a delicious cake. The Tampa Mission has been blessed very much since we started meetings here.

The Tampa Mission meets each Sunday from 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Tampa Federal Savings and Loan buildings fellowship room located at Dale Mabry and Bay Vista directly across from Britton Plaza. If you can't meet with us, remember us in your prayers. May God Bless You ALL... is our prayer ALWAYS.

Brother Bill Tucker

### Windsor Branch Has Two Ordinations

Sunday, May 23, 1976 was a day filled with many blessings. Our day began with the blessing of Jamie Beth, daughter of Brother Allen and Linda Henderson of Michigan. Brother Allen Henderson officiated the blessing of his little great-granddaughter.

Brothers Dominic Moraco, Tony Lovalvo, Gorie Ciaravino, Tullio LaCivita, Tony Scolaro and many visitors were present during our morning service. Brother Dominic Moraco told us how children are spotless before God and how man throughout the ages of time, have chosen darkness rather than light. Man is still the same today. Few realize the light of the world is Jesus. Brother Gorie Ciaravino followed up with "time is only measured by man, not God." The animal kingdom lives by instinct



while man's kingdom lives by reason. Our morning meeting was closed in prayer by Brother Tullio LaCivita.

In the afternoon we were joined by Brothers Paul, Frank and Louis Vitto (all Elders from Michigan) for the joyous occasion of ordinations. Brother Bob Stanek was to be ordained an Elder and Sister Didi Collison a Deaconess.

Before the ordinations, several selections were sung. Sisters Lori Wright and Melissa Matthew sang "Love Was When" and then a trio consisting of Sisters Lori Wright, Arlene Collison and Brenda Jeffs sang "Pass It On" and "I Believe In Miracles".

Brother Tony Lovalvo spoke on David, the chosen man of God. Brother Paul Vitto followed and related how the assurance of God was able to see him through. Brother Allen Henderson then spoke on the foundation of the Church.

Sacrament was served.

Our ordinations took place with Brother Bob Stanek's feet being washed by Brother Tony Scolaro. The ministry was led in prayer by Brother Dominic Moraco before Brother Gorie Ciaravino ordained Brother Bob into the Priesthood as an Elder.

Sister Didi Collison's feet were washed by Sister Anne Wright. Prayer was led by Brother Paul Vitto and then Sister Didi was ordained by Brother Allen Henderson as a Deaconess.

Our meeting was then open for testimony and much thanks was given to God for all His many blessings. The meeting was closed in prayer by Brother Frank Vitto.

All in all, our day was filled with an abundance of blessings given to all by the grace of God. We are thankful for His love given to us for this one special day, and every day of our lives.

God bless you all is our prayer.

Sister Brenda Jeffs  
Windsor, Ontario  
Assistant Editor

## Blessings At Lorain, Ohio

Visitors continue to grace our Branch from near and far. Brother Peter and Sister Candee Genaro, from Fort DeFiance, Arizona were here a few days. It is good to see the same warm smile and effervescent spirit they possess. They were called upon to sing a duet and they chose "Let Us Pray Gladly Pray". How much more meaningful and beautiful are the words penned when they are sung in the Spirit of God, in the house of Jehovah, by the children of the most high God. What a glorious heritage is bestowed upon us. May we be ever mindful, humble, ready and willing to seize every opportunity to let its glow reach those around us. John Wesley exclaimed in his day, "Where is heaven, who can tell it? Where abides the Holy Ghost..."

Let us remember everyone is fighting the battle of life. Their scars, sorrows and pains can be alleviated if we reach out and lead them to the Author of peace. Jesus said, "Peace I give unto you, Not as the world gives." His promise is the same today. Are we willing to use the channels available to us so others can see? Prayer is the

key to heaven; Faith unlocks the door. Praise God this door was unlocked in our area for four souls in a most wonderful way. Brother Ron Dziak at G.M.B.A. campout and Brother John H. Irwin III, his wife, Sister Darlene Irwin, and Sister Denise Ricco. John H. Irwin IV was also blessed and we pray that their lives may be blessed always. It is our sincere desire that their lives may become a beacon light for all to see.

Sister Marie Caldwell  
Lorain Branch Editor

## News From Sterling Heights

On Sunday, July 11, Brother Nick Pietrangelo was our guest speaker. He used as his text, *Luke 15:11-24*; the story of the Prodigal Son. His theme was "It is good for every woman and man to have a conversation with themselves." The Prodigal Son said to himself, "How many hired servants of my father's have bread and I hunger, I will arise and go to my father", the woman with the issue of blood, "If I could only touch the hem of His garment", and by so doing, through faith, she was healed—two examples of conversing with one's self.

Brother Nick stated that Jesus is with us always, money or not. The Lord is saying in the parable, He will welcome us into the fold, regardless of what we have done. He is so happy to see one drink of the Living Waters. It is the Spirit that makes us a new person. God has a lot of patience, He is willing to wait for us to open the door. There is a place of Paradise and a place of Outer Darkness, it is our choice, where will we spend eternity? We know not when the Lord cometh and we must prepare ourselves now, through fervent prayer, repentance and baptism.

Brother Dominic Thomas was our second speaker. He stated that we must be peace loving, we must become involved. We must pray for the rebuilding of Israel and for the New City of Zion. We should each use the potential we have to build the Church. He told of how he had left home in his youth, and how glad he was to go back. Brother Lou Vitto said "Seek the Lord when He may yet be found—don't wait until it is too late. Humble yourself, and pray from the heart, not just with the lips."

Brother Thomas dismissed in prayer.

## Baptism At Sterling Heights, Michigan

Another soul responded to the knocking of the Savior on the door of her heart on Sunday, August 2, 1976. Lillian Harless told Brother Carl Frammolin before the beginning of the service that this was something she had to do. For over a year now, since her son drowned, she has been very depressed. This writer, having lost two sons suddenly, was in a position to relate to her. I had not yet found The Church when the first son was killed by a train, but this set me to seeking. When the second son died, I was in The Church and I had the comfort of our beloved Lord and the Saints to comfort me. Brother Carl advised us that Jean Chiaverotti had accepted the Lord at the Campout. She was baptized by Brother Louis Vitto and confirmed by Brother Paul Whitton. The Sterling Heights Branch marches on. Our new Sister Harless' grandson, Christopher Henry Lack, son of Henry and Lavana Lack, was blessed by Brother Carl.

Brother John Buffa, who had just returned from a vacation in Florida and had visited with the Saints at Fort Pierce, asked that we all unite in prayer for Brother Jim Lovalvo who has been very ill. Brother John spoke to us from the 6th Chapter of Romans and also the 3rd Chapter of Matthew, his theme being baptism. He related how happy it makes a parent when a little child embraces them and declares his love, imagine how happy it makes our Father in Heaven when we go to Him in prayer, confess our sins and tell Him how much we love Him.

Brother Gerace said how happy he was that a new name was written down in Glory. He dismissed our meeting.

We met at Stony Creek at 6:00 P.M. and Sister Harless was baptized by Brother Carl. We returned to the Church and she was confirmed by Brother Louis Vitto, who had just arrived home from the Campout. Brother Lou stressed the point that we must find our place in The Church, we must put ourselves in the hands of the Lord and He will direct us. Brother Pietrangelo dismissed the evening service and we gathered in The Church basement for fellowship and refreshments.

Hazel Zoltek, Editor

### A New Convert At San Diego, California Branch

The San Diego Branch welcomed another member to their fold on Tuesday, June 8. The holy ordinance of baptism was administered to Stacia Jan Lindsey by Brother Paul Liberto and she was confirmed by Brother William DiFranco.

May the Lord shower Sister Lindsey with grace and favor and make her another instrument for good in the San Diego Branch and to others.

### Youngstown, Ohio News

Vacation Bible School was held here the week of June 21-25. It was under the direction of Sister Mary Kay Surrena, assisted by teachers of the various age groups. About 40 attended, who enjoyed a daily Bible lesson, and made crafts relating to the lesson. Their theme this year was "Fishers of Men", lessons written by Sister Mabel Bickerton. We enjoyed their program presented on Sunday, June 27. They recited Bible verses and sang songs relating to *Matt. Chap. 4*, when Jesus said to Peter and Andrew, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men".

Brother Dom Bucci opened the Sunday morning service by reading from *Matt. Chap. 18*, and spoke on the love and humility of a child. "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

The afternoon fellowship service was well spent sharing our testimonies with our visitors, Brother Lou and Sister Libby Pandone, Vero Beach, Florida, and many of the Saints of the Niles, Ohio Branch.

On Sunday, July 11, 1976, we welcomed Brother Sam Dell, and his wife visiting here from Fairless Hills, Pa.

Brother Dell opened the service, and read from *1st Cor. Chap. 3*. He spoke on the Unity of Spirit. "We are laborers together with God, one in mind and spirit. The Spirit disappears when the carnal nature exists". He recalled the teachings of Jesus Christ, and how the truth will set us free.

We enjoyed the presence of many visitors, some had come for the General Ladies Circle Conference, held the previous day in Warren, Ohio. Brother Nick and Sister Pauline Ritz, of Miami, Fla. were here for the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They were married at the General Church Conference on July 4, 1926, by Brother William H. Cadman. Also visiting from Miami were Brother George and Sister Eileen Katsaras. We welcomed back our Presiding Elder, Brother Dom Bucci, who recently had surgery, but thanked God for a quick recovery.

Our afternoon service concluded the day with many humble testimonies of the Saints, followed by partaking of the Lord's Supper.

Sister Betty Gennaro  
Youngstown Editor

### Four New Members Enrolled At Lorain, Ohio Branch

The Lorain Saints have joyfully added four new converts to their fold recently. Ronald P. Dziak was one of a group who were baptized at the G.M.B.A. Campout in Augusta, Kansas.

Brother Ronald was baptized on Tuesday, July 27 by Brother Dennis Calabrese and confirmed by Brother Rocco Biscotti. Five days later on Sunday, August 1, three more candidates entered the waters of baptism at Lorain, Ohio.

Darlene Marie Irwin and John Howard Irwin III were baptized and confirmed by Brother Frank Calabrese.

Denise Ricco was baptized by Brother Frank Calabrese and confirmed by Brother Frank Altomare.

May the Lord bless and sustain these new members and make them useful in the Lorain Branch.

### Blessing And Ordination At Monongahela

On July 18 God's richest blessings once again flowed upon the Saints and friends of the Monongahela Branch. Brother Malcolm Bright and his wife, Rhonda Bright brought their son Christopher John to the Church to be blessed. Christopher John was born on July 6, 1976 and was blessed in the Church by Brother John Griffith. Brother Griffith continued the service by speaking on the blessing of little children. He spoke of how the Elders bless the child and how God's protection is with them throughout their life, and how when they reach the age of accountability they choose to serve God for the remaining days of their life.

The blessings of God continued throughout the afternoon meeting as Brother Bob Nicklow, Jr. was ordained into the office of a Deacon. Brother Bob's feet were washed by his father, Brother Bob Nicklow, Sr. and he was ordained by Brother James Grazan. There were many beautiful testimonies given throughout the service of how

God had protected His people and of all the blessings He bestows upon us.

The Spirit of God was truly felt throughout the entire day, and we thank God for this blessed Spirit that was felt.

## Rochester-Lockport Gathering

The Lockport Branch met on June 13, 1976 in Rochester for their semi-annual gathering. We had community singing. Sang "An Angel Came Down." A special prayer was offered by Brother Paul D'Amico in behalf of all the sick.

A duet was sung by Lydia and Elizabeth D'Amico, "The Heart that was Broken for Me."

Brother Paul chose for his text the 37th Chapter of *Ezekiel* and the 14th Chapter of *Revelation*. The two sticks of Manasseh and Ephraim, they shall become one. John the Divine saw another Angel fly, bringing the Everlasting Gospel. God used Joseph Smith, an unlearned man, to bring forth the Restoration. After the death of the Apostles there was an apostasy. Many men brought Reformation but Joseph Smith brought the Restoration. The *Bible* and *Book of Mormon* are the two records and they shall become one. Joshua said, "Choose ye this day whom you want to serve? As for me and my House we will serve the Lord."

Sang hymn, "When the Angel Moroni." Brother Henry Berardi was the next speaker, emphasizing on the same subject, how God uses the meek to confound the wise.

Brother Perry Simone gave his testimony, how he started the Church in Rochester and Lockport. He spent 45 years in the Church out of 91 years of age and said that we should all love one another.

Sang "The Centennial Hymn." Brother Ansel D'Amico the Presiding Elder was the last speaker, how God used William Bickerton to start the Church. We are waiting for the Choice Seer to come forth with great power to convince both the Lamanites and Gentiles and bring all the Nations unto the Lord. We should stand on the promises of God. Our nation is going to celebrate the Bicentennial of our Country, we should celebrate when we got baptized and took the name of Jesus upon us. May we continue with that full determination to serve God and to stand upon the solid Rock of Salvation. Sang Hymn "God Be With You Until We Meet Again."

Dismissed with prayer by Brother Gus Giansante.

Lunch was served in the basement. Thus ended a wonderful Day in the service of the Lord.

## News From Rochester, New York

On July 11, 1976 we had the joy and pleasure to have Brother and Sister Russell Martorano from Niles, Ohio visiting with us, as per the Evangelist's Schedule.

The meeting was opened by singing "Nearer, My God to Thee", and prayer was offered by Brother Patsy Marinetti. Brother Russell chose for his text *Ephesians, Chapter 4*, exhorting us concerning unity and holiness. We should remember the covenant that we made to God

and serve Him fervently until the end; God should be first in our life; We should study ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed; We are the body of the Church.

We sang "Is Your All on the Altar?", and Brother Ansel D'Amico, the Presiding Elder, then spoke, emphasizing Brother Russell's words. He related how he came to The Church. The Apostle Paul said that you may have many instructors in The Church, but not many fathers like me. We should look at the older Brothers and Sisters who have been pillars in the Church and have kept the faith.

We sang "Standing on the Promises", and the meeting was opened for testimony. We were dismissed with the hymn, "Lead Me Gently Home, Father". Brother John D'Amico offered the closing prayer.

## Aliquippa Holds Vacation Bible School

The Aliquippa Branch's twelfth annual Vacation Bible School was held from June 21 through June 25, 1976. The theme for the lessons was "Jesus Cares"; all the lessons and music were written by Sister Mabel Bickerton. Sister Mary Tamburrino was the director, and Carol Jumper was pianist.

The four classes — Nursery, Primary, Intermediate and Junior — presented a program on Friday, June 25, after which the crafts were viewed and refreshments were served.

## News From New Orleans

Since we have moved to New Orleans, the Lord has blessed us tremendously. When my husband and I moved down here with Brother Ron Genaro and his wife, we were all very unsettled as far as employment. The Lord blessed Brother Ron with a job within one week; and He provided a way for our family to go to California and visit our families. While we were in California, we experienced the most beautiful blessings of God. We were able to give our testimonies to our families and friends. We were there for three weeks and were able to tell someone of this Gospel each day we were there.

The Yucaipa Mission donated their pulpit to our Mission, for which we owe them many thanks. When we arrived home, my husband obtained a job the first day, and I obtained a job within one week. About three weeks after, the Lord provided us with a meeting place at the Livaudais Jr. High School, which we use rent free. I would like to share with you a dream I had the morning before we were to use our new meeting place.

Saturday, June 26, 1976, 5:00 A.M. — I dreamed I was in a large room. I knew it was not a church, nor was it anyone's home. The room was filled with rows of chairs, and each chair was occupied by a person holding the Saints Hymnal and the Country Western Songbook. Our immediate members (which number 8) were standing in front of this group of people in a semi-circle with our arms around each other's waists, and the whole congregation was singing. The Spirit of God was felt very strongly in our midst. As I looked into the congregation, I knew these were all Brothers and Sisters of the Church,

but their faces were all new to me. As I looked upon their faces I said, "This is our Church." I looked at my Sisters in our semi-circle, and we were all crying for the Spirit of God was so great. When I awoke from my dreams, I too was crying.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Sandy Scarna

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

Congratulations are in order to the proud parents for the indicated new members of their families:

Kimberly Dianne to Kathleen and Donald D. King;

John Howard IV to Darlene Marie and John Howard Irwin III;

Christopher John to Malcolm and Rhonda Bright.

## — WEDDINGS —

### FINK - DAVIS

Mr. Boyd E. Fink and Miss Jonalyn A. Davis were united in holy marriage on July 24, 1976 in The Church of Jesus Christ at Roscoe, Pennsylvania Branch.

Brother Idris Martin officiated at the wedding ceremony. Musical selections were rendered by Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky.

May the Lord's blessing be upon the newlyweds as they begin a new journey of life.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### MARGARET EDWARDS

Sister Margaret Edwards passed away from this life on May 17, 1976. She was born April 27, 1890 and was baptized May 5, 1912. She was a member of the Vanderbilt, Pa. Branch.

Brothers Joseph Shazer and Milford Eutsey officiated at the funeral services.

She is survived by four sons, five daughters, 23 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren, one brother and three sisters.

Sister "Maggie" will be greatly missed.

### EDNA HERRINGTON

Sister Edna Herrington, a member of the Vanderbilt, Pa. Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ passed on to her eternal reward on June 20, 1976. She was born August 16, 1903 and was baptized May 21, 1921.

Brother Joseph Shazer conducted the funeral services.

She is survived by one daughter, two stepdaughters, one stepson, two grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.

Her presence will surely be missed.

### JAMES WADE RIGGEN

Mr. James Wade Rigen, a former member and Elder of The Church of Jesus Christ, passed away from this life on May 27, 1976, just nine days after the death of his sister, Gladys Hillen. He was born August 17, 1899 and was baptized in September, 1914.

Surviving him are his widow, four sons, four daughters, one brother and two sisters.

Brothers Gorie Ciaravino and Joseph Shazer officiated at the funeral services.

*Editor's Note:* Sister Birdie Furnier extends thanks to all who expressed condolences to her in the passing of her sister, Gladys Hillen and her brother, James Wade Rigen, only nine days apart.

### EARL M. GOSNEY

Mr. Earl M. Gosney passed away from this life on July 3, 1976. He was born September 10, 1904.

He was a friend of The Church of Jesus Christ and attended services at the Roscoe, Pa. Branch.

Brothers John Kendall and B. J. Martin officiated at the funeral services.

The Brothers and Sisters will miss his presence and friendliness toward the Church.

### FILOMENA JACKMAN

Sister Filomena Jackman passed on to eternity on July 31, 1976. She was born April 18, 1898 and was baptized November 5, 1922. She was a charter member of the Aliquippa, Pa. Branch and also the Aliquippa Local of the Ladies Uplift Circle.

She is survived by her husband, three sons, one daughter, 10 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Brothers Joseph and John Ross officiated at the funeral services.

Her presence will surely be missed.

### JOSEPHINE MARIE TOCCO

Sister Josephine Marie Tocco of Sterling Heights, Michigan passed on to her eternal reward on July 16, 1976. She was born on August 25, 1905 and was baptized in Youngstown, Ohio on November 28, 1920.

She leaves to mourn her loss, four sons, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one sister.

Brothers Louis Vitto and Paul Whitton officiated at the funeral services.

She was a faithful member for almost 56 years.

# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

October, 1976

Volume 32, No. 10

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## THE CHURCH ESTABLISHED IN GHANA

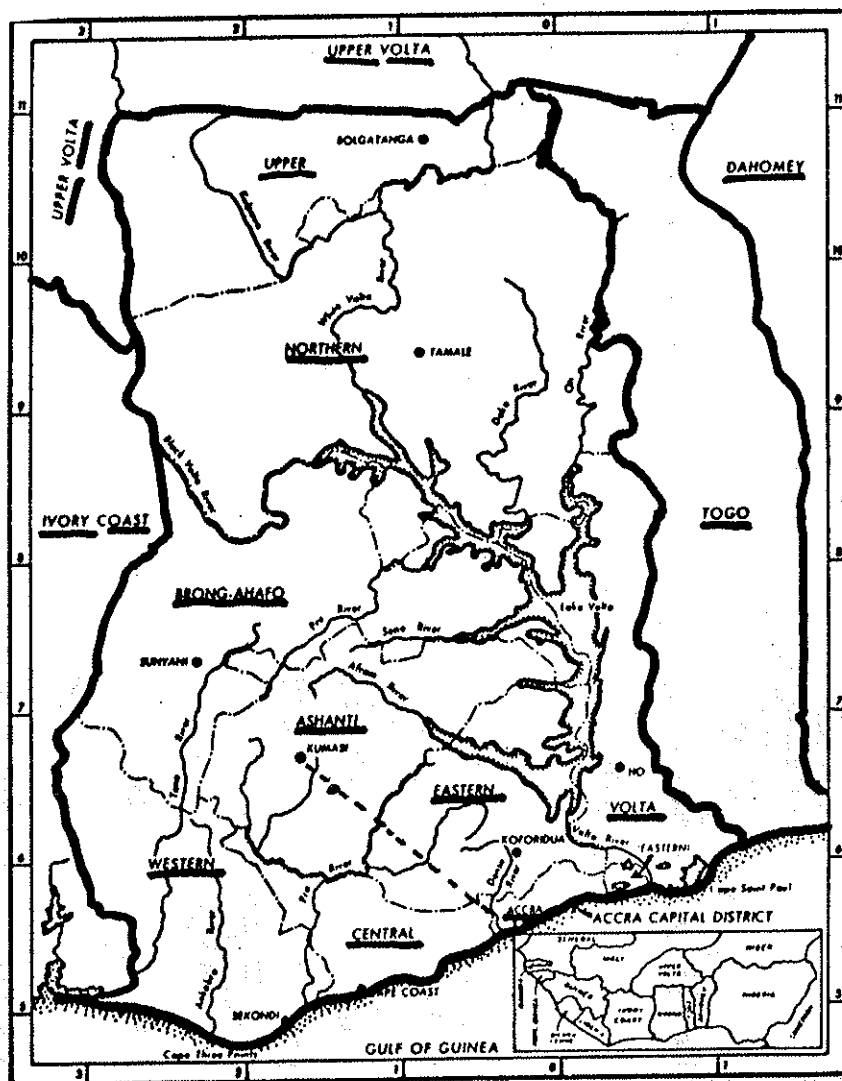
Brothers John Ross and Nephi DeMercurio left their missionary tour in Nigeria and entered Ghana on July 12, 1976. We were met at the Accra Airport by Ford Boadu and his brother and then left by bus for Kumasi, which was a four and one-half hour ride.

We arrived at Kumasi in the evening and obtained a room at the city hotel. In our hotel room that evening, and every day for the entire week we met with Ford Boadu and others who were leaders of his group. We discussed and taught them the Faith and Doctrine, the Book of Mormon and the order of The Church. This group was well learned on many things of our Faith and Doctrine, and the Book of Mormon through correspondence with them for the past two years.

We visited the different places where they had groups or churches and were well received by all including the chiefs of the villages.

After one week of teaching and discussing the things of God and The Church, they accepted everything we taught them. We felt there was nothing to hinder us to accept them into The Church by baptism and to establish The Church of Jesus Christ in Ghana.

On Saturday, July 17, 1976, in our hotel room, in the presence of Ford Boadu and others, we consecrated the articles to be used for the Lord's Supper, Feet Washing, and the Olive Oil for anointing in The Church.



GHANA



The three Deaconesses

On Sunday, July 18, 1976, we baptized nine men and three women and then confirmed them as members of The Church. After this we prepared The Lord's Table and administered The Lord's Supper. Then we observed the ordinance of Feet Washing.

After this we set apart and ordained the following:

Ford Boadu as an Elder

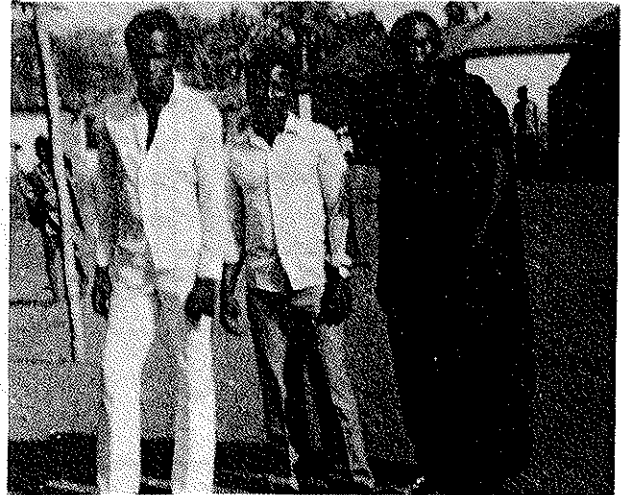
Five Brothers as Teachers

Three Brothers as Deacons

Three Sisters as Deaconesses

The above mentioned Officers of The Church are all young persons, 29 years of age and less with one exception, one of our Deacons is 52 years of age. Others were baptized, and we had Brother Ford Boadu officiate the ordinance of baptism.

During our stay with them we continued to instruct them in all that we could. To the best of our knowledge, we left nothing out. Before we left Ghana we gave them final instructions and cautioned them to work for The Church and God. The future of The Church of Jesus Christ in Ghana now depended on them. If they trusted



The three Deacons

in God and obeyed all that we taught them from the Bible and Book of Mormon, The Church would not fail. To date we have 77 members in Ghana.

Before we departed to the airport we pronounced God's blessings upon the newly established Church and its officers. We prayed that God would strengthen and keep them from all evil.

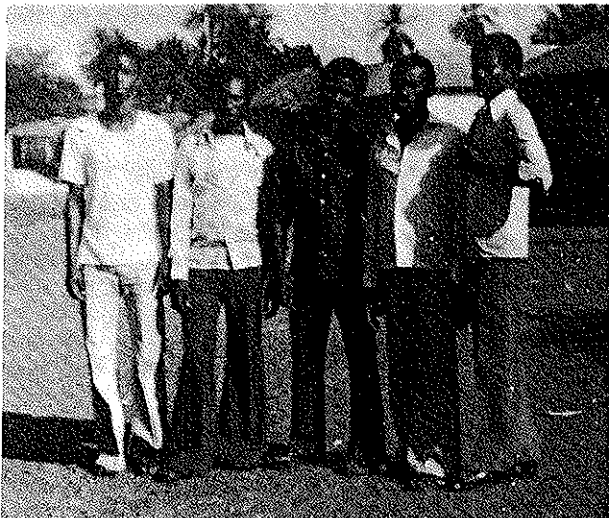
Brother Ford Boadu accompanied us to Accra and we boarded the plane for the U.S.A. on July 25, 1976.

By the grace of God we arrived in New York and then home safe and sound.

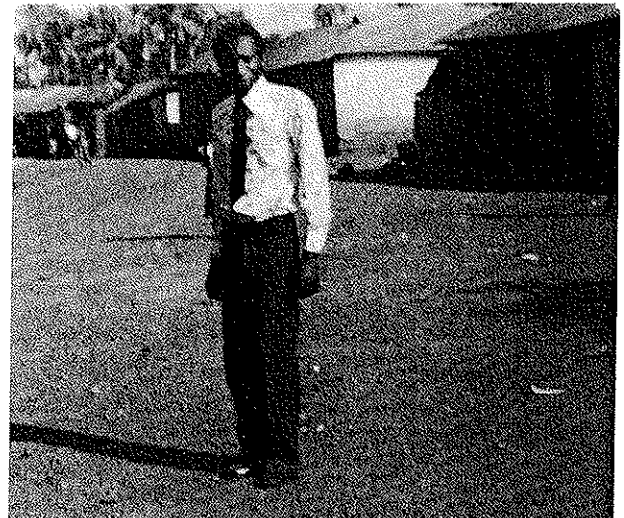
In conclusion our new members seem to be God-fearing people; they love God, the Faith and Doctrine and the Book of Mormon. Our new Church in Ghana needs our prayers as well as our Churches everywhere needs our prayers.

Sincerely,

Brothers John Ross and  
Nephi DeMercurio



The five Teachers



The Elder Ford Boadu

## SPECIAL NOTICE

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Your help is needed.

*The Editor*

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRANCH 20th ANNIVERSARY REUNION

After much preparation and planning our 20th Anniversary Reunion was finally here. The Brothers and Sisters of our Branch had been working hard and waiting a long time for this weekend. People started gathering at the church around 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, June 12, 1976. Some of these Brothers and Sisters had been the same ones who some 20 years ago started this Branch and had built this church building with their own hands, they are what we called the "Charter Member". They were baptized members at the time of the Dedication. Every Charter Member was there except for one and except for those Brothers and Sisters who had gone on to their reward.

The Sisters were at the Branch early that morning preparing the meal for that day. Sister Betty Azzinaro, who was in charge of the meal planning and preparation, had to stand on a chair to stir the huge pot of sauce with a two foot long wooden paddle. We had a wonderful time visiting with the arriving Brothers and Sisters who came from other Branches and Missions. Singing of hymns started in the church auditorium and at 2:00 P.M. our meeting began.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Chuck Curry, welcomed everyone and a brief history of our Branch was read by Sister Alyse Molisani. She told of when the Church was being organized as a Mission by Brother Rocco Meo, and how the members desired to become a Branch and have their own building, as we were at that time meeting in what we called "The Chicken Coop" which had formerly housed the chickens of Brother Alex Cavallaro, Sr., but it became a house of God and we experienced many beautiful blessings. The desire was to build our own building and through the efforts of Brother Bob Watson, Jr. who became our new Presiding Elder after Brother Rocco Meo became ill and had to retire, our dreams and prayers became a reality. Finally, it was dedicated and now 20 years later we had our reunion and anniversary.

Brother John Azzinaro then read off the names of those members who are deceased who were charter mem-

bers of our Branch. He also read off the names of members who are living and are our Charter Members. As he called each name the Brother or Sister would come up front and a ribbon was given to them to be worn the entire weekend to show they were the original members of our Branch. As they received their ribbon they were asked to remain up front so we could see who these Brothers and Sisters were.

Our meeting was then left open to our Charter Member Elders. Brother Bob Watson opened and gave an inspiring talk of his experiences as Presiding Elder in the valley and also his humorous experiences. Brother James Lovalvo, from the Florida Mission followed and talked on his memories of the valley, both sad and happy and that we are The Church whether we are in the East, or West, or even in another country, but when we carry that name we have the same goals and meanings for life.

Brother Louis Parravano, of Modesto, California then spoke of his experiences of years ago, including the times of building the church building and the men and women who gave their time and energy to construct this beautiful Branch.

Brother Joseph Ciarrolla, of Modesto, California talked on how proud he was to say that he was from the Valley Branch and to be a part of the Church of Jesus Christ. Brother Bob Ciarrochi, of Niles, Ohio, then spoke of his experiences in building the church building and what God has done for him and his family in their lives.

Our Presiding Elder, Brother Chuck Curry, then dismissed our meeting by inviting all to stay and enjoy the food that had been prepared for us.

After a delicious meal and visiting with our loved ones we returned to the auditorium for our evening program. Brother Bob Watson, opened our meeting in prayer and then led us in some short songs that we used to sing such as "It's Bubbling", "If A Sister Or Brother's On The Road", and "The M. B. A. Enthusiasm".

The children then gave their portion of the program; it was the "Children of Today from the Children of Yesterday". They then sang "This Little Light Of Mine" and "If You're Saved and You Know It, Say Amen". Their verse was "Our Little Lights Will Shine Very Bright When We Keep Jesus In Our Sights". Sister Sylvia Curry then sang "God's House". Sister Pearl Nester, gave "Flash-Backs" or "Remember When's", things that different Brothers and Sisters had said or done.

Brother Edmund Buccellato along with the help of Sister Josie Genaro took over as interviewers who called up different Brothers and Sisters and asked them to remember different experiences they had or what prompted them to move from the Branch, in some cases to do Missionary work.

The Red Lake Mission had asked to have a portion of the meeting to give a program. So, it was then turned over to them and what a surprise. These young Brothers and Sisters are children of the Saints who established the Valley Mission and for their part of the program they performed one of our Valley Branch business meetings portraying their parents and how they remember them volunteering to do things and how they use to volunteer their children for jobs around the church without their



children's knowledge. All in all it was very well done and brought back a lot of nice memories.

Our meeting was then turned over to our Presiding Elder, Brother Chuck Curry, and he told us that as we were blessed tonight let us pray that God's blessings will be with us as we gather tomorrow for our Sunday Service.

As we gathered together on Sunday we opened with a selection from the Valley choir, "O Glorious Love". Brother Tony, Sister Lucy and Brother Steve De Caro, from San Diego, California sang for us "In The Valley He Restoreth My Soul" and "Blessed Assurance". There was a special request to have the children sing "This Little Light of Mine" and "I Am A Promise". There were a few anointings for those who were afflicted and then the meeting was turned over to Brother Jim Lovalvo who gave an inspiring message. After he finished his sermon a young man sitting in the front row arose and asked for his baptism. His name is Jim Jones whose mother is Sister June Tenijieth (formerly June Jones) who is a Charter Member of the Valley Branch, but now resides on the Whiteriver, Arizona mission. Brother Mark Randy followed and also Brother Bob Watson, who said "I believe we shall see our Saints' children return home one by one". We then closed for lunch so that we could attend to the baptism. After lunch we gathered at the waters edge to see Brother Jim Jones give his life to Christ. Brother Anthony Brutz performed the baptism and we returned to church where Brother Dwayne Jordan confirmed Brother Jim Jones into the Church.

Sister Kay Daniels then sang a song for us. Hands were laid on those who requested strength. We closed our meeting by joining in a large circle holding hands in prayer, thanking God for such a beautiful weekend, one we shall never forget. Brother Sam Molisani closed in prayer. We were all invited over to Brother Edmund and Sister Leana Buccellato's house for a get-together.

We hope that you were able to feel a portion of the spirit we felt during this reunion and feel as we do that we don't want to wait another 20 years before we have another reunion. We hope to be able to do it again soon.

Brother Chuck Curry  
Presiding Elder  
Sister Joy Krasnasky  
Sister Joyce Azzinaro

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3. There are no Stockholders nor Bondholders.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Lucetta Scaglione, Office Manager  
The GOSPEL NEWS

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## Muncey Trip

On Sunday, June 27, 1976 a rather large group of Detroit area members and non-members traveled to Muncey, Ontario, Canada. We were there to strengthen and encourage our Muncey Mission. However, as it turns out at least in my case, I walked away fully blessed and wondering if I had given as much as I had received.

At the time I was unaware that I was the only editor present and should be taking notes. Because of this fact, I have no notes but only beautiful memories. I will now take advantage of this situation, by sending just personal thoughts and observations your way.

It had been quite a few years since I had visited the Muncey Reservation. As a child, I remember traveling with my parents, Brother Concetto and Sister Rose Alessandro, to the Sarnia and Muncey areas. At the time, it seemed almost like we were going on a vacation, visiting those we loved but for some reason didn't see too often.

Now returning as an adult, I wondered, "How would it be going back after so many years between visits".

The day was beautiful, sunny and bright. We held our meeting in a school not far from our little Muncey, Indian Mission Building. We were all quite pleased to have such a fine turnout.

Several of our Elders spoke to us on the subject of the rich man who wanted salvation but couldn't give up his wealth to receive it. It amazed me how many different thoughts and concepts could come from just one small piece of scripture.

Before the meeting and in between each speaker there were hymns sung by Branches number 1 and 3, and also by all those who attended the Muncey Mission. I could feel the spirit present and a glow inside, as near the end of the meeting, the Elder Brothers asked those who were a part of the Muncey Reserve to sing for us. Their voices joining as one touched my heart, and with surety reached God's heavenly throne.

After the meeting, there was time for remembering old friends I hadn't seen for some time. I spoke to as many as I could telling them who I was. Smiles came to their faces along with warm hugs and affectionate kisses.

Then I remembered, this is The Church of Jesus Christ where even years cannot erase the love of God from our hearts.

To me our meeting was a success. I feel that all present walked away just a little strengthened, with many blessings both great and small.

The efforts put forth by our President, Brother Dominic Thomas, and our various other Church Committees certainly did not go unrewarded. We give thanks first to our God, and then to our Elder Brothers for a day truly well spent.

Sister Diana Thompson  
Detroit, Michigan

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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### A NEW ECHO FROM A NEW MISSION FIELD

The recent missionary journey by Brothers John Ross and Nephi DeMercurio to Africa proved successful and rewarding. They were richly blessed during their travels throughout Nigeria, visiting the various Branches and Missions. Their presence brought cheer, encouragement and revival to the Nigerian Saints, and they happily administered the holy ordinance of baptism to a goodly number of new converts.

They were joined in Lagos by Brother V. James Lovalvo as they prepared to leave for Ghana. Regrettably, Brother Lovalvo was taken ill shortly after his arrival and was unable to accompany them on their tour of duty in Ghana, but instead, returned to his home in America.

Brothers Ross and DeMercurio were cordially received and welcomed by Mr. Ford Boadu and others on arrival in Ghana. After several meetings with them during which they were enlightened and tutored in the Faith and Doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ, Brother Boadu and a number of others were baptized by Brothers Ross and DeMercurio.

### THE CHURCH ESTABLISHED

Shortly before returning home our missionary Brothers ordained Brother Boadu as an Elder, five Brothers as Teachers, three Brothers as Deacons and three Sisters as Deaconesses. Thus, the Church is now organized and established in Ghana, a member of the African family of nations.

Ghana was formerly a British colony lying on the west coast of Africa and known as the Gold Coast. On May 6, 1957 the Gold Coast along with British Togoland (which had been combined with it in 1956) became an independent state within the British Commonwealth and changed its name to Ghana; on July 1, 1960 it became the Republic of Ghana, with Accra as the capital.

### GOD HATH DETERMINED THE TIMES

We are reminded here of the Apostle Paul's notable declaration as he stood on Mars' hill and addressed the Athenians, "...him declare I unto you. God that made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, the bounds of their habitation; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, though he be not far from everyone of us." (*Acts 17:23, 24, 26, 27*)

The words of the prophet Nephi are also stirring, "For behold, my beloved brethren, I say unto you that the Lord God worketh not in darkness. He doeth not anything save it be for the benefit of the world; for he loveth the world, even that he layeth down his own life that he may draw all men unto him... Hath he commanded any that they should not partake of his salvation? Behold I say unto you, Nay; but he hath given it free for all men; and he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men to repentance. (*II Nephi 26: 23, 24, 27*)

We pray that the Lord will prosper the Church in Ghana as well as everywhere. May good news continue to echo from the mission fields, both far and near.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Two Mothers

Dear Girls and Boys,

This is a story of true mother love. It took place during the early reign of King Solomon.

There were two women who lived in the same house. Each had given birth to a baby boy. During the night one of the babies died. One of the mothers rushed to King Solomon and said, "O my Lord, I and this woman dwell in one house and I gave birth to a son. But the third day after my son was born she had a son also. There was no stranger with us, just the two of us together. During the night her baby died because she overlaid it. At midnight she arose and took my baby from beside me while I slept and laid her dead child in my bosom and took mine. When I arose in the morning to feed my baby, it was not mine but her dead son."

The other woman interrupted her and said, "No, the living is my son and the dead son is hers."

Just a short time before this incident, Solomon had asked God for an understanding heart to judge the people that he could discern between good and bad. The Lord's answer was, "Lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart so that there is none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee."

Solomon said, "Bring me a sword." A sword was brought to him and he said, "Divide the living child in two and give half to the one mother and half to the other." When the real mother heard this, she cried out, "O my lord, give her the living child and in no wise slay it." The other woman said, "Let it be neither mine nor thine but divide it." Now the wise king knew which was the real mother. He said, "Give her the living child and in no wise slay it. She is the real mother." Can you picture how happy the real mother was as she held her baby in her arms again?

The fame of this wise king spread throughout the kingdom. All Israel heard how Solomon had judged these two mothers and they feared him. For they saw the wisdom of God in him.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel



### Children Blessed

August 1, 1976 was a day set apart where two children were blessed into The Church of Jesus Christ. Mary Evalyne Locke was blessed by Brother V. J. Lovalvo, and Corbin Samuel Locke was blessed by Brother Charles Smith. The children were five and four years old.

## District Conferences . . .

### OHIO DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Ohio District held its semi-annual conference in Niles, Ohio on Saturday, August 28. There was a good representation of Elders and Teachers in attendance and the business portion of the meeting was conducted in an orderly manner.

At the conclusion of the business, there was a brief discussion on fasting and prayer. As we were singing, "Let Us Pray Gladly Pray", Brian Martorano rose to his feet and requested to be baptized. Our meeting was closed and we went to the waters of baptism to witness Brian being baptized by his father, Brother Russell. We then returned to the church building for the confirmation. Brother Brian testified that he had been fasting and praying that day that the Lord would call him into the Church. We thank God for the wonderful feeling that prevailed throughout our meeting.

The Sunday service which was held in the Youngstown church building was well attended. The Youngstown quartet sang the opening hymns after which Brother Joe Calabrese offered prayer. Brother Joe Bittinger who is presently assigned to the Ohio District was the opening speaker. He used for his text a few verses found in II Chronicles, Chapter 7 but he especially dwelt on the 14th verse which reads, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; . . ."

This was a part of God's reply to a prayer offered by Solomon on behalf of Israel, God's chosen people in that day. The people of Israel, due to their disobedience fell from God's favor and He then turned to the Gentiles. "Today", Brother Bittinger stated, "we represent spiritual Israel by adoption and the promises that God made to Solomon and his people also will apply to us inasmuch as we follow His commandments. He called to our attention all the destructions that are occurring presently, earthquakes, famines, etc. These exist because of very little recognition of God. He also emphasized the power of prayer. Prayer can change the mind of God. There is no power on earth that can silence our right to pray. We can pray anywhere — in prison, exile, at work, etc. Nothing can stand between us and God."

His concluding remarks were that the Church has not yet reached its zenith. There is a great future awaiting us. We sang, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations".

Brother Paul D'Amico addressed us next and he continued on the same theme. He noted that God did not leave Israel, they left Him. They did not live up to the standard of God. He has forgotten them for a while and is now working with the Gentile people. We are looking for another restoration — that of Israel. We will reap the blessings of God with Israel when they are restored.

Brother Paul concluded his brief talk by giving some words of encouragement to the youth. "If you put God first, He will see you through, no matter what may come your way and you will come out on top."

We sang, "Redeemer of Israel" after which Brother Joe Calabrese spoke. He took us back to the Biblical days in the Old Testament wherein the Patriarchs of old pro-

nounced a blessing upon their children. He saw no reason why we cannot be blessed today as well. He recalled Brother Bickerton's dream about the Highway and the beautiful flowers on either side. Underneath them, we know, there was quicksand which swallowed up those who wandered off the road. Brother Joe also gave us some spiritual highlights of his trip to Arizona following campout.

Brother Phil Jackson was our concluding speaker. He read a few verses found in the Epistle of Peter where it reads: "Ye are a chosen People..." He tied this scripture in with the verse Brother Bittinger used as his text, and the emphasis of his talk was also on prayer, which theme appeared to pervade our conference. Brother Phil asked the questions, "How do we Pray? Do we pray with a broken heart? Are we the people of God? These are all questions on which we can all dwell and answer ourselves."

Brother Biscotti made a few closing remarks and we sang, "America the Beautiful." Brother A. A. Corrado offered the closing prayer.

## PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania District held its Semi-Annual Conference at the Aliquippa Branch on Saturday, August 21, 1976.

A representation of 28 Elders and 11 Teachers were present. Among these were our General Church President, Brother Dominic Thomas and Brother Nick Pietrangelo, Apostle, appointed to the Pennsylvania District by The General Church.

With Brother John Manes, District President and his counselors, Brother James Grazan and Russell Cadman, the business of the District was discussed and acted upon.

Prior to the business, Brother Nick spoke concerning the Elders' and Teachers' responsibilities in The Church, that we all should work in harmony and be united in the efforts of feeding the flock. He also encouraged all to visit other Branches of The Church.

Our Sunday Service was held at The General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, with all the Pennsylvania District Branches in attendance.

Brother Nick opened the service. He spoke concerning the 18th Chapter of Jeremiah. He said we need to become as potter's clay, so the Lord can use us. Brother Nick used many examples and quoted several portions of scripture to encourage us so that we would become involved with the work of The Church.

Brother Dominic Thomas followed and commented on the involvement of The Pennsylvania District in the General Church functions and activities. He reminded us also to "Move in step with God and To Make Good Use of Our Time." Also that everyone should strive to perfect themselves. God will not work with an unrighteous person.

Brother Joseph Shazer of Vanderbilt expressed his thanks to all of the Brothers and Sisters for their prayers in behalf of his wife.

Brother James Grazan made the closing remarks concerning the work among The American Indian and also recognized our visitors from India that were in attendance with Brother Lou DiAngelo from Washington, D.C.

Before offering the benediction, Brother Richard Lawson felt moved to read the following poem, in harmony with the theme of the spoken word by Brothers Pietrangelo and Thomas:

*The Son of man....gave....to every man his work.*  
Mark 13:34

### WHERE SHALL I WORK?

"Father, where shall I work today?"  
And my love flowed warm and free,  
Then He pointed me out a tiny spot  
And said, "Tend that for me."

I answered quickly, "O no, not there;  
Why no one would ever see  
No matter how well my work was done,  
Not that little place for me."

And the word He spoke, it was not stern,  
He answered me tenderly,  
"Ah, little one, search that heart of thine:  
Art thou working for them or Me?"

"Nazareth was a little place,  
And so was Galilee."

—Anon.

It was a weekend well spent in the service of the Lord.

Pennsylvania District Editor  
Brother Bob Nicklow

## Ft. Pierce District Conference News

On August 22, 1976 the Ft. Pierce District meeting in Port St. Lucie had the good fortune of seeing as well as hearing Brother Anthony Corrado of Youngstown, Ohio. Our meeting was opened by the singing of songs by the various groups from Miami, Lake Worth, and Ft. Pierce. Brother V. J. Lovalvo sang a request by Sister Wilda Collison who is still in the Miami hospital after open heart surgery. The song "How Many Times".

Brother Corrado opened the meeting by speaking on the *Second Chapter of Acts*. There was a spirit of calling of baptism over our meeting.

Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. continued speaking of righteousness of Jesus Christ. Stating if you need help of God seek the Elders but the healing of the soul is the most important thing.

Before lunch we all went to the river for the baptisms. Both from the Tampa Mission. Sister Ruth Tucker was baptized by Brother V. J. Lovalvo and Sister Sandy Renee Lowe was baptized by her father Brother Duane Lowe.

The afternoon session began with Brother William Tucker telling how happy he was his wife was baptized. Sister Ruth was confirmed by Brother Anthony Corrado and Sister Sandy Lowe was confirmed by Brother Alvin Swanson.

It was mentioned Brother Frank Sirangelo had his 50th spiritual birthday.

Winding our way home we were tired but so happy to say we were well fed naturally as well as spiritually.

Sister Louise Micale  
Branch Editor

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### News From The Six Nations Reservation

What joy and happiness fills our souls when we sing this beautiful hymn, "Shall we gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful the river, that flows by the throne of God".

Yes, the Saints of Six Nations did gather together at the beautiful Grand River (Six Nations Res.) on Easter Sunday, April 18, 1976. We witnessed the baptism of our young Sister Dorothy Lynn Van-Avery. She was baptized by Brother Jerry Benyola and confirmed by Brother Kenneth Wright.

The following month, on May 30, 1976, Brother Kenneth Wright opened the Sunday service with the 17th chapter of the 3rd Nephi. It was a marvelous and touching scene, as Christ visited this land of America after His crucifixion. How beautiful it was when Christ showed His love and compassion upon the Nephites. He told them, because of their exceeding faith, to bring the sick, the afflicted, the lame, the blind, the dumb and He would heal them.

The multitude came forth and bowed before Him. They worshipped Him, kissed His feet and did bathe His feet with their tears.

They brought their little children and set them upon the ground. Jesus stood in the midst of them. He took them one by one and blessed them, praying unto the Father in their behalf. Such great love the Savior bestowed upon the little children. And when He had done this He wept.

The multitude cast their eyes towards heaven and saw the heavens open and they saw angels descending out of heaven as it were in the midst of fire and they came down and encircled these little ones about and they were encircled about with fire and the angels did minister unto them. The multitude did hear and bear record.

How could we not help to shed tears of joy and feel His Holy Spirit burn within us as we visualize this glorious event. Brother Kenneth Wright instilled within our hearts the great love and compassion our Master displayed unto all mankind. Most of all it was instilled within us how Christ had made the Supreme sacrifice so that all men may have everlasting life.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo followed on the very same chapter, expressing many wonderful words. He told also of how he loved this beautiful chapter and what great meaning it held for him personally.

The meeting was turned over to testimony. Many wonderful testimonies were given and the spirit of God prevailed in our midst.

As Wanda Staats bore her testimony, she called for her baptism. She was baptized by Brother Ken Wright and confirmed by Brother Anthony Lovalvo.

Sister Anne Hill bore a beautiful testimony also and she asked to be reinstated back into the fold again.

Brother Anthony Lovalvo prayed for a very sick baby with a very high temperature and before the meeting was finished the baby no longer had a fever. Praise God for His wonderful power of healing.

We can truly say we were blessed to the utmost. The love of God did prevail in our midst and we went home rejoicing and speaking how great and glorious the Lord is. What more can we ask? For we know His blessings are great and we can truly sing "How Great Thou Art, How Great Thou Art".

Sister Mary Dichiera

### News From The New Orleans Mission

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters in Christ. We the Saints of the New Orleans Mission wish to express our love and appreciation to you for your prayers. God has blessed us greatly in the short time we have been here, and we would like to share with you some of the many blessings we have received.

On Sunday, June 20, 1976, we experienced our last Sunday meeting in the home of George and Sister Marlea Frentzos. Our group has increased in number to the point that it was becoming very difficult to meet in the home, but the Lord answered our prayers by providing for us a beautiful school building to meet in. So on this special Sunday, which was also Father's Day, we really had a lot to be thankful for.

Sister Marlea's husband, George, had a dream approximately two years ago, showing him that one day we would have so many people meeting in his home that we would have to look for a building to meet in. Since there were only three members at the time of that dream, it was hard for us to imagine. But, that dream was fulfilled this particular Sunday, as there were close to 20 people in attendance, counting children and visitors.

Our Elder, Brother Ron Genaro, gave a spirit-filled sermon on the attributes needed to be a spiritual father, showing in particular how our Heavenly Father is the greatest example of all. Sister Cathy Genaro's father and mother were visiting, along with Sister Gail Wortman's father and sister. During the testimony meeting, Sister Gail's sister, Phyllis, who was visiting with us for the first time, stood up and bore her testimony to the honor and glory of God. Truly we can praise God that His Spirit dwells with us and can be felt by all!

Our mid-week meetings have been on Tuesday nights, and on Tuesday, June 29th, we were privileged to have our visiting Brothers from Ohio — Brother Jon Genaro of Niles and Brother Phillip Jackson of Kinsman. Brother Phil opened the meeting with a beautiful exhortation on being obedient to the Spirit of God and adhering to God's answers to our prayers. Brother Jon Genaro followed on the same theme of obedience to the Lord. We followed with testimony and anointings. Sister Cathy Genaro testified that after being anointed, her pain had left her, and Brother Joseph Scarna praised God because he offered a silent prayer that Sister Cathy would be able to testify that she was healed.

After the meeting, all the Saints wept, and the Spirit of God was so great, that even Sheree Scarna, age 7, cried and said she felt the Spirit of God.

The first two weeks of July we had the privilege of having Brother Joe and Sister Carmel Genaro and their daughter Ruth visiting with us from Niles, Ohio. Our mission was blessed greatly by Brother Joe's preaching and by the testimonies of the whole family. Surely we

miss all of our visitors, but the knowledge that they are praying for us is a great source of comfort and strength. We invite all of our Brothers and Sisters to come to New Orleans and visit us, and we ask for your continued prayers.

Sister Cathy Genaro

## News From New Orleans

On Saturday, July 31, 1976, we the Saints of New Orleans were privileged to welcome Brother Duane Lowe and his family from Tampa, Florida. They were returning from GMBA Campout and were able to share a portion of the spirit that was prevalent in Kansas. We also felt greatly blessed by the humble spirit that this family possesses, and we were sorry to see them part so soon.

The next day was filled with great blessings also as we began our first Sunday School classes. This was a whole new experience for the youngsters in particular; it was uplifting for all. The only complaint that was made by the children was that Sunday School classes were too short! Praise God!

The blessings of Sunday School were carried over into our service, beginning with the blessing of Michael and Gina Peebles, ages 6 and 5. They are the children of Dave and Lucy Peebles who have just moved to New Orleans from California. The blessings of God increased throughout the meeting until we felt that we could hardly contain ourselves. That evening we were able to fellowship with more visitors from Campout, Brother Russ Martorano and family and Brother Paul Holan, all from Niles, Ohio. All of the Saints met in the home of Brother Ron and Sister Cathy Genaro, and such a spirit prevailed as we spoke with our visiting Brothers and Sisters that our natural gathering turned into a spiritual prayer meeting. We feasted on that spiritual food until we were truly full.

We continue to solicit your prayers in our behalf that we may continue to grow in love and unity as well as in number.

God Bless You,  
The Brothers and Sisters  
of New Orleans

## News From Washington, D. C.

The Washington, D.C. Mission continues to enjoy many blessings. The Lord has seen fit to answer our prayers and allow us to find a building that we can call our own. We have also had more sheep come into the fold. But, let me start at the beginning to show you how the Lord has worked with us these past few months.

On May 9th, our Brother Nathan Peterkin, his wife, Sister Carmella and Sister Katey Searcy visited our mission. Brother Nathan's sermon was entitled "Being Determined". He began by reading from *Romans*, Chapter 8.

He went on to say that there are seven steps in this life that lead to the Paradise of God. The first step is believing in God and in Jesus Christ; the second is repentance — denying self and accepting our Saviour. The third step is to love and serve Him all the days of our lives. The fourth step — baptism. Five, the laying on of

hands for the Holy Spirit; six, endurance; and seven, we walk into the Spirit of God.

Brother George Timms reiterated Brother Nathan's sermon and stirred our hearts when he asked the question, "How can we sufficiently praise God for the mercy and compassion He has brought to the children of men?" After sacrament and testimony, we closed our meeting, but something seemed to hold us in that hot room in the basement of the YMCA. It was the Lord. Tammy Carr, Lynn Swanger, Cindy Smith and Sister Sylvia Smith asked for their baptisms. They were all baptized and confirmed by our Elder, Brother George Timms. How beautiful a Mother's Day present for these mothers — to see their children accept Christ as their personal Saviour.

Both Brother George and Brother Nathan were filled with the spirit that Sunday and both were told that baptisms would be requested. During Brother Nathan's sermon, the spirit came upon Brother George telling him that someone would ask for their baptism today. During Brother Nathan's sermon his (Brother George's) prayer was, "Let it be, let it be."

On May 31st, we were visited by Brother Jim Curry and his wife, Sister Dorothy; also, Brother Harry Robinson of the Clairton Branch, and Brother Alfred Nolfi and Brother David Nolfi of Glassport. Brother Jim Curry chose his text from *Romans*, Chapter 8. He related to us some observances about the Levitical priests; that they had to be the most perfect specimens. Brother Jim mentioned how complicated things were then compared to how simple they are now. When the members of the Priesthood of The Church of Jesus Christ today become as spiritually perfect as the priests of Levi were physically perfect, then we can offer an offering unto the Lord in righteousness. We are told in the Bible to 'be ye perfect even as your father which is in heaven'. The Church is spearheading a drive back to the Garden of Eden, a condition of peace and contentment.

Brother Harry Robinson then spoke, reminding us that this Church has a responsibility to endeavor to restore the joy, love and peace that was in the Garden of Eden. We went away that day, all feeling filled with the Spirit.

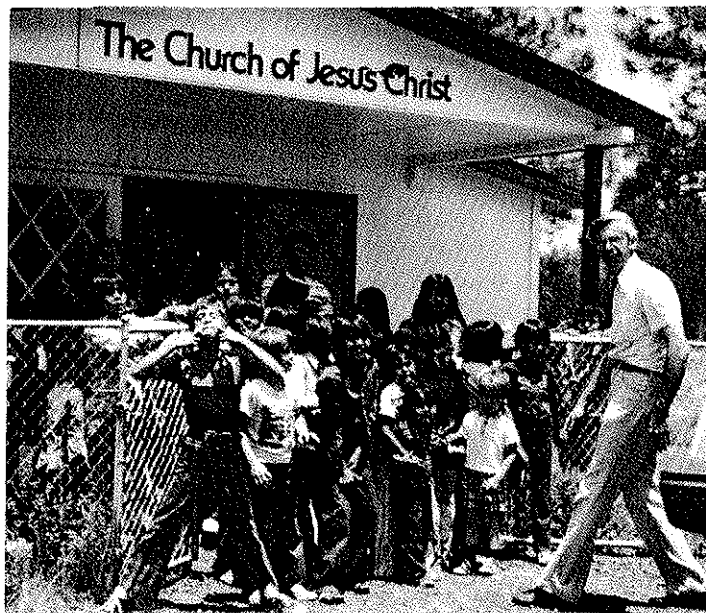
In our August 1st meeting, Annette Carr asked for her baptism. She was baptized by our Elder, Brother George Timms, and confirmed by Brother Milford Eutsey of the Vanderbilt Branch.

We are asking the prayers of all the Saints for our newly baptized Sisters and Brother. The young people are our Church of tomorrow.

We know, too, that the Saints in other parts of the vineyard have prayed much for us here in the Washington, D.C. Mission. Those of you who visited us here saw our need and even more of you knew of our desire for a building. After many, many years, it looks as though our prayers will be answered. He led us to an old church building in Herndon, Va.; the building requires much work, but we are all willing to work. Continue to pray for us here in this part of the vineyard, for truly we all need each other's prayers, and we will remember all of you. We thank Him for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon us in this mission and our desire is to prove faithful and worthy of His love.

Sister Hythia Young  
Editor, Washington Mission

## Vacation Bible School Held At Whiteriver Mission



The California Area MBA sponsored a Vacation Bible School during the week starting June 1, 1976 at the Whiteriver Mission, Arizona. The study materials were entitled, "Other Sheep", which covered the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph; how God brought Lehi and his family to America; the *Book of Mormon* and the latter day looking forward to the Choice Seer.

Brother Frank and Sister Shari Ciotti and their family went to Whiteriver to coordinate the program. The teachers were Sister Shirley Hemmings, ages 4-6; Sister June Tenijeth, ages 7-9; and Sister Bonnie Smith, ages 10-12. The Vacation Bible School had a total attendance of 260 children, with the highest attendance being on Friday, of 69 children. The Lord truly blessed the Vacation Bible School.

## Roscoe Branch Charters A Trip To Hill Cumorah

On June 30, 1976, the Roscoe Branch boarded a bus for a three-day weekend tour for the purpose of viewing the historical area in which the prophet, Joseph Smith, lived and experienced a visit with heavenly messengers that revealed to him the plan of God. According to His plan, the sealed golden plates were brought forth which were buried on this hill containing the history of early inhabitants of this land of America, commonly known as the American Indian.

On July 31, 1976, a visit was made to the house of Martin Harris, one of the witnesses of the ancient records and who also mortgaged his home for the printing of the first edition of the *Book of Mormon*.

The evening was concluded by a visit to the Hill Cumorah and viewing the Pageant which was very impressive to all. Despite the rains, thousands attended the event.



The following Sunday morning we assembled at the Rochester, New York Branch of our church. Brother Samuel D'Amico and all of our Brothers and Sisters made us feel most welcome. They served us a warm lunch and sent us off with a prayer and a giant box of homemade cookies for the road. May God bless them for their love and concern.

We then journeyed over to the Canadian Niagara Falls for a short visit and headed homeward. Our trip was truly educational and most rewarding in every respect.

We thank God for that historical event that eventually brought forth the restoration of the Gospel and The Church of Jesus Christ in this latter dispensation of time.

May we thank those who made this trip possible. It shall always be appreciated by all.

The Roscoe Branch

## Tampa Has Baptism

On Sunday, August 29 Brother V. J. Loyalvo with Sister Mary and party went to Tampa Mission; the day was beautiful, sunny and warm. The services started with Sunday School, the lesson being *Ex. ch. 9*. How the Lord told Israel to prepare themselves as he was going to visit them; they were to wash themselves and also their clothes, that they would be found clean within and without. This the Lord commanded them to do. Many good thoughts were expressed on the subject which was very interesting.

After Sunday School we all gathered at Davis Island to baptize a young lady, Kim Heller who had asked for her baptism at our district conference but requested to be baptized in Tampa in the presence of her parents. Kim is a very fine young lady who reads and studies the *Bible* and *Book of Mormon*, and is very sincere in the Gospel. The baptism was performed by Brother William Tucker. It was really beautiful with the water calm and the skies clear and bright.

After the baptism we returned to our meeting place where Brother V. J. Loyalvo spoke on the subject of "Our Calling Into The Gospel and What Our Life Should Be Like". Our new Sister was then confirmed for the

reception of the Holy Ghost by Brother Dwayne Lowe. Brother Joe Tucker expressed himself briefly and very eloquently of his work in The Church. Brother Joe is getting up in years and is very weak physically. The sick were then anointed and a wonderful spirit prevailed throughout the service.

Brother Lowe then spoke expressing himself on the goodness of God and praising Him for adding NEW SOULS to the church...concluding if you ever need God, do not hesitate to call on Him in prayer. Brother William Tucker spoke very briefly as the time was passing swiftly, commenting of the work in Tampa and that it was progressing very well...Also stating that the Lord was pleased as we gathered at the waters of baptism...and the angels of heaven were singing around the throne of God...After many testimonies were expressed and sacrament was administered we dismissed to return to our respective homes. Thus ended a beautiful day in the service of the King with a new soul added to The Church Of Jesus Christ...We urge all our Brothers and Sisters to pray for the Tampa Mission that it may grow SPIRITUALLY and in number and also for our new Sister; for as her name will be inscribed in The Church books, it will also be inscribed in THE LAMBS BOOK OF LIFE. May God bless Kim that she may shine forth in the newness of life and in THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL and unto all she may meet. May God bless all the Brothers and Sisters throughout The Church.

Brother Lou Pandone

### Rochester, New York Branch

On August 1, 1976 we had the joy of having a charter bus from Roscoe, Pa., and cars from Detroit, Youngstown, Ohio, New Jersey and Aliquippa, Pa.

We had community singing. A duet was sung by Sister Donna and Brother Eugene Armomino, "Jesus Loves Me". Brothers Eugene and Richard Benyola were at the piano.

We then sang the hymn, "Our Church", and were led in prayer by Brother Nick Pietrangelo.

Brother Fred Olexa chose his text from *1 Nephi*, 22nd. Chapter, "In thy seed all the world shall be blessed." Spoke on the wild olive tree. We belong to the true vine, we must be fruitful, bring forth good fruit. We Gentiles must be fruitful before God. We must be born of God in order to belong to the Church of God.

Sang hymn, "Angel Came Down".

Brother Nick Pietrangelo was the next speaker, he was happy to belong to the Family of God. We should be part of the movement in the work of God and be a blessing to some one each day. We should serve God 24 hours a day, not only a few hours a week.

Brother Don Pandone spoke about the Centennial, we should go back to the beginning how the Church first started in purity. The Church has love beyond compare, come let us anew, our journey pursue and never stand still, but keep moving forward.

Brother Bud Martin related many experiences, how he came to Church and of the wonderful fellowship he felt to be with the Saints.

Brother John Kendall said that there were Angels from the beginning, and we should take heed to the word

of God. We should return to the "first love", always remembering when we first met the Church and what a wonderful joy and love we felt.

Brother Ansel D'Amico, Presiding Elder, was the last speaker. He said we should all rededicate ourselves in the service of God, as long as we increase in the love of God we shall increase in number. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation. Christ is the solid rock, all other ground is sinking sand. We should always take the name of Jesus with us and to hold fast that which is good. He wished all a good trip and God-speed.

Sang Hymn "Lead Me Gently Home, Father". We were dismissed with prayer by Brother Joe Draskovich.

Lunch was served in the basement. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all.

Sister Carmella D'Amico

### News From Roscoe Branch

September 5, 1976 was a beautiful day in God's service here at the Roscoe Branch. Our morning service was opened by Brother Fred O'Lexa. He spoke on the parable of the kingdom of heaven being likened to a treasure hid in a field, found in *Matthew* 13:44, 45, 46. He also spoke on the parable of the marriage feast found in the 22nd Chapter of *St. Matthew*. Our Brother spoke under the inspiration of God illustrating how we should give our all to the Lord, putting all we have into our service to Him and value dearly and seriously that which we have found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He also spoke on the necessity to keep our garments clean, which the Lord gave unto us at the time of our baptism by being very careful not to brush against sin and evil. Also that serving God should not be something we should do at our convenience or when we feel like it, but be given our full time service. The Spirit of God continued to be felt among us into the next meeting when we received our visiting Brothers and Sisters that afternoon. Brother Gorie Ciaravino from Detroit, Michigan and Brother Joseph Bittinger from Vanderbilt, Pa., both Apostles of The Church, and Brother Nephi DeMecurio from Detroit, who recently returned as a Missionary from Africa were with us along with their families. Brother Nephi gave a very interesting and encouraging talk on his trip to Africa and the progress of The Church there. Brother Ciaravino followed, speaking on the Love of God and how that one might find it no matter where they travel throughout The Church of Jesus Christ and among the Saints. He also told of his experience in traveling to Africa and of his love for the work there. He closed by asking us all to adhere to the Apostle Paul's admonition to the Saints to let nothing separate us from the Love of God. Brother Bittinger followed and related experiences he encountered on his trip to Africa 22 years ago along with Brother Cadman, and how his heart is still in the work there. Our Brothers all spoke many beautiful words of life unto us which we will keep within our hearts.

We thank God for this beautiful day well spent in the service of God and for our Brothers and Sisters who came to share the love of God and His blessings with us.

May God Bless them all.

Sister Bertha Jean Bilsky  
Roscoe Branch Editor



## Note of Thanks

I would like to thank all my Brothers and Sisters who offered prayers in my behalf during my recent illness. Without these prayers, I know I would not be home now and on the way to recovery.

You can't imagine what a feeling of peace came over me when Brother George Benyola woke me in intensive care and prayed on me. While he was praying, I thought, "I'm in God's hands now, and I know He will take care of me." It was wonderful knowing we had a minister here to be with us, as the last time I was sick, we had no mission here and I was not baptized.

Thank you again, and I hope you will remember our Dallas Mission in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,  
Sister Jane Ordinger

## Baptism In Lorain, Ohio

Sister Ana Torres Chaparro of Lorain, Ohio Branch was baptized on Sunday, August 22, 1976, by Brother Frank Calabrese. She was confirmed for the Holy Spirit by Brother Frank Altomare.

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Rachel Marie to Aubrey and Josephine Syke of Sterling Heights, Michigan;

Julie to Roger and Kathy Kirschenfad of Miami, Florida;

Nicole Rene to Emmett and Cindy Hood of San Fernando Valley, California;

David Elliot to Philip and Ruth Arcuri of Edison, New Jersey.

## — WEDDINGS —

### HALL - PIETRZYKOWSKI

Brother Robert Alan Hall and Miss Ruth Pietrzykowski were joined in holy matrimony at The Church of Jesus Christ in Aliquippa, Pa. on Saturday, September 11, 1976.

The wedding ceremony was conducted by Brother Paul Palmieri and Brother John Ross. Musical selections were presented by Brother Ken Staley accompanied by Sister Sharon Staley at the organ.

The newlyweds will reside in Beaver, Pa.

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### JOSEPH VERNON GREEN

Brother Joseph Vernon Green died suddenly as the result of an automobile accident on August 7, 1976. He was born on March 29, 1954 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ by Brother Norman Campitelle at the Six Nations Reservation Mission in 1970.

The funeral services were officiated by Brother Anthony R. Lovalvo, assisted by Brothers Ken Wright and Norman Campitelle.

He is survived by his parents, Brother and Sister Green, three brothers and three sisters.

He will be missed by many Brothers, Sisters and friends.

### ELIZABETH FIORE

Sister Elizabeth Fiore of Detroit, Michigan Branch No. 2 was called to her reward on July 4, 1976. She was born on November 29, 1887 and was baptized on March 6, 1938.

Left to mourn her loss are three sons, two daughters, one brother, one sister, eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Brother Dominic Thomas.

She was loved by all of us and will be greatly missed.

### GUY ROSE

Brother Guy Rose, a member of the Brooklyn, New York Branch, passed on to his heavenly reward on May 28, 1976. He was born on November 28, 1895 and was baptized into the Church on September 11, 1932.

Left to mourn his loss are two sons, seven grandchildren, four stepsons and eight great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Frank Zaher, assisted by Brother Dominick Rose.

## A LIFE OF LAUGHTER

A Life of Laughter

A life of Love

A Spark of Hope

A home above

His hand has healed my broken  
heart

And on Calvary's tree

He bore my part.

The Sin, The Sadness

The Shame in pain.

His Death bought my Freedom

My soul saw the light

He stands by me

When the sun shines bright  
and gives me courage

Through each midnight.

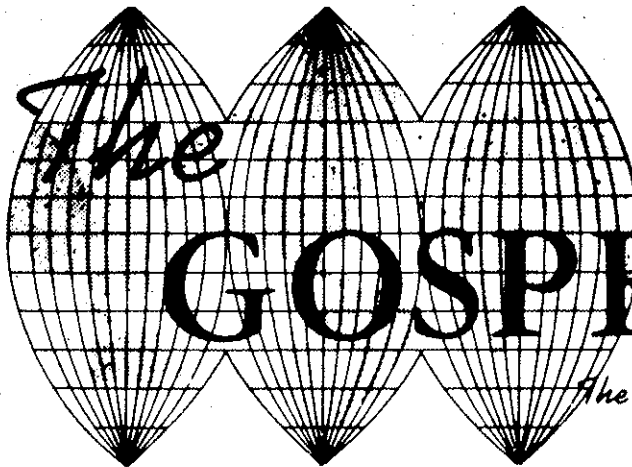
A morning after

each wave in life's sea

His life has found a place in me.

Sister Denise DiFalco





# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

November, 1976

Volume 32, No. 11

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

**M**ESALM ONE HUNDRED  
ake a joyful noise unto the Lord,  
all ye lands. Serve the Lord with glad-  
ness: come before his presence with sing-  
ing. Know ye that the Lord he is God:  
it is he that hath made us, and not we  
ourselves; we are his people, and the  
sheep of his pasture. Enter into his  
gates with thanksgiving, and into his  
courts with praise: be thankful unto him,  
and bless his name. For the Lord is  
good; his mercy is everlasting; and his  
truth endureth to all generations.

## THE ADOPTION

Our adoption into the family of God is the most important event of our lives. This adoption was made possible by Jesus Christ, The Son of God. He came into the world as a little babe, grew to manhood and in a short ministry of three years and three months, He instituted the plan of salvation among mankind, saying that this was the will of His Father in Heaven. Having completed His work here on earth, He then willingly became the infinite sacrifice to end all sacrifices.

He redeemed mankind from its fallen state by giving His flesh and blood. He died on Calvary's cross, not mercifully, like a lamb is offered on the altar, but He died a slow and painful death, was placed in a tomb and was resurrected after three days. He then ascended to His Father in Heaven, and as He had promised, He sent to those who had believed in Him and His teachings, **THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST**. They had met all His requirements and were awaiting the fulfillment of the promise that He would send them this wonderful gift which would give them a spiritual rebirth and by which they would be adopted into the family of God.

We list a few of these promises—found in the word of God.

Galatians 3:7-9, "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen by faith, preached before the Gospel to Abraham, saying, in thee shall all the nations be blessed. So then they which be of the faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."

Galatians 3:26-29, "For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. There is neither male nor female: For ye are all one in Christ Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is Jesus, and if ye are Christ's THEN YE ARE ABRAHAM'S SEED AND HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE."

Romans 8:14-16, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again unto fear but ye have received **THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION, WHEREBY WE CRY, ABBA, FATHER**. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."

Some may misunderstand or twist the meaning of verse 23, which may seem to some to imply waiting for death to be adopted, but there is a difference between spiritual adoption and our ultimate reward of being with God in Heaven, having our resurrected immortal bodies, and enjoying the indescribable joys which God has prepared for the righteous.

In relation to the above verse, we consider Paul's words to the Saints at Corinth, 2nd. Cor. 5:2-4, "For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from Heaven. If it so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened; not for that we should be unclothed, but clothed upon, that **MORTALITY** might be swallowed up in life."

Brother Idris Martin

## CLARIFICATION OF TWO PAMPHLETS

### THE LAST WITNESS DEAD

and

### OLIVER COWDERY'S LETTERS

At the April, 1976 General Church Conference at Greensburg, Pennsylvania the following was passed by the General Priesthood.

Editor

Pages 2106 and 2107 of April, 1976 minutes:

With reference to clarification requested by the Pennsylvania District on these two pamphlets, the Quorum of Twelve believes the testimony of Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery substantiates that the Book of Mormon was translated by the means of the Urim and Thummim. The following is quoted to support this view:

### JOSEPH SMITH'S TESTIMONY

At length the time arrived for obtaining the plates; the Urim and Thummim and the breast plate. On the 22nd day of September, 1827, having gone as usual at the end of another year to the place where they were deposited, the same heavenly messenger delivered them up to me with the charge: That I should be responsible for them, that if I should let them go carelessly or through any neglect of mine, I should be cut off, but that if I would use all my endeavors to preserve them until he, the messenger, should call for them, they should be protected. But by the wisdom of God, they remained safe in my hands until I had accomplished by them what was required at my hand.

### OLIVER COWDERY'S TESTIMONY

These were days never to be forgotten; to sit under the sound of heaven awakened the utmost gratitude of this bosom. Day after day I continued uninterrupted to write from his mouth as he translated with the Urim and Thummim, or as the Nephites would have said, "Interpreters", the history or record called "The Book of Mormon".

I wrote with my pen the entire Book of Mormon (save a few pages), as it fell from the lips of the prophet Joseph Smith as he translated it by the means of the Urim and Thummim, or as it is called by that book, "Holy Interpreter".

### "THE LAST WITNESS DEAD" PAMPHLET

A motion was passed that we recommend that the pamphlet "The Last Witness Dead" be withdrawn and not be reprinted due to the conflicting information regarding the translation of the Book of Mormon, as testified by Oliver Cowdery and Joseph Smith.



## WOMEN

by Donald Ross

The Apostle Paul wrote in I Corinthians 14:34 "Let your women keep silence in the Churches." He states in Galatians 3:8 "there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Unfortunately, the former verse has always received more attention than the latter.

During Old Testament times, the woman's position is one of inferiority and subjection to man (Gen. 3:16). Yet in keeping with the view that ideally, she is his companion and "help meet," she never sinks into a mere drudge. In patriarchal times, Sarah, Rebecca and Rachel stand side by side with their husbands. In the deliverance era from Egypt, Miriam was recognized as a prophetess. In the reign of Judges, Deborah is not only a prophetess, as other women in Israel were, but is herself a Judge. Under the monarchy, Jezebel in the Northern Kingdom and Athaliah in the Southern, afford excellent illustrations of the political power and influence women might wield. Religious matters involved women. We find women attending the Feasts along with men (I Sam. 1); taking part with them in acts of sacrifice (Jud. 13:20); combined with them in the choral service of the Temple (Ezr. 2:65). And though in the Deuteronomy code woman's position is one of complete subordination, her rights are recognized and safeguarded.

But, Jesus brought a wonderful change. He did this not only by His teaching on marriage, but more by His personal attitude to women, whether good and pure like His mother, or sinful and outcast as some of the women were in The Gospels. Women formed an integral part of the early Church, (Acts 1:14). No doubt they shared in the gifts on the Day of Pentecost (note Acts 2:17). They engaged in tasks which appear to confirm the office of *deaconness*, (Romans 16).

The Ephesian Epistle, notably Chapter 5:22-23, depicts marriage as a type of union between Christ and The Church. Women should feel honored that in The Scriptures, a *woman* is the symbol for The Church. The role of women in The Church is more than important. It is absolutely vital. Unnoticed, rarely consulted or considered, women remain in the background. God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone." It is impossible to disagree.

### PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul;  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;  
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## MY PLACE

I'm grown Mother, now I must find life's meaning,  
I'm older Father, now I must find the joys of life.  
I know I'm wiser than so many others,  
I just know I'll find my place in life.

I'm grown Mother, I'll go where I hear laughter,  
I'm older Father, I must satisfy my soul with many things.  
I'll surely serve God someday later, (you know after)  
Right now I must find my place in life.

I'm grown Mother, I'll search the world for satisfaction,  
I'm older Father, there's so many wondrous things to try.  
If so many people find such joy in darkness.  
There's no question, surely, so could I!

I'm grown Mother, why do I feel empty?  
I'm older Father, I'm too old to cry.  
This void my soul feels will surely leave me,  
I just have to find my place in life.

I'm growing Mother, I think I found the answer,  
I'm wiser Father, my eyes can finally see.  
Without God there is no joy in living.  
Oh, wondrous grace, God found my place for me.

Written by inspiration September 13, 1976 by Sister Arlene Buffington, Imperial, Pa. Branch. We felt to share it with you.

Branch Editor, Jean Moore

"For sometime now I have had a burden on my heart because of the many children of the Saints who have not as yet obeyed The Gospel. I've watched them trying to find satisfaction in the world but have seen in their eyes an emptiness. The words of this poem were given to me one afternoon."

## LOST THE FAITH!

Can't you see the flowers?  
God created them with His hands  
Can't you see the snowflakes?  
No, they didn't come from man  
And yes, the simple beauties of this life  
are free if we only reach out to get them  
His love is all around us  
Don't smother it in the sand

If you could share this with me  
One more life would begin to grow  
If you would help me serve Him  
Happiness would begin to show  
And if not in this generation  
Our children would reap joy  
Oh, please don't turn away  
There is no time destroy.

Let's not be blinded like the rest of the world  
He has blessed us greatly  
We have seen the light  
We must share our fortune  
Not waste it for one night.

Sister Denise DiFalco  
Branch No. 1, Detroit, Mich.

## I THANK GOD

I can certainly state that God has been extremely merciful to me. Though I feel so unworthy, I will never cease to praise, honor and glorify His precious name. The following account tells the story:

On our return from attending the G.M.B.A. Campout in Kansas I had cancelled two appointments with my doctor. I was very fearful of what he would find. Finally I went to see him. After telling of my symptoms and his examination, the doctor requested the nurse to make an appointment for me at the hospital for some colon x-rays. He told me he wanted to check for an obstruction or cancer of the colon. Of course I was shocked, although I had feared the worst. Bewildered, I returned home. I called my husband to relate what the doctor had found. I could hardly talk to him, but finally did tell him while bursting into tears! I thought, my God, what am I going to do.

My daughter, Arta, came home and amid tears I related the suspicions of the doctor. She tried to reassure me that it was only a suspected problem by the doctor, not confirmed yet. But I still had my fears.

I went to pick my husband up at work. And while driving, I reflected to 1969 when I had major surgery following the same symptoms as I now experienced. Then, too, I had x-rays which did not reveal the tumor they found during surgery. The surgeon told us, I was a fortunate woman. If they had not operated, they would not have discovered or known about the pre-malignant tumor. The doctor related this to my husband and I three months after my hysterectomy operation. I thought perhaps the tumor had grown back again. All these thoughts plagued me.

That evening I left early for our Ladies Circle meeting as I wanted to be alone with God to think out a few things. Sitting alone in Church, it gave me a wonderful feeling of peace. Then the Sisters arrived and we started our meeting. Our Circle president, Sister Lettie O'Bradovich turned the meeting over to me, the teacher. I could not go on with this burden alone. I began to cry as I asked the Sisters to pray for me, relating of my visit with the doctor. I had nowhere to turn but to the Lord and the Saints.

Two days later we had our Wednesday evening meeting. I asked to be anointed because I was scheduled for the colon x-rays on Thursday. Brother Anthony Corrado visiting from Youngstown, Ohio anointed me. Following the meeting, Brother Corrado asked me to tell him of my affliction. He told me he would continue to pray in my behalf.

On Thursday I was x-rayed. On Monday, the nurse told me I had to go to another doctor for a sigmoidoscopy test. That evening, Brother Corrado and Brother and Sister Radd came to our home for dinner. Later, I asked to be anointed again for this new test. The Brothers told me they were going to ask to anoint me before leaving as they had discussed and prayed about the matter before dinner. Others of my family and I were anointed that evening. I must say that after Brother Corrado anointed me, I felt a wonderful blessing.

I told my sister I did not feel to keep my appointment with the doctor on Thursday. She suggested I keep

the appointment to see what the results were. I did. After my exam, the doctor reviewed my condition and said he could not understand all those symptoms I experienced when all he could discover were two very small hemorrhoids. They could not cause all the discomfort I had reported to my family doctor. In addition, he told me I did not have cancer or any trace of it. Well, I felt so relieved I told the doctor I knew why there was no trace of cancer. Even if I took the time to explain to him why, he probably would not believe me.

But I can understand and the marvelous works and wonders of our Lord. Once again, He has performed a miracle on my body. Once again He has been so good to me that I felt like shouting it to the entire world. I never want to lose sight of this wonderful, glorious Gospel that we are blessed to possess. I trust that God will continue to take care of me, no matter what may come. His will be done. God bless all.

Sister Marie McGuire  
Lake Worth Branch, Florida

## "Little Prayers"

When the meeting starts  
And the songs seem to drag  
Say a "little prayer"  
And don't be eager to nag.

Words are spoken  
And the "little prayer" that was said  
Enhanced the meeting  
That was kind of dead.

The Lord is visiting  
But He's been kind of quiet  
He took a back pew  
Feeling very undecided.

We've got to help Him  
Make up His mind  
So say a "little prayer"  
And forget about the time.

A beautiful feeling  
Has come into play  
Say a "little prayer"  
To capture its stay.

A song is sung  
A teardrop falls  
The Lord moves forward  
Vacating the walls.

He moves around  
From heart to heart  
We feel His Spirit  
Wanting never to part.

He's made up His mind  
And so have we  
With that "little prayer"  
He's come to Be.

Be BOLD, but loving  
In praising His name  
For He visits often  
And His Spirit, the same.

by Sister Josie Genaro 12/75

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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### THANKSGIVING DAY

Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness;  
and for His wonderful works to the children of men!  
And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving,  
and declare His works with rejoicing.

—Psalm 107:21, 22

We are awed by the swift passing of our summer season! The harvest and autumnal season is ushered in, and shortly President Ford, in keeping with our time-honored American tradition, will formally proclaim the last Thursday of November as a national day of Thanksgiving.

#### *The Hand of Providence*

Surely, the people throughout our beloved country have reason to humbly and reverently pause and give thanks to the Hand of Providence for another bounteous harvest and manifold blessings throughout the Year of Our Lord 1976.

We are stirred by an earlier Thanksgiving proclamation by President Lincoln dated October 3, 1863 which, in part, reads most reverently and eloquently:

"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God... the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore.

No human counsel hath devised, nor mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the most high God.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people."

May we not be prone to forget the source of our bounties from fruitful fields and productive industry, much less forget the precious blessing of liberty which we are divinely privileged to enjoy.

May we be moved, "as with one heart and one voice to solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledge the gracious gifts of our Heavenly Father."

We pray also that the peoples of every land will join us during this harvest season in responding to the Psalmist's message:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands... be thankful unto Him and bless His name..."

When we pause from daily strivings  
and give thoughts to our gifts...

Our homes, our work, our families,  
quite soon our vision lifts

To God, before whose harvest  
all man-made things decrease.

Our humble hearts are grateful  
that still His gifts increase.

We take stock of our blessings,  
viewing one more harvest's hoard,

And we bow in thankful reverence  
at the table of the Lord.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### Thanksgiving Day

Dear Girls and Boys,

"Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever." Psalm 106:1.

Thanksgiving is mentioned in the *Bible* at least one hundred and forty times. The feasts of thanksgiving days to God date back 3,500 years or more than 1,500 years before the time of Christ.

The Feast of the Tabernacles, in the Old Testament was perhaps the beginning of Thanksgiving Day. It was not for a day but for a week. Israel gathered in their corn and wine. The Lord chose the place and blessed the work of their hands. They were not to forget the fatherless and widows. This feast was preceded by another seven weeks probably at harvest time. Seven ordained feasts are mentioned in the Book of Leviticus.

Throughout the Old Testament we read of thanksgiving, praise and offering of gifts to the Lord for His goodness. David and Solomon called special times of celebration to God. After the seventy years captivity, Zerubbabel and Nehemiah called the people together for thanksgiving. In the New Testament the followers of Jesus were thankful to the Lord, not only on the Lord's Day but every day. "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God." I Thess. 5:18.

In England a thanksgiving time is called "Harvest Home". In North American history the first Thanksgiving Day was held in Newfoundland in 1578 by a minister named Wollfall. Later a day was held in 1607 in the state of Virginia. Then in November 1621 the Pilgrims held a real Thanksgiving. They had suffered much during the winter, forty-seven out of their original 102 had died. Their relations with the Indians had been frightening. It is said about ninety friendly Indians partook of their feast. The feast lasted three days.

Other Thanksgiving Days were celebrated but it was not until President George Washington proclaimed Thanksgiving Day on November 26, 1789 that it became a national custom. In 1859, after several appeals had been made by Sarah Hale, all but two governors issued proclamations for a Thanksgiving Day. Finally she wrote to President Abraham Lincoln, enclosing a copy of Washington's proclamation of 1789 and suggested a national Thanksgiving Day be proclaimed. The President proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day on June 15, after the battle of Gettysburg in 1863.

Today it is the custom to celebrate Thanksgiving in November. It is a time to call all people to give thanks to God for all our blessings, both national and indi-

## VOICES PAST

### *Lest We Forget*

*By Sadie B. Cadman*

These surely must have been dark and sad days for the followers of the Saviour. While the chief priests had remembered: He said He would rise again after three days. His own followers had forgotten and many felt that their hopes had been shattered. Peter said, "I go fishing" and others felt the same. But after the dark cloud of sorrow, the good news came—"He is risen."

Mary Magdalene seemed to be the first at the tomb and found the stone rolled away and then hastens to tell the disciples. She also saw Him first, but thought He was the gardener. But how soon she knew Him when He said, "Mary" John 20:1, 18. Matthew 28:1, 10 tells also of Him appearing to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, and of the great earthquake and the angel of the Lord rolling back the stone. What a wonderful experience these women had, and then to hear the angel say, "Fear not ye; for I know that you seek Jesus which was crucified—He is not here; for He is risen." They ran quickly with fear and great joy to tell His disciples. There are several scriptures I could refer to of His appearing, but the one I love best is found in Luke, 24th Chapter: How the disciples felt the burning spirit within their hearts, but did not understand why, until after He made Himself known to them.

How many wonderful testimonies of His resurrection, and the proofs of them we have. Even the centurion and soldiers watching Jesus and seeing the destruction and the earthquake feared greatly and said, "Truly this was the Son of God."

Now after so many years we look back on those dark days and rejoice in the bright days. We don't want to forget our Saviour's sufferings for surely He bore our griefs and carried our sorrows and suffered as no human being ever did, for He also had the burden of the world on His shoulders and He being the Son of God, He only could redeem the world. But what great love God had for the lost world to give His only Begotten Son to die for us. Only His own Son, One without sin could redeem us. How thankful we should be that the great sacrifice, the Lamb of God was offered for our sins, and that death and the grave did not hold Him, but He came forth triumphant and brought salvation to all who will accept it.

We too, at this springtime say the dark days disappear when we render obedience to His teachings and are given a hope of the resurrection from the tomb and say, "He lives within our hearts."

Let us not only rejoice at this springtime or Easter time, but say with the Psalmist of old, "Bless the Lord oh my soul and forget not all His benefits."

vidual. If you are happy about it, let us give thanks this Thanksgiving Day for all our blessings.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### CIRCLE CONFERENCE

The General Ladies' Uplift Circle Conference was held at Levittown, Pennsylvania on October 2, 1976. There were eighteen Circles represented which were from Arizona, Florida, New Jersey, and a bus load of Sisters and Brothers from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The Sisters from Levittown and Edison sang the hymn, "Blessed Restoration Story", and *The Book of Mormon* was read from III Nephi 16:1,5. Sister Mabel Bickerton reported that two new Circles will be organized, Cleveland, Ohio and Freehold, New Jersey, making the total of thirty-eight Circles. She compared the Circle to a seed. Many Circles are like a small seed, the size does not count, but what it produces.

The roll call of officers was taken and most of the officers were present. The minutes of the last meeting held at Warren, Ohio were read and the delegates' and treasurer's reports were given. The answer to the question, "Where do we find the word Christians in *The Book of Mormon*, and why were the people called this?" was found in Alma, 46:15.

Contributions were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of: Brother William and Sister Sadie Cadman, Brother Frank Dichiera Jr., Sisters Edna Wright, Rose Dreer, Mary Emmilio, and Filomena Jackman. Total in this fund is \$5,280.23.

Dates for the Conference for the year of 1977 are: March 5 at Vanderbilt, July 9 at Washington, D. C., and October 1 at Detroit, Michigan.

Donations were made to Six Nation and White River Reservations, for the radio program at San Carlos, Arizona, and to the African Relief Fund.

A vote of thanks was given to the Sisters of Levittown and New Jersey for their hospitality. The Brothers that were present spoke to the Sisters encouraging them to continue in the work, especially in helping the General Church Missionary Work.

Mary Tamburrino  
General Circle Editor

## District Conferences . . .

### Florida District Meeting

The Branches and Missions of the Florida District met in Miami at the American Legion Hall on Sunday, July 18, 1976. Brother Charles Smith opened the meeting, using for his text *Luke*, Chapter 15, concerning the parable of the Prodigal Son. He expounded upon this Scripture which was the theme of the service throughout the day. Brother Sam Costerella followed by likening the Prodigal Son to the House of Israel. Brother Eugene Perri, Sr. was the final speaker in the morning service; he related a few experiences to us.

After a delicious lunch was served, the afternoon service was opened in prayer by Brother Mike Radd; Brother Eugene Perri, Jr. then spoke concerning the Prodigal Son having his mind closed to his father's house because he was obsessed with the thought of independence. His mind was opened when he was humbled by hunger and poverty. Brother Swanson followed, saying that there are nations, governments and churches that have become prodigal, referring to Israel, and the hope The Church has of Israel's return when their eyes are opened. The remainder of the service was left open for testimony. A good day was spent in the company of our Brothers and Sisters.

### The Adage of the Birds

—inspired by a thought of Wm. Cadman's

You can't stop a bird,  
I've heard it been said,  
from flying and circling  
up over your head;  
but if one should think  
to build it a nest,  
up there on your brow, then  
you sure can contest.

And so go your thoughts.  
Both bad ones and good,  
you can't seem to help some,  
while others you could—  
for should one alight,  
you, without delay,  
can shake it and scold it  
'til it flies away.

But don't be dismayed;  
you can't always stop  
occasional bad thoughts  
from sneaking up top.  
Just stay excited!  
Keep movin' around!  
An active mind never  
has time to be down.

Use wisdom from God—  
a gift from His Word—  
and you'll be the master  
of thoughts (and of birds.)  
Then should any kind  
Find its rest in your crown,  
let it be the dove of  
His Spirit come down.

Brother Kenny Lombardo

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Edison Branch Blessings

On August 15, 1976 the Edison Branch received many visitors to witness and to join in acknowledging the blessings of little David Elliot Arcuri, the new son of Brother Philip and Sister Ruth Arcuri. The child's grandfather, Brother Julius Kovacs, was present in our meeting to bless his grandson. It was a joy to see our Brother in our midst again with his wife Sister Helen, for it was just a short time ago that they moved to Louisville, Kentucky to take on employment there.

It is always good to see how the Lord can direct our ministry around to different areas of the country where The Gospel song has never been sung, and yet we always miss those we've learned to love so much. We beseech the Saints of The Church to remember Brother Julius and his wife in prayer as they endeavor to seek and do God's will in their lives in Kentucky, for we know there are many precious souls in need of The Restoration there.

Brother Julius and Sister Helen are members of the Hopelawn Branch, and this day brought many visitors from Hopelawn, as well as Metuchen where Brother Phil is originally from, to honor the blessing of this child. As Brother Julius prayed with his tiny grandson asleep in his arms, the blessing seemed to fill the Branch and caused us to look forward to a beautiful service. Brother Julius then spoke to us about the prophet Elijah and we enjoyed hearing him once again, as he is very well versed on the history and color of the Old Testament. Brother Pete and Sister Patty Gianetti from Aliquippa were also here, and Sister Patty honored us with a solo, and later in the afternoon, she and her husband both bore beautiful testimonies on how God has enriched their lives. From Sunday School until the end of the afternoon service, I can truly say that it was good to be in the House of the Lord.

Forgive me for not writing this sooner, but in April of this year our beloved Brother Rocco Ensana celebrated 50 years in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and I can say as a member who wasn't raised in this particular area, that from the testimonies of our older Brothers and Sisters, these must have been 50 years of dedicated and active service. Brother Rocco was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ in New Brunswick, New Jersey, on April 23, 1926 by Brother Eugene Perry and was confirmed by Brother Joseph Corrado. Many of the Saints and their families here have come to know of The Church thru the visits and preaching of Brother Rocco, and we'd like to have the rest of The Church join us in wishing him a happy anniversary, and if the Lord wills, many, many more.

I remember to this day a point made by Brother "Rock" in a sermon I heard when I first moved to New Jersey. He was speaking of the beauty of the creation and stated that the babble of a brook never changes. If you should go today and sit next to one and stay very still and quiet, you will hear the same beautiful sound that that brook made a thousand years ago. It's just its way of praising God for the chance to run. The birds likewise sing in the morning and the evening that same beautiful song they sang a thousand years ago. It's just

their way of praising God for another day. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is likewise unchangeable, and with all of the creation, repeats the sounding joy of our Lord Jesus and His beautiful song of salvation over and over again. We never tire of this. The birds and the brooks and the crickets and all the things we probably hear every day and take for granted should serve to remind us that our praises, too, should be ever flowing and never changing.

So when you hear a bird sing . . . praise God.

Brother Kenny Lombardo  
Edison Branch Editor

### Then Came The Fifth

The excitement of the 4th of July holiday was heightened not only by our 200 years as a nation, but also by a very welcome visit from Brother Patsy Marinetti. He paid a visit to Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan on Sunday, July 5, 1976. To our delight we were additionally blessed by a visit from Brother Dominic Thomas, the President of Our Church.

Brother Dominic opened our meeting in prayer. Brother Patsy then spoke to us about our great land, its blessings and what it meant to him.

He spoke to us also about Benedict Arnold, who while in exile and lying upon his death bed, was heard to expound that there was something remarkably unique about this land. He stated the very air he breathed was different. In some of his final words he said he pined for this land.

Brother Patsy then opened the *Book of Mormon* and read to us the vision of Nephi. The one in which Nephi saw a man, Christopher Columbus, crossing the ocean and reaching this land of America.

Brother Patsy reminded us of our duties and responsibilities to our God and our land. By way of this particular part of his sermon, he brought forth a dream given him just before his calling into the Priesthood.

He saw a great gate but it was locked. He was given a key to open it. The gate then swung open. Brother Patsy stated to us he knew by that dream that he would someday be used of God.

Brother Dominic Thomas immediately followed in speaking. He reaffirmed the importance of our responsibilities to God, to this land and to our fellowman.

Nearing the end of his sermon, he stated, "There can be no sin in the camp of the Saints."

He also emphasized we must be meek, humble and gentle before the sight of God. It occurred to me as Brother Dominic spoke, that he without knowing it, is an excellent example of what we ought to be. Anyone who knows Brother Dominic will agree that he possesses an honest humility and gentleness. Yet somehow he always has a firm and definite message, that makes you sit up straight when he speaks.

The meeting was like our own special package from God; Brother Patsy representing the flawless gift, and Brother Dominic as the beautiful wrapping and ribbon, for just the right touch.

Sister Diana Thompson



## Farewell Meeting

On Sunday evening, June 13, 1976, the members of the Glassport Branch held a farewell meeting for Brother Gerard Valenti, his wife, Sister Faye, and children Tammy and Jerry.

Testimonies were given by the Brothers and Sisters as to their love for the Valenti family and the void that will be felt by all in the Glassport Branch.

Brother John Ali spoke of the help the family has been to the Branch and although we have to part in body, we will not part in spirit.

Following the meeting a social was held in the basement and a small gift of love and appreciation was presented to them.

Due to a promotion in Brother Gerard's profession he had relocated in Coatesville, Pa. They will be attending the Levittown Mission.

They will be greatly missed in Glassport, but we know they will be an asset to the Levittown Mission.

May God continue to Bless and extend His love to Brother Gerard and his family is our prayer.

Sister Rosemarie Ali  
Glassport Branch Editor

## News From Fredonia

The Saints of Fredonia wish to greet all the Brothers, Sisters and friends of The Church of Jesus Christ. Blessings and the Spirit of God have been felt in our meetings recently.

On July 10 and 11 several of our members drove to the Grand River Reservation for an enjoyable weekend there.

Over thirty persons from the Glassport Branch visited us the following Sunday, along with Brothers Dan Casasanta and Frank DiAntonio from the McKees Rocks Branch. Brother Dan spoke upon the determination of ancient Joseph stressing that we should be just as determined to serve God in our day. Brothers Alma Nolfi and John Ali also spoke. We really enjoyed our combined meeting and the Elders' messages.

Brother James Moore and his son James were in our meetings the following Sunday. Brother James told of their efforts to spread the Gospel in Georgia.

Our Branch greatly appreciates all the visitors and pray God will bless all their efforts.

Sister Nancy Gehly  
Fredonia Branch Editor

## Ft. Pierce Branch

July 25th was a day of rejoicing for the Saints of our Branch. Our morning service was opened by Brother Charles Smith speaking on the 12th Chapter of Luke, telling us that God would take care of us if we first seek the Kingdom of heaven. Seek the Spiritual life and our needs would be taken care of.

Brother Dominic Giovannone continued, citing instances of how the Lord provided for him and his family as well as the Saints in the time of the Depression.

Brother Sam Costarella then continued to put in our minds the building up of the house of God. Of our desire and longing to be with the people of God. Through suffering we learn of obedience.

The afternoon meeting was enhanced by the presence of Brother V. J. Lovalvo who attended his first meeting since returning from his trip to Africa. We shed tears when he left but there were very few dry eyes when he spoke. He spoke of how precious this land was to the Lord. How Joseph Smith was chosen, unlearned but shaped to God's way. Trials of Job. Ways of God far different than ours. He exhorted us to take the name of Jesus with us wherever we go.

After some very moving testimonies it was good to say we were in the house of the Lord.

Four Saints were transferred from Niles, Ohio to the Ft. Pierce Branch although they are in Louisiana. There was Elder Ronald Joseph Genaro, Cathy Genaro, Joseph Louis Scarna, Jr., and Sandra Lee Scarna. We welcome these Saints and hope to Fellowship with them in the near future.

Louise Micale.

## What's New In The San Fernando Valley

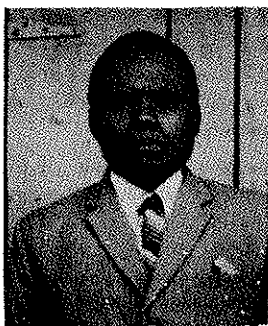
On May 23, 1976 our Brother Frank Verardo was ordained into the office of Elder. Visitors were there from various Branches and God's Spirit was manifested. Brother Frank's feet were washed by Brother John Azzinaro and he was confirmed by Brother Ed Buccellato. Each member of the Verardo family gave their testimony expressing their gratitude and love to God and asked to be remembered in prayer. It was felt by many, without expression, that we should pray for the entire family at once. The ministry asked the whole family to the front and the Elder Brothers encircled them with loving arms as we all prayed to God for their strength. Brother Frank, with tears of humility, exclaimed his love of God's Gospel and how thrilled he becomes when studying the Restoration and Scripture.

The following Sunday, May 30 was a special day for me. My son, Joshua Peter, born May 17, was blessed by Brother Edmund Buccellato. As Brother Ed pleadingly cried to God to bless my child, I along with many other Brothers and Sisters cried to God in our hearts that Brother Ed's son, Michael, would be blessed and healed of his weak condition.

Later, in our testimony meeting, Brother Joe Krasnasky had the Elders lay hands on him for strength and direction. Brother Peter Genaro jumped up and spoke in tongues. Our Elders asked if anyone had an interpretation of the tongues. Later Sister Joy Krasnasky gave the interpretation as "Blessed be the name of the Lord." When the ministry revealed this to the congregation, Sister Scarna stood up and confirmed that she too had this wonderful interpretation. The assuring warmth of the Spirit gave joy unspeakable to all those attending.

Sister Bernadette King  
Branch Editor

## Nigerian Elder Comes To U.S.A.



Brother George T. U. Inyang, a staunch and foundation member of The Church of Jesus Christ — Ikot Ebekpo, Eket II in Ikot Udo District in Cross River State, Nigeria.

Now in the United States for higher education, he resides at Northeastern Christian College, 1860 Montgomery Avenue, Villanova, PA. 19085.

His deep convictions grow out of an implicit faith in Scriptures. Gentleness is the never-failing hallmark of his success.

He is respected for his cooperative attitude in philanthropic services. He counts on your cooperation, dear Brethren in Christ Jesus. He says "Hi", and in his mother's tongue, "Ekom do! Ndito Ete ke Obong."

Brother G. T. U. Inyang is an Elder of The Church.

## Baptism And Blessings At Monongahela

Sunday, September 19 was truly a beautiful day for the Saints and friends of the Monongahela Branch.

Brother George Johnson opened the morning service reading from *The Book of Mormon*, 16th Chapter of Mosiah, where it tells of Abinadi's words of the time which shall come when all shall see the salvation of the Lord, when every nation, kindred, tongue, and people shall confess before God that his judgments are just. Brother George then spoke of the carnality of man and how devilish we can be if we remain in this state, and what the consequences are if we don't redeem ourselves. If it wasn't for Christ coming into this world to show us the right way then we'd have no need of redemption. At the conclusion of Brother George's speaking all can surely say the Lord gave him the wrds that he spoke. At this time Marsha Matthews asked for her baptism. After lunch we all gathered by the beautiful waters of the Monongahela River and witnessed Marsha's baptism. We then returned to the Church to witness her confirmation by Brother James Campbell. Sister Marsha Matthews is now living in Bedford, Iowa along with her family and they have no church to attend so we would ask your prayers on their behalf because it gets lonely for them out there. Sister Marsha's mother and sister are members of the Church also.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in the ordinance of Feet Washing, in which a beautiful spirit prevailed for all those who participated.

We were also very happy to have back with us for awhile Brother and Sister Vancik who are living at San Carlos, Arizona. Sister Sarah told us of the work that is being done in San Carlos and how God is moving among the Indian people there. They love their work out there and say they'll never move back here. We do miss them dearly, but feel confident in knowing they're doing God's work, and loving every moment of it.

God's Spirit was truly felt this day and our prayers for Sister Marsha are that God will guide and direct her

all the days of her life and also that God will continue to use Sister Sarah and Brother Paul in the work He has given them to do.

Sister Janet Mancini  
Monongahela Branch Editor

## Baptism In Cleveland, Ohio

Sister Robin Alaburda waited almost two weeks after she decided to be baptized. She desired to fast and pray that God would bless her. Finally, on Sunday, September 19, 1976, she went down to the waters of regeneration in Lake Erie. She was baptized by Brother Mario Milano, after which she had hands layed on for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

Our prayer is that God would bless our young Sister.

## Baptisms In New Orleans

On Sunday, September 12, 1976, our little mission was blessed beyond our expectations. Elder Ron Genaro opened our service by speaking on *III Nephi*, Chapter 17. We were all taken back to the time when Jesus appeared to the people on this continent, and the love that Jesus had for them filled our hearts in equal measure. During testimony, David Peebles stood and said that he wanted to accept the Lord into his life, and while he was still upon his feet, his wife, Lucille, testified that she wanted to be baptized along with her husband. Brother and Sister Peebles have been attending our mission since early July.

They were baptized by Brother Ron Genaro in Lake Pontchartrain, and were later confirmed by Brother Genaro. Sister Gail Wortman related a dream that she had about David one week before. She said that his hair was cut short, and he had a peaceful smile upon his face. This little experience was a great blessing for us, because Brother David had his hair cut short the day before his baptism.

Our baptized members now total ten, and we ask for your continued prayers that we may grow as the Lord sees fit.

## Lake Worth Branch Vacation Bible School

For the 26 children who registered for the Lake Worth Branch Vacation Bible School, August 9, 1976 began an exciting week of Bible stories and arts and crafts. Director Josephine Jasmin provided the necessary leadership required to operate this accelerated school of activities. The teachers taught a planned lesson daily and instructed their students in the arts of macrame, flower arranging, glass painting, etc. By Friday, the Sunday School room was resplendent with plants hanging precariously from macrame holders, neatly-made sewing organizers, beautifully decorated candy jars, cleverly-designed bean wall plaques, ominous looking persuasive paddles, and much, much more. The children were ready to welcome parents and visitors to share, for a few hours, the pleasure they had enjoyed for five days.

The V.B.S. choir, accompanied by Michael DiFede on the piano, opened the program Friday evening with the theme song, "Come Unto Me." The children were so eager to tell all they learned, that one little boy shouted, "See, Mom, I told you I could do it." Certificates of attendance were distributed to the children, and gifts of appreciation were awarded to Josephine Jasmin and her assistant, Sister Linda D'Orazio.

Those teachers and aides who assisted with V.B.S. were as follows: Sister Linda D'Orazio, Dianne Jasmin, Beverly Schuette, Angie Moccio, Tina D'Orazio, Brother Stan Davis, Arta McGuire, Susan Davis and Jerry DiFede.

May the Lord bless all who so altruistically cooperated to give so much happiness to these young children, our legacy of the future.

Sister Lette Obradovich,  
Branch Editor

P.S. The D'Orazio children — John, Pamela, and Tommy, took their V.B.S. projects to their community center art show and won all the top honors. Congratulations!

## Lockport - Rochester Gathering

The Lockport-Rochester Gathering held in Lockport on Sunday, September 1, 1976 brought several Branches of the Ohio District together for the furtherance of the spiritual kingdom of God on earth. Saints gathered from Erie, Niles, Lockport and Rochester. Brother Rocco Ensana from the New Jersey area was also present.

The Erie-Niles group sang, "Come all Ye Sons of Zion" and, "A Crown for the Righteous". Little Jason Grimes, a child of one of our visiting friends was blessed and many Brothers and Sisters received prayer for strength.

Brother Joe Genaro from Niles opened the service with the question, "What is Fasting?" He read the account of Cornelius from Acts 10:30, which tells of how Cornelius was fasting four days; and also read from Alma 10:1-10 which gives the account of how Amulek was converted. He specifically noted the verse in which God told him to return to his own house and feed the prophet Alma, who had fasted many days because of the sins of his people. He admonished those who were seeking God to go into fasting and prayer to find the true and living God, and he challenged the Saints to fast and pray that they would receive their request.

Brother Joe told of a personal experience where he had been fasting for the return of the gifts and while he was on the job he went into a casual prayer, only to be told by the Spirit of God (after returning to work) to go back and pray with a broken heart. He concluded by telling us to trust in God.

Brother Rocco Ensana from New Jersey followed by emphasizing to the congregation that fasting and prayer alone was not enough. He said that God not only wanted us to take inventory of our lives, and asked us to reflect sacrifices but He also wanted obedience. He exhorted upon the conditions which existed in the days of old wherein the Brothers and Sisters fasted and prayed and got results. He reminded us that this work, the building

of the kingdom of God, must be done by the people of God and no one else is going to do it. He remarked that we must be free of ALL things to do the work of God — to take this Gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. He concluded his talk by telling of incidents in his day when not one, but several people were baptized upon hearing his testimony. He pleaded with us to ask God for a spirit of discernment and exhorted us to Forgive One Another. He asked the question, "Are we ready to do His work and not worry about anything else?"

At this point the Spirit of God moved upon Sister Williams and she asked the Elders for permission to read an inspired poem God had given her recently titled: "All That the Eyes Can See — The Duplication Process".

Brother Patsy Marinetti continued by pointing out that these men of old, Cornelius and Amulek, were mortal men seeking not the kingdom of men, but the kingdom of Christ, which was life. Their strength was in God. Brother Marinetti said that we must put God in His proper place and serve Him with our heart, mind, soul and strength. "Fasting", said Brother Patsy, "is to bring into full concentration the energy of your soul in prayer unto God." He concluded by exhorting us to discover the potential of fasting and prayer.

Brother Ansel D'Amico from Rochester told of an experience about a man who had a vision in which a man appeared in white with a large book. He opened the book and read these words, "Where is your first love?" He turned to another part of the book and read, "Blessed are those who are found fasting and praying and laboring diligently in the work of the Lord". The man in white turned to another section of the book and read, "Woe, Woe, unto those who are not found fasting and praying and laboring diligently in the work of the Lord." He concluded these remarks by saying that we want to be found fasting and praying, and to ask God, seek Him and knock at His door.

In his closing remarks, Brother Paul D'Amico gave us the good news that forty-two souls were baptized in Ghana. Brother Burge closed in prayer.

Sister Williams  
Lockport Branch Editor

## Spiritual Meeting Held At Warren, Ohio

The Spirit of God was manifested in the spiritual meeting in our Branch which was held on Sunday, September 12, 1976. There were many visiting Brothers and Sisters at our meeting from throughout the District. We enjoyed the blessings of God when Brother Joe Genaro spoke in Tongues. The interpretation was, "Heal Thee, Heal Thee, Heal Thee." We thank God for this blessing.

Brother Joe and Brother Frank Calabrese told of an experience in Lorain wherein Brother Frank Altomare in a vision saw John the Divine.

Many of our Brothers followed with words of encouragement to the Saints. We are looking forward to further spiritual meetings.

Submitted by Sister Karen Brown

## — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Julie Lynn to Peter and Marilyn Sclaro of Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan;

Kimberly Anne to Larry and Kathleen Perkins of Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan;

## ● OBITUARIES ●

### MARY SERRA

Sister Mary Serra was born in Johnston City, Illinois on January 14, 1915 and passed on to her reward September 1, 1976. She was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ for many years.

Left to mourn her passing are five daughters, ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, two sisters and one brother, along with many other relatives, Brothers and Sisters in Christ, and a host of friends.

Brother Louis Vitto officiated at the funeral which was held at The Sterling Heights Branch. He was assisted by Brother Carl Frammolino.

She was interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

### THERESA GIOVANNONE

Sister Theresa Giovannone passed on to her heavenly reward on September 12, 1976. She was a faithful member of the Youngstown, Ohio Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ. She was born on November 28, 1890 and was baptized on January 18, 1920.

She leaves to mourn her loss, six sons, five daughters, 20 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers A. A. Corado and Frank Giovannone.

Sister Giovannone was ordained into the office of Deaconess. She was a pioneer of the Youngstown Branch and served faithfully her God.

### VINCENT GALLUCCI

Brother Vincent Gallucci of Rochester, New York passed on to be with his Eternal Father on September 4, 1976. He was 94 years old. He was born on April 27, 1882. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on June 11, 1923.

He is survived by two sons, three daughters, 15 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul D'Amico and Ansel D'Amico, his son-in-law.

Brother Gallucci was ordained a Deacon on January 9, 19 . In 43 years in The Church he loved God and kept His Commandments.

### FRANK RANDAZZO

Mr. Frank Randazzo was born on March 20, 1914, and he passed from this life on July 11, 1976.

He is survived by his wife, Sister Jennie Randazzo, four sons, one daughter, five grandchildren and two brothers.

Funeral services were conducted by Brothers Paul and Louis Vitto. May the Lord be with all those who loved him.

### FRANCESCA PAGOTO

Sister Francesca Pagoto passed on to her heavenly reward on August 12, 1976. Sister Francesca was born on November 11, 1891 and was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on July 14, 1929.

She is survived by two sons and one daughter.

The funeral service was conducted by Brother Spencer Everett. Sister Francesca had been failing for several years, but we know her heart was still firm in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### MARY EMMOLO

Sister Mary Emmolo passed from this life on September 18, 1976. She was a loved member of Branch No. 1 in Detroit, Michigan. Sister Mary was born on September 2, 1909 and was baptized on February 9, 1930.

She leaves to mourn her loss her husband, Brother Frank Emmolo, one daughter and four grandchildren.

Brother Nick Pietrangelo conducted her funeral service. Sister Mary had suffered a long illness, and we take comfort in knowing that she is resting peacefully on the other side.

### A SAD NOTE

We send this sad note and extend our deepest condolences to our Sister Mary Dicheria, who recently lost her young grandson, Frank Dicheria. We pray the Lord will comfort all of his loved ones.

### ATTENTION CAMPERS

If you have a refund coming to you from 1976 Camp-out at Kansas, please contact Brother Joe Ross and indicate the amount.

Joe Ross  
Ross Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001

# The GOSPEL NEWS

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

December, 1976

Volume 32, No. 12

Offices: 6th & Lincoln Sts.

*Greetings of the Season*



FROM THE GOSPEL NEWS STAFF

## NOVEMBER G.M.B.A. CONFERENCE

The Semi-Annual G.M.B.A. Conference was held on Saturday, November 13, 1976 at the General Church Auditorium in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. A good representation from every Area of The Church was present in one of our largest gatherings for G.M.B.A.

Our meeting started at 10:30 a.m. (a little late) with prayer by Brother Tom Ross. Brother Louis Vitto, the Chaplain, introduced the meeting with reading a portion of Scripture.

The President, Brother Paul Palmieri, then welcomed everyone to the Conference encouraging us to be busy working for the welfare of others.

We then went into the different items of business: such as, *Lesson Plans*, *Book of Mormon Concordance*, *Missionary Brochures*, *The Jaredite Lesson Plan*, and a report of the 1976 *Campout* in Augusta, Kansas.

The officer's reports followed and well over \$3,000 was received from 41 M.B.A. locals, throughout The Church. The G.M.B.A. goal of \$200.00 per local netted approximately \$3,400 for the Missionary work of The Church. The entire amount of money collected in our project goal is given to The Church.

We also gave \$500 to the General Church Auditorium for some new equipment in the kitchen and in the auditorium; and, \$1,700 was given to the General Church Missionary Fund.

Some of the items of interest were:

- (a) A motion was passed that the Activities Committee set up a committee to restructure the G.M.B.A. By-Laws.
- (b) G.M.B.A. Campout will be at Camp Towanda in Northeastern Pennsylvania on June 18 to 25, 1977.
- (c) We established a goal of \$3,000 to help the General Church's Missionary Work.
- (d) We established a fund to raise money to pay for Brothers from different countries to visit the Church in the United States.
- (e) We set the May, 1977 G.M.B.A. Conference to be held in Detroit, Michigan.

Election of Officers was conducted. The following were elected for the next year:

President, Paul Palmieri  
 Vice President, Donald Ross  
 Chaplain, Richard Scaglione  
 Corresponding Secretary, MaryAnn Ensana  
 Assistant Secretary, Ruth Akerman  
 Assistant Secretary, Karen Milantoni  
 Financial Secretary, James Link  
 Treasurer, Wayne Martorana  
 Auditor, Randy Huttenberger  
 Auditor, Tom Banyaski  
 Editor, James Gibson  
 Assistant Editor, Charles Jumper  
 Historian, Mark Landrey

Our evening meeting opened and Branch No. 2 and No. 4 of Detroit presented an excellent program, "Blessed is the Nation". We all felt the goodness of God in their presentation.

We had installation of officers, and gifts were presented to Brother Louis Vitto and Sister Ruth Akerman for their services to the G.M.B.A.

Our meeting came to a close as Brother Richard Scaglione offered prayer. It was a good day for everyone to remember.

## SUNDAY MEETING

NOVEMBER 14, 1976

The Sunday meeting was held by the Pennsylvania District. Brother John Manes, District President, welcomed the large attendance and called upon Brother Paul Whitton to introduce our service after Brother Harry Robinson offered prayer.

Brother Paul selected Psalms, Chapter 136, and commented on David giving thanks to God. He stressed the goodness and mercy of God to man. He related how God was so good that He did not leave people in ignorance but restored the Gospel with the full gifts of the Church. The same principles taught by Christ in His time should have the same effects during our time. To obtain and maintain the gifts of the Gospel, an individual must obey the principle taught by Jesus Christ.

Brother Frank Morle followed and related a beautiful experience on placing God above everything else. And we should do this, because we love Him, and every effort is needed to tell others the good news of Christ. There exists a need of inner peace among people today as never before. He concluded by addressing the youth of the Church to work for God and His Church. Follow after those who have kept the Faith and serve God every day of their lives. Don't get taken up with the cry of the world to "do your own thing." Do God's thing.

We then had a solo by Brother David Majoros, "O God Give Strength", after which he spoke on how the river Jordan divided after the people committed themselves to crossing the river. We must be like the people of old and step out on faith and not be afraid to get our "feet" wet. We can't wait for God to clear the way first. We must venture out and work for Him, and then He will open the way.

Our desire to work for God should be one of love and not an attitude that we are obligated.

Brother Harry Robinson expressed himself on how good it was to be here under the sound of the Gospel... that this is the Church that is to go to all people to bring salvation to all nations. We should all be missionaries, and it will require sacrifice if we are to advance the Gospel. He also read an experience where God has again told us that this is His Church.

Brother Joe Calabrese related that he had gone to Mexico City to participate in the dedication of their new building, and it was a fulfillment of an experience he had when he visited Mexico City some twenty years ago. He recounted the wonderful time they had during the week-end of November 6, 1976 (a complete report will appear in a later issue of *The Gospel News*.)

The General Church President, Brother D. Thomas, offered a special prayer in behalf of Brother David Majeros, who is now working on the San Carlos Reservation. He made some remarks relative to those who work for the Church.

We then sang hymn No. 11, "An Angel Came Down", and the meeting was closed in prayer by Brother Richard Scaglione.

It was an end of a wonderful week-end. God bless you.

Brother James Gibson  
G.M.B.A. Editor

—o—

## PERSONAL TESTIMONY

I first came in contact with The Church of Jesus Christ through talks that I would have with Sister Marie Caldwell. She invited me to visit on numerous occasions until finally I did attend one Sunday and enjoyed the service very much.

I continued coming to this Church and eventually was baptized because of a variety of reasons. Everyone in the Church is so warm and full of love — they just radiate. I was always greeted with a handshake, a hug, a kiss and many kind words. What was important was that I felt that they really meant what they said, I knew that it came from their heart.

I found that I enjoyed the services and felt at ease. I always left with a warm feeling and more of an understanding of the Scripture. I also feel that the people of this Church are truly concerned about my spiritual well being. But unlike the other churches I've attended, I never once felt pushed. I know that if I have any questions or I'm troubled, I need not hesitate to call, and someone is always there to listen to me and try to help me.

Sister Darlene Irwin

—o—

## Note of Thanks

Thanks to one and all for your prayers, cards, phone calls and visits in behalf of my mother, Sister Margaret (Maggie) Ward during her recent surgery. The doctors and nurses are amazed at her remarkable recovery and endurance because of her 86 years and a heart history.

She wanted to live long enough to say "she had 70 years in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, 70 wonderful years". She was baptized on October 13, 1906 by Brother Cherry in Pricedale, Pennsylvania in Allen's Creek which had to be damned up for depth.

She's still in the hospital at this date and is doing well. Thank you, everyone, and God bless you all!

Sister Bertha Sommerville

## District Conferences . . .

### CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

On August 28 and 29, the California District held their semi-annual conference in San Diego. The business session was conducted on Saturday, with only five absentees. The usual order of business was followed, concluding Saturday evening by the report of an experience Brother Ike Smith had while visiting the mission in Mexico City.

The Sunday service which normally convenes at 10:00 A.M. was delayed, due to a mixup by the janitor of the school we had rented for the day. Fortunately, we were only a couple of miles from the church building, so everyone drove there, and efforts were made to provide seating for all. Shortly thereafter, the service started, with the young children singing a medley of three songs. Our Brothers and Sisters from Tijuana sang two songs in Spanish, after which Brother Joe Bologna offered the invocation. Sister Rose Loyalvo sang a selection, and then Brother Aldo DiAngelo, visiting from Cincinnati, Ohio opened with the text from *Joshua* 24:14-16. Brother Aldo expressed very vividly the correlation between the Church of today and the people of Israel under Joshua's leadership. The time arrived for Israel that they must cease their wandering in the wilderness and make a decision to follow their God through the battles that they had ahead or stay behind and accept the consequences. The difference between Moses' patient attitude and the take-charge, make a commitment personality of Joshua was pointed out. While opposite in nature, each fulfilled a need at the proper time in Israel's history.

It was pointed out that the same challenge applies to the Church today. Zion must be established and we have to stop toying with that responsibility and commit ourselves to the task. The future of Zion will depend on this Church's efforts. We are the Church, and cannot turn our backs on the work entrusted to us. The message was very clear. Do we have ears to hear?

Brother Frank Genaro followed with a few thoughts to support the subject. He recounted the experience of Brother Ether Furnier concerning the passing of the Moses era and the dawning of the Joshua period. A period of action. He gave testimony of God's help in his own personal life. He noted that by faith and perseverance his needs were met.

Brother Edmund Buccellato followed and spoke of Abinadi's experiences in trying to convert the people. He warned that we should not allow the message to fall on deaf ears, such as they did. He related the scriptures in *III Nephi* 24:10 and *Isaiah* 58 which point out the things that are acceptable before the Lord.

Brother Joe Ciarolla commented that God loved Israel above all others, yet they fell through transgression. He warned us to beware of forbidden pastures, as they will lead us astray. He also related his experiences while working on the building in Mexico City.

Brother Tom Liberto gave some closing admonishments to heed the words of the Brothers. Before closing, two were anointed and one prayed for as we looked to God for help.

Sister Iva Bordeaux from Yucaipa gave a testimony saying that she was given the words of the opening speaker in a dream the night before. We felt that the dream confirmed the importance of the message.

Brother Jim Velardi, visiting from Florida, dismissed the meeting with prayer.

While it is impossible to convey the full message in writing, I urge all of you who read this article to read the scriptures quoted in the sermons as they were intended for all the Church to heed. May God inspire all of the Saints to stir up the gift that is within you and see with new eyes the mission God is expecting us to fulfill.

In His Service,

Brother Ken Surdock

District Editor

## ARIZONA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

With great hope for God's blessings, the Arizona District Conference convened on September 4, 1976 in Red Lake, Arizona. The recently established Red Lake Branch was honored to host this conference, the first district conference to be held on the Navajo Reservation.

From the very beginning it was evident that our Brothers were determined to work in unity for the strengthening and upbuilding of our Arizona District. We began with a season of prayer opened by Brother Anthony Brutz. We were privileged to have with us Brothers Aldo D'Angelo and David Majoros from Pennsylvania.

God's Spirit did abide with us through the transaction of all our business. We were able to progress rapidly, though thoroughly, through all the affairs of the day. This left the Saturday evening open entirely to inspired singing and speaking. Songs were sung by the congregation, various special groups, and a solo by Brother David Majoros. Brother Steve Saffron spoke from Psalms about David who did not trust in the armour which King Saul wanted to give him. He instead trusted in the Lord God of Israel who had helped him many times before. Brother Saffron encouraged us to do as David and place our faith and trust in God!

After a vote of thanks was given to the Red Lake Branch for hosting this conference, closing prayer was offered by Brother Jacob Christman.

On Sunday, we were all greeted by bright sunshine and beautiful blue skies. We sang several songs as a congregation, heard a solo by Sister Donna Ciccati, and two selections in Navajo by the Red Lake Branch. Following the opening prayer by Brother David Majoros, Brother Aldo D'Angelo spoke on *Alma* 42 concerning mercy and justice. Our Brother's words were seasoned by the Spirit of God as he spoke on the law and justice which gave way to the mercy of God through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. He added that today we are engaged in a great work. If we are to see results, we must proceed in righteousness and do the job right.

Brother David Majoros followed, expressing thankfulness for being able to spend time with the Red Lake

and San Carlos Brothers and Sisters during the summer as they worked among the Navajo and Apache people.

Brother Peter Capone then spoke of our service to God, who has made us free agents and does not force us to serve Him. Our Brother concluded by saying that it was for the unrighteous man that the law was given and that we of The Church are under grace and must clothe ourselves with the armour of God.

With some closing remarks, Brother Bob Watson encouraged us to think seriously about the things we had heard in order that we would advance on all fronts during the coming six months.

We then sang the hymn, "Are Ye Able" and Brother Ether Furnier closed in prayer.

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Victor Ciarolla and Annie Spain Ciarolla were united in marriage on October 2, 1926.

Brother and Sister Ciarolla, members of the Warren, Ohio Branch celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 16, 1976. Dinner was served to about 200 friends and relatives.

They are the parents of five children: Sister Dora Castelli of San Diego, Calif.; Brother Joe Ciarolla of Oakdale, Calif.; Margarite Knowles of Warren, Ohio; Virginia Muniz of San Diego, Calif.; and Brother Richard Ciarolla of Warren, Ohio. They have 17 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

May God Bless our Brother and Sister with many more blissful years together.



## Hymn No. 124 — Old Hymnal

Since I can read my title clear  
To mansions in the skies,  
I'll bid farewell to every tear  
And wipe my weeping eyes.  
Should earth against my soul engage,  
And fiery darts be hurled,  
Then I can smile at Satan's rage  
And face a frowning world.

Let cares like a wild deluge come,  
Let storms of sorrow fall,  
So I but safely reach my home,  
My God, my heaven, my all.  
There I shall bathe my weary soul  
In seas of heavenly rest,  
And not a wave of trouble roll  
Across my peaceful breast.

No, never alone, no, never alone!  
He promised never to leave me,  
Never to leave me alone.  
No, never alone, no, never alone!  
He promised never to leave me,  
Never to leave me alone.



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## Editorial Viewpoint . . .

### THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM

As the Nativity Seasons draws near our thoughts are gradually directed more forcibly back to the time of that historic event, the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are stirred anew as we ponder that He was born of a Virgin amid humble surroundings almost 20 centuries ago.

The lowly birth of our Lord had been foretold by prophets many years ago. However, the *Book of Mormon* prophecies are plainer in some instances than those in our *Holy Bible*.

### THE CONDESCENSION OF GOD

During Nephi's remarkable vision of the Virgin Mary whom he describes as "most beautiful and fair above all other virgins" the angel asked him, "Knowest thou the condescension of God?" Nephi replied, "I know that he loveth his children, nevertheless, I do not know the meaning of all things." The angel then said, "Behold, the virgin whom thou seest is the mother of the Son of God after the manner of the flesh."

Later in the vision, Nephi beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms. At this point, the angel declared to Nephi, "Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father!"

*Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary* defines the word condescend as follows: 1. To stoop or descend to an attitude less formal or stately; specif.: a. To waive the privilege of rank or dignity.

We marvel at the eloquence and simplicity of the message of the angel to Nephi nearly 600 years B.C. in manifesting the condescension of God, the humble birth of our Lord.

### THE LORD OMNIPOTENT

Almost 500 years after Nephi's glorious experience, good King Benjamin also was blessed with a visitation by an angel of God whose remarkable message to the king was, "... behold, I am come to declare unto you the glad tidings of great joy.

For the Lord hath heard thy prayers, and hath judged of thy righteousness, and hath sent me to declare unto thee that thou mayest rejoice; and that thou mayest declare unto thy people, that they may also be filled with joy.

For behold, the time cometh, and is not far distant, that with power, the Lord Omnipotent who reigneth, who was, and is from all eternity to all eternity, shall come down from heaven among the children of men, and shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay, and shall go forth amongst men, working mighty miracles...

And lo, he shall suffer temptations, and pain of body, hunger, thirst, and fatigue, even more than man can suffer, except it be unto death; for behold, blood cometh from every pore, so great shall be his anguish for the wickedness and abominations of his people.

And he shall be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and earth, the Creator of all things from the beginning; and his mother shall be called Mary.

And moreover, I say unto you, that there shall be no other name given nor any other way nor means whereby salvation can come unto the children of men, only in and through the name of Christ, the Lord Omnipotent." (*Mosiah 3:3-17*)

At this Christmas Season may we be mindful of God's great gift to the world.



## The Children's Corner

*Mabel Bickerton*

### THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING

Dear Girls and Boys,

Many, many years ago an angel appeared to a young lady whose name was Mary. The Angel said, "Hail thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women." This troubled Mary but the angel soon allayed her fears. He said she would have a son and his name was to be Jesus. He was to be great, he would be called the Son of the Highest and there would be no end to his kingdom. What great honor was soon to be bestowed on Mary, the greatest honor that could ever come to a woman.

Mary questioned the angel, "How shall this be?" Then, "Be it unto me according to thy word." Mary sang a beautiful song, "My soul doth magnify the Lord." Through this experience the small town of Nazareth became a very important place, even today it is outstanding with beautiful churches, old trade routes, old carpenter shops and Mary's Well. It is fed from the only spring in Nazareth and is still used.

The angel visited a good man named Joseph and told him about Mary and God's Son. Joseph loved Mary and became her husband. The ruler in that day ordered a census be taken, a Jewish custom. To be registered, all people had to go to their ancestral city. Since Joseph was a descendant of David, he had to go to Bethlehem of Judea. It was a distance of one hundred miles from Nazareth.

Off Mary and Joseph started on their long journey. The journey was slow and very tiring. When they arrived in Bethlehem many, many people were there. All the inns were filled. Joseph could find no room at any inn for Mary. They retired to a stable and here Baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.

In the same country, there were shepherds abiding in the fields. They were keeping watch over their flocks of sheep. It was night. An angel of the Lord came to them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them. They were afraid. The angel said, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." He continued to tell them about baby Jesus and how they could find him. The shepherds followed the angel's instructions and soon found the baby in the manger. Then they returned home, glorifying God and spreading the good tidings. They had just worshipped the newborn King.

Have a nice Christmas and don't forget the real meaning of this time of the year.

Sincerely,

Sister Mabel

## OUR WOMEN TODAY . . .

### Youngstown Ladies Circle

August 12, 1976 was a night of joy for the Ladies Circle of Youngstown, Ohio. Forty Sisters and friends gathered at the home of Sister Amy Cook, where everyone enjoyed a covered dish supper.

During the evening many beautiful hymns were sung. We opened our meeting with prayer by Sister Dolly Kovacic. Sister Bertha Constantine, formerly of Youngstown, now residing in Cape Coral, Fla. gave her testimony on the history of the Ladies Circle, dating back to 1945. Her daughter, Sister Jackie Hickman, of Jacksonville, Fla. gave an inspiring testimony on how she came into the Church. Sister Debbie Baldwin, New Jersey told of her baptism two months ago. Sister Dolly gave her testimony on the blessings the Ladies Circle in Erie has received. Sister Marlea Frentzos gave a beautiful testimony on how the Gospel started in New Orleans, La.

The Spirit of the Lord was surely felt by all in our service. Many other Sisters testified to the goodness of God. It was a night that will be long remembered.

Sister Annabel Santilli  
Youngstown, Ohio

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### PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Three months ago, I had never heard of The Church of Jesus Christ. My son John and his wife Darlene had been attending church services and told me how much they loved it, so one Saturday they asked if I would accompany them in the morning. I honestly was not interested, but since my son had found his way back to God and was attending church, I decided to go with him to please him.

I had been having problems with my nerves and I didn't like going out too much, but as we sat in the church, I noticed I felt quite calm and very peaceful. However, when the sacrament was served and I learned I couldn't partake of it because I wasn't baptized, I must admit I felt hurt and a little indignant. I asked myself, "Who are these people to say I had not been baptized? Why I certainly was baptized as a child and had been taking communion since I was 15." With all this in my mind I felt I would never go to their church again.

After the church service, my son asked Sister Marie Caldwell if she would come to his home that afternoon and talk with me. Without a moment's hesitation, she said she would. For some unknown reason, I felt eager to talk with her. She arrived at 4:30 p.m. and at 6:00 p.m., Brother Frank Calabrese came. We sat in my son's house and talked until 11:00 p.m. I just couldn't believe it when they explained that my childhood baptism would not save me, that I must be baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ to be saved. They gave me chapters of the Bible to read where I could learn the truth.

After that Sunday, I continued attending services with my son and family and I began to look forward to services. I was reading my Bible and could see it all more clearly. During this period of time Sister Marie and Brother Frank kept a close contact with me, talking with me, and answering hundreds of my questions. I have never

before in my life known people so full of love and goodness. I have been a Christian all my life, but I felt empty. I came home and felt so useless and alone, but not anymore, now I began to feel a newness, a new me.

During this time I began to realize the truth, I needed to be baptized, but I felt I wasn't ready. I still had a few personal doubts so I was praying for Divine Guidance and I asked for a sign. I waited on a sign. I promised God I wouldn't ask for baptism without a sign, and this I expected to take some time. Well dear friends, as I sat in church on September 5, I was up on my feet asking for baptism. To this day, I know I didn't stand up on my own. After church services I was taken to the river and baptized by Brother Frank Calabrese and confirmed by Brother Joseph Calabrese.

I am being filled, I don't feel empty any more. I have found comfort of love and goodness in The Church of Jesus Christ. I sit and I walk with people who know the truth, and I am ever so happy they helped me to know the truth.

Sister June Irwin

Dear Brother Paul Palmieri,

My subscription to the *Gospel News* has recently expired and I really miss hearing about my Brothers and Sisters in the Church. Please renew my subscription for two years, I have enclosed eight dollars. My address is 4155 Bonillo Dr., Apt. 341, San Diego, Calif., 92115.

I would also like to share some of my thoughts with your readers. Recently our San Diego Branch has gone through a very sad time. One of our most beloved Elders, has passed away. Brother Ben Ciccatti has been a pillar in our Branch, for as long as I can remember. When I was a little girl, growing up in the Church, I remember Brother Ben's kindness, compassion and sincerity.

We had all been praying for Brother Ben, who was suffering for so long a time. He who had always been so kind, was in so much pain. It was an agony to us all. Many of us prayed to the Lord, to let us share his pain, to spare him any more suffering.

One of Brother Ben's most ardent desires, was that his illness, would not weaken any of the Brother's and Sister's faith. He knew how much we loved him and how we hated to give him up. When the Lord took our Brother home, we were all saddened at our loss. But I feel that the Lord did answer our prayers. He released Brother Ben from his agony and pain, his increasing weakness and nausea. He also released him, from watching his loved ones suffering with him. The Lord has taken one of His chosen, home to rest. We shall miss him more each passing day. Especially on Sundays, when his chair will be empty on the pulpit. I like to think of Brother Ben in heaven, looking down at us, and smiling his own loving smile. So full of understanding and the Love of God. If anyone deserved to be with the Lord, it is Brother Ben.

He has always been an example to all of us. He was a kind and loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, cousin, Elder, Teacher and friend. He was always willing to help in any way he could. From making clothes racks for the Ladies Circle Rummage Sale, to fasting and praying, for anyone who was ill or weak in the Church. He always had the time to care about his Brothers and Sisters.

One of the best tributes to Brother Ben's life is his family, his friends, and the Brothers and Sisters who loved him. He was always well loved! Another tribute to him, are his three beautiful children. They have grown up to be everything a parent could want in a child. David, Gary and Francine, gave their father the greatest gift, they followed his example and are striving to devote their lives to the Lord. Brother Ben lived long enough to see all three of his children baptized, in the Church. What a blessing and a comfort for him.

I have a poem here, and every time I read it, I think of Brother Ben. I would like to share it with your readers.

#### SERMONS WE SEE

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one, any day.

I'd rather one should walk with me, than merely show the way.

The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear;  
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear;  
And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,

For to see the good in action is what everybody needs.

I can soon learn how to do it if you'll let me see it done.

I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.

And the lectures you deliver may be very wise and true;  
But I'd rather get my lesson by observing what you do.  
For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give.

But there's no misunderstanding how *you act* and how *you LIVE*.

—Edgar A. Guest

Thank you, Brother Ben for everything you have shown me, throughout your lifetime. And thank You, dear God, for giving us Brother Ben. He will always be a reflection of Your love. We wish we could have had him with us a little longer. But we know, that none of us could love him, as much as You do.

Rest in peace and love, Brother Ben, until we meet again.

Love,

Sister Lorraine Marano  
San Diego Branch

#### IN MEMORY OF BRO. BENJAMIN CICCATTI

by Paul Liberto

It doesn't seem possible Brother Ben is gone. He was a part of my life for over thirty years. I miss him very much and so do all the others who knew and loved him as I did.

I'm not sure why God called him home, or why he had to suffer so with the cancer that took his life, but I am comforted to know that God doesn't make mistakes. It also makes me feel better when I remember that he is resting in Paradise now.

Brother Ben was born on January 5, 1924, in Lorain, Ohio. He left Ohio to serve in the armed forces, and after overseas duty, eventually moved to California in 1945. He passed away on September 22, 1976.

Brother Ben was a faithful husband, loving father and eldest son in a family of 12 children. He was married on June 25, 1949 at San Diego, California. He is survived by his wife, Josephine; two sons, David and Gary; one daughter, Francine; his mother, Anna Ciccatti; four brothers, Louis, Samuel, Daniel and David; six sisters, Elaine Voelker, Edith Genaro, Mary Altomare, Elizabeth Aranyi, Irene Dulisse and Marlene Ciccatti; his daughter-in-law, Debra; as well as many nieces and nephews, other relatives, and countless friends.

Brother Ben worked his way through college and chose to be an educator. He taught school for 25 years. First, and foremost, however, he was a servant of God. He was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on February 9, 1947, at San Diego, California, and remained a staunch member until his death. He was ordained as an Elder on May 4, 1952, and subsequently as an Evangelist on May 2, 1965. He served five years on The Church of Jesus Christ California District Mission Board, with three years as board secretary. He also served eleven years as District Secretary and three and a half years as Second Counselor to the District President. He was Presiding Elder of the San Diego Branch many years and spent most of his free time in working for God. Brother Ben believed a man could have no higher calling in life than to be a minister of God.

Brother Ben was also a photographer, a carpenter, a mechanic, an artist, and all around handyman. He was a counselor, a motivator and scholar. Although his life was too full to have much time for leisure, he always managed to make time for such things as installing cabinets at the Church, helping a friend put in a patio, and making clothes racks for the Ladies Circle rummage sales.

He found time to gain a comprehensive knowledge of the scriptures and spent many hours using his knowledge in preparing charts and lesson plans for Sunday School classes and seminars. He also delivered many inspiring sermons.

Brother Ben was always ready to visit the sick, and to counsel with those who had problems. In a quiet, determined way, he found time to do many things that needed done. His consistency was one of his virtues. He was a gentle, loving man, always ready to pray for those in need.

Brother Ben always admonished the Saints to be courageous in their service to God. He urged them to remain constant in their efforts—not hot and cold. He was a living example of his admonitions. It is a tribute to his example and his teachings that his wife and family are committed to continue in courageous service to God as he would have wanted them to.

I was privileged to grow up under the sound of his voice. He taught me much of what I know about God and His Son, Jesus Christ. He helped instill within me the faith in God I now have. It is this faith that gives me comfort in knowing he is now in a place of rest. I am proud to have been a fellow minister with him. I thank God Brother Ben touched my life and pray that my life can positively influence others as his did.

His voice is stilled now and all who were close to him feel an emptiness in their lives. His memory lives on, however, and his counsel and example will never die within our hearts.

## BRANCH AND MISSION NEWS:—

### Sterling Heights News Another Baptism

Sunday, September 5, we started our service with a series of anointings; Sister Helen Geanfirni and Sister Corrado for physical strength, Frank Geanfirni for spiritual guidance, and Sisters Harriet Zampaglione and Pierina DiFalco, for spiritual strength.

Brother Paul Whitton opened in prayer, and Brother Frank Vitto, visiting with us from Branch No. 3, spoke to us from Isaiah 66:1-2 and from the *Book of Mormon*, 1 Nephi 22:24-29. Brother Frank stated that men of much learning might go beyond the true meaning of the *Bible*. We are now living in the Space Age, but the Word of God is sufficient in its teachings. The Church is built to stand because it is not built on the knowledge of man, man can fail, it is built on something Heaven sent, a Church to endure until the end of time. However, man cannot fail if he adheres to the Commandments of God. God made an everlasting Covenant with the Disciples, promising He would be with them always. That promise is with us today. America is known as the land of the free, it is fast becoming a land of fear, conditions so desperate, that God is caused to mourn. Are we sure today that our feet are on the solid foundation, if God does not reveal to us His will, we are lost. God's Church is built upon the rock, the rock is Revelation.

Brother Frank went on to say the spirit of repentance is a gift from God, unless we are willing to take the yoke of God upon us, we will have no part with Him. He then asked if there was anyone present who wanted to become a soldier for Christ, whereupon Frank Geanfirni stood and asked for his baptism, he then fell prostrate upon the floor, the power of God was so strong upon him. This was the first time many in our Church had witnessed this happening. Brother Sam DiFalco helped him to his feet, and he later said Frank was practically weightless. Brother Frank Vitto continued to say that his father prayed flat on the floor for the welfare of his children, and for that reason, he is out of the valley and on top of the mountain.

Brother Carl then told us that on Saturday night, he had a great desire to have Brother Frank Vitto with us on Sunday, and he was greatly pleased when he saw him walk in.

Brother Louis Vitto then announced that the baptism would be held at 6:00 P.M. at Stony Creek and we were dismissed by Brother John Buffa.

After the baptism, we returned to the church. Brother Frank was baptized by Brother Louis Vitto and confirmed by Brother John Buffa. The meeting was then left open for testimony. Sister Jean DePerno from Branch No. 1, told of how our new Brother's face kept appearing before her on Saturday, and she had a discussion with her husband as to why he had not yet asked for his baptism. This writer, along with others, had the thought that God giveth and God taketh away, our dear Sister Serr was laid to rest on Saturday, and on Sunday, God gave us another Brother.

Brother Paul Whitton dismissed us, and we then had refreshments and a period of fellowship in our church

basement. Our new Brother was radiant, his face wreathed in smiles as he told of his experiences. He said that when he came out of the water, he felt clean, he felt as he did when he first got married, only this time the Church was the bride.

Sister Hazel E. Zoltek  
Church Editor

## News from San Carlos

We wish to share with you a wonderful weekend in which we enjoyed many blessings. A few weeks back our mission started holding Friday night meetings which consist of lessons, recreation, and refreshments. The Lord has surely answered our prayers, providing 40, 50 and this past weekend 60 people in attendance, both young and old.

We would encourage young people to prayerfully consider working among the Seed of Joseph at San Carlos and other parts of the Church. If you have the desire to help in such activities in San Carlos, contact Brother David Majoros, Box 65, San Carlos, Arizona 85550. Accommodations are available.

That same weekend, the Saints rejoiced in a glorious Sunday service filled with the many gifts of God. The meeting began with Brother Joe Milantoni addressing the congregation on the need for Jesus Christ in our life. He then proceeded turning the authority of the mission over to Brother David Majoros, wishing God's blessing upon Brother David in his administering to the Seed of Joseph and the Saints in San Carlos. Our Brothers then embraced in the love of God; then Brother David addressed the congregation, asking for their support both naturally and spiritually.

Brother David has been richly blessed in his short stay in San Carlos already. Living with Brother David and sharing many blessings with him, I thank God for our Brother David. The Brothers and Sisters have accepted and love Brother David very much. His enthusiasm has been a blessing to all at the mission, especially the young.

Our Sunday service then proceeded in feet washing, and God's promised blessings were with us. After feet washing, Sister Paulette Griffith was ordained a Deaconess. The blessing of God was really manifested as Sister Anita Hopkins washed our Sister Paulette's feet. Sisters of The Church, just picture in your own mind the blessing and honor of washing feet with one of the daughters of Israel!

The Spirit of God began to work upon the Saints in the meeting, and many asked for prayer. Many were healed of their afflictions, and we thank God two of our beloved members were reinstated into dutiful membership. We thank God for His bountiful mercies.

Our day concluded with a joyful "potluck dinner" in commemoration of Brother Joe and Sister Rose Milantoni's coming departure from San Carlos. Brother Joe and Sister Rose have been a blessing and a joy to all the Saints in San Carlos who love them both dearly. Our prayer is God's continued blessings upon Brother Joe and Sister Rose. The Sisters of the mission made a beautiful quilt for the Milantoni's; the quilt was presented to them by Sisters Isadora and Anita. The remainder of the

day was spent feasting on the dinner prepared by all the Saints and enjoying one another's presence. We ask an interest in your prayers for the mission, that God's many blessings might continue to strive with His chosen people, the Seed of Joseph and The Church everywhere.

## Baptism in Vanderbilt, Pa.

Mark Allen King of the Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania Branch was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ on Sunday, September 12, 1976. He was baptized by his father, Brother Lawrence King and was confirmed by Brother Harry Robinson of Clairton, Pennsylvania who was visiting the Branch. Also visiting were Brother and Sister James Moore of Imperial, Pa.

It was a wonderful day as we truly felt the Spirit of God. Pray for us that we might continue to experience God's blessing.

## Visitor at McKees Rocks

Wednesday of General Conference week the McKees Rocks Branch was blessed in having Brother Marco Randy in our meeting. He spoke of the one who was born blind and Jesus made him to see. The parents were afraid to tell who made their son to see because of being cast out from the synagogue, comparing today, that all who believe the *Book of Mormon* must be bold in speaking the truth and not be afraid of being called Mormons. Many wonderful words were spoken for which we do praise the Lord.

## Red Lake Branch News

Dear Readers,

The Red Lake Branch has enjoyed the blessings of God in our services, outreach activities, and individual lives. Some of our most memorable times have been when visitors from other Branches and Missions joined us in worship and labor in the work of God in this part of His vineyard.

Since our last writing, we shared our hospitality to several young people and families who felt to come to the Navajo Reservation after the campout in Kansas. We didn't waste the energy of the youth nor the wisdom and experience of the parents. Although we cannot name each one, we remember them and their contribution to our spiritual welfare and the project with the Red Lake Chapter.

More recently, we enjoyed visitors from Yucaipa, California, and Ontario, Canada. It was uplifting to see those of our grandparents' age out traveling to this outpost of the Gospel with that same enthusiasm that was so impressive to us in the past. The flame of the Gospel and the Hopes of the Latter Days still burn brightly within their hearts and souls.

Sister Ford presented our Branch with a complete sacramental setting to be used for the Lord's Supper. Our Sister related to us how she followed the Spirit of God as she sought out the materials and crystal setting. She decorated the linen herself and with exquisite beauty,

but she was not sure of the words to place on the cover. She asked Sister Nancy Watson if she had any inspiration about it, but she hadn't then. The following morning, Sister Nancy told Sister Leta of an experience where she was given the words "Until He comes" to be placed on the linen. The reward for this labor of love came during the prayer of blessing when these items were set aside for the Holy Ordinance. As the members were kneeling along with the ministry, Sister Ford was not able to because of her poor health, but she witnessed this vision at that time: The face of an Indian woman wearing a beautiful smile passed before her as if she was approving of this blessing. This experience was very uplifting and confirming of God's pleasure in Sister Ford's efforts and the Branch's labors among the descendants of Joseph.

In this paper we would also like to mention the passing of two members of the Red Lake Community who were good friends of ours and had shown us a welcome here. Mr. John Lee passed away after a sudden accident involving a truck whose driver had lost control. He had attended some of our meetings, visited with us in our homes, and helped in the local project. Mrs. Bessie Silversmith passed away after suffering a heart attack while working in her field. She had participated in the summer educational program at the project site. Along with the Red Lake Community, we will miss them very much. We are thankful that we had the opportunity to assist these families with food and consolation during their hour of loss and grief.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers that the Gospel may find its way into the hearts of these people. With this thought, we look toward the winter season ahead and pray that God's blessing and protection will abide with His People. God bless you all.

The Red Lake Branch

## Monongahela Branch News

The Monongahela Branch observed a very special day on Sunday, October 31, 1976. Four ordinations were performed and the building was filled to witness this most extraordinary event. We were happy to see visitors from most of the Branches in the Pennsylvania District in attendance.

Our morning preaching service was opened by Brother Fred O'Lexa of the Roscoe Branch. He used the 21st chapter of St. John's Gospel and read of Christ's question to Peter: "Lovest thou Me?" Our Brother emphasized the Lord's answer to Peter: "Feed My Lambs" and "Feed My sheep." Those who are called as Ministers in The Church of Jesus Christ have this same commission, "Feed My sheep."

Brother Fred spoke of the Lord's words to the disciples as they fished without success. He told them to cast their nets on the other side of the ship. Immediately they caught an abundance of fish. This incident was likened to us as we met the Gospel. We cast our nets, spiritually speaking, from the worldly things to the other side and caught the blessings of the Restoration. We should grow in The Church so the Lord can expect more from us. We take on a greater responsibility in doing His work. We must give our best.

Brother Joseph Bittinger stated that we come into the Gospel and are faced with the reality of serving God.

Has the Lord ever asked us the question, "Lovest thou Me?" We cannot let the material things of life come between us and our service to God. With His help, we can do His will.

The afternoon meeting was opened by Brother Bittinger. He read from Alma and Jacob in the *Book of Mormon* concerning the ordinance of ordaining men into the Priesthood of The Church. This is the highest calling we can receive. Like Jacob and Joseph, we too are called into a position of responsibility and we must labor diligently to preach the true word of God and uphold the standard of righteousness in our day.

At this time the three Brothers being ordained as Elders came forth to have their feet washed. Brother Robert Nicklow had his feet washed by Brother John Griffith; and Brother William Chepanoske had his feet washed by Brother James Grazan; and Brother Richard Scaglione had his feet washed by Brother John O'Lexa. All the members of the Priesthood in attendance formed a circle around the three Brothers as they were anointed and the prayer of ordination offered. Brother Nicklow was ordained by Brother Joseph Shazer; Brother Chepanoske by Brother Russell Cadman; and Brother Scaglione by Brother Joseph Bittinger.

At this point, Brother John Manes read the duties of an Evangelist in The Church to Brother Grazan. Brother James Campbell then washed Brother Grazan's feet which was followed by the anointing and ordination prayer by Brother Fred O'Lexa.

We might mention that all four Brothers who were ordained into their respective offices in the Ministry are very active in the Urban Indian work in the Pittsburgh area. We pray that God will continue to bless and guide them in this work among His covenant people, the Seed of Joseph.

One of the high points of the day was the presence of Russell Simms and his family at our meeting to witness the ordinations. Russell is the Executive Director of the Three Rivers American Indian Council of Pittsburgh.

We thank and praise God for making this day a blessed and holy occasion. May God continue to strengthen and guide the Ministry of The Church of Jesus Christ, as well as the entire membership. Let our lives reflect our love for the Lord. Let our deeds show we love Him, so He won't have to ask the question, "Lovest Thou Me?"

## Youngstown, Ohio Branch 20th Anniversaary

The Youngstown, Ohio Branch had its 20th Anniversary in the present building on Saturday evening, October 2, 1976. Visiting Saints came from Niles, Warren, Kinsman, Perry, Lorain, Cleveland, and Erie, Pa.

Brother Timothy D. Bucci, our Presiding Elder, opened the service by reading *Psalm 100* and spoke on the events of the last twenty years in the Youngstown Branch. The cornerstone of our building was laid in 1956.

The visiting Saints and those of Youngstown all sang hymns of praise to the Lord. Refreshments were served in the church basement, and fellowship with one another was enjoyed by all.

Recent visitors to our Branch have been Brother Rocco Biscotti and Brother Joseph Lovalvo. On Sunday, September 26, Brother Tullio LaCivita of Detroit, Michigan opened the service reading from *II Timothy, Chapter 1* of Paul recalling that God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. He spoke of Paul persecuting the Church, his conversion, and then chosen of God to travel and preach for Him. Brother Tullio closed with a plea for all to prove humble and faithful to God in all things. "Someday we will go to the Paradise of God. Eye hath not seen what joy awaits us. What a day that will be."

On Wednesday, September 29, 1976 we were honored to have Brother Joseph Lovalvo and his wife visit our Branch. He spoke on God's promises to us, "The Church of Jesus Christ." "We are God's Covenant People — and He has promised us showers of blessings, gifts of old, if we will keep His commandments". Brother Joe also related many beautiful experiences of the American Indian Committee, in bringing the Gospel to the Seed of Joseph. We were blessed to hear his many spirit-inspired words.

### Blessings We Look Forward To

One of our primary desires is to go to God's house and be fed by His Holy Spirit. Again, the love of God in His infinite mercy reached out to another soul and added her into His kingdom; namely, June Irwin, mother of John Irwin III, making the total of baptisms, six thus far this summer. God in His mysterious ways is touching the heart of many people. We see them come to church, some to learn of His ways, some to see whether that which they have been told is true, some to receive help emotionally, physically. Some return to thank God, others do not. We pray that a seed is planted in their heart and some day it will sprout. However, of one thing we are certain. God is making manifest to all who come that He hears and answers prayers. The gifts are displayed beyond the shadow of a doubt and we must praise His name, the same yesterday, today and forever.

It is a blessing to look back to each Lord's day, relive and rejoice in the many gifts God has showered upon us in our services. We have been fed generously the past few months, with visions, the gift of healing, the word of the Lord admonishing, exhorting and encouraging us. Again, we hosted the Apostles' meeting and the Mission Board attended by many who came from the various parts of the country. Apostles, Evangelists, Elders, etc. Needless to say these events always require the talents of the Marthas who feed, serve and house them. And this too, is good. Those who remain to grace our pulpit for the Lord's day always recompense the laborers with a blessing which long endures. The wonderful sermons which are inspired and delivered by the Spirit of God never fails to fill our heart and feed our soul. And of course, we must not minimize the love of God which is displayed through them. May the zeal that is felt while they are under the Spirit of God continue to inspire them to fulfill the command of God. May it burn in their heart and soul unto the fulfilling of that commission under all conditions.

The events in our church have taken great strides since the meeting in Tijuana. The long awaited, dreamed,

and talked about period of time for the work among the seed of Joseph has arrived. And is about to be unfolded before our eyes.

Are we prepared to assume the task assigned to us? Namely; to be nursing mothers and fathers both spiritually and temporally? Will our love be great enough to go out to all alike, of every blood and mixture of the remnants of the seed of Joseph? Will it be great enough to understand, and help us to look beyond the state of unbelief existent among them, and also the spiritual blindness that is to remain until the day the scales will be removed? Will we suffer long, and patiently until the light of heaven breaks through and they will see? Will we endure through the arduous, thankless duties on hand? Or will we sit complacently rejoicing in some one else's labors and sacrifices. Will we bear with hardships, persecutions, and in those trying hours remember the words of Jesus? They will be a white and delightful people! Thank God that we are privileged to be our brother's keepers. May God help us to be worthy of the task!

Sister Marie Caldwell  
Lorain Branch Editor

### News from Tuscon Arizona

Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters and friends everywhere. The Lord has blessed our Mission and through the labors and prayers of the Saints, strides have been made which are an encouragement to all of us.

Recent additions to our Mission include Brother Paul Francione, his wife, Lydia and son, Andre. They were formerly members of Detroit Branch No. 2. Also, Brother George and Sister Sara Neill have moved to Sells, Arizona and will be attending here. While they will be missed at their Branches, they are most welcomed here.

The Lord has not only provided us with a place to meet, but through the efforts of the Brothers and Sisters and others, a piano has recently been purchased.

Brother Dick Christman, Education Administrator at the Papago Agency in Sells, Arizona, was recently named Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent by the head of the B.I.A. there. Brother Dick began B.I.A. work in 1963 and for the past six years has served as Education Program Administrator at the Papago Agency in Sells. He has had wide experience in all phases of the Papago educational programs. His new duties will have him responsible for education and all other aspects of the Papago in Sells. May God bless him in his new assignment.

Thank God for the Saints that visit us from time to time. Pray for our mission that God might continue to bless us.

### Note of Thanks

We wish to thank all the Brothers, Sisters and Friends who offered prayers in behalf of our mother, Sister Filomena Jackman, while she was sick. Your cards and expressions of love and sympathy were greatly appreciated in her passing on to eternity. May God bless you.

The Jackman Family  
Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

### Note of Thanks

First of all, I want to thank God for sparing my life. Then, I want to thank all Brothers, Sisters, and Friends for their prayers, visits, phone calls, the beautiful cards and the flowers that I received during my recent illness.

May God bless all of you and please continue to pray for me that I may have a complete recovery as I am still not feeling well.

Thank you,  
Sister Erma Milano,  
Cleveland Branch No. 1

### — NEW ARRIVALS —

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

Jason Robert to Ronald and Nancy Fantone of Youngstown, Ohio;

Michael David to Daniel and Grace A. Mahaz of Branch No. 3, Detroit, Michigan;

Darin Scott to Daniel and Antoinette O'Connell of Branch No. 1, Detroit, Michigan;

Francis Raymond to Maynard Elmer and Deborah Devore of Roscoe, Pennsylvania.

### — WEDDINGS —

#### HUTTENBERGER - THICKSTUN

Brother John Huttenberger and Sister Janice Thickstun were united in the holy bonds of matrimony on May 8, 1976 in the Hopelawn, New Jersey Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ in a very beautiful service. Many people bore testimonies the next day relating actually being blessed with tears at the uniting of our Brother and Sister.

Brother August D'Orazio officiated at the ceremony, and musical selections were offered by the New Jersey Quartet.

Our combined prayer is that God would continue to shower this couple with His blessings and to grant them an unquenchable zeal to be active in His Gospel.

#### GROSS - NARONE

Thomas A. Gross and Patty Narone were united in holy matrimony on Saturday, September 25, 1976 at The Church of Jesus Christ in Youngstown, Ohio.

They were united in marriage by Brother Tullio LaCivita of Detroit, Michigan.

The newlyweds will reside in Youngstown, Ohio.

#### LaPINTA - CARRABIA

James Francis LaPinta and Celia Ann Carrabia were united in the bonds of holy wedlock on August 28, 1976 in The Church of Jesus Christ in Branch No. 3 in Detroit, Michigan.

The wedding ceremony was officiated by Brother Silverio Coppa of Detroit.

Musical selections were presented by Sister Nina DiCenzo of McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania.

### ● OBITUARIES ●

#### ELLMORE BARCLAY

Brother Ellmore Barclay passed on to his eternal reward on September 12, 1976. He was a member of the Muncey Mission, Muncey, Ontario. He was born on March 10, 1903 and baptized on March 19, 1961.

The funeral services were conducted by Brother Dominic Moraco of Detroit, Michigan. He is survived by his wife, one son, one daughter, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Brother Barclay will be missed by the family and our little mission in Muncey.

#### CARMELLA PARRONE

Sister Carmella Parrone of the Rochester, New York Branch passed away on November 2, 1976. She was born on February 29, 1900 and was baptized in The Church of Jesus Christ on November 13, 1932.

Left to mourn her loss are one son; four daughters; twelve grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; two brothers and four sisters.

The funeral services were conducted at Profetta's Funeral Chapel by Brother Ansel D'Amico, who was assisted by Brother Patsy Marinetti.

She will be missed by the Brothers and Sisters and her family.

#### BENJAMIN CICCATTI

Evangelist Benjamin Ciccatti passed on to be with his Redeemer on September 22, 1976. He was a member of the San Diego, California Branch. He was born on January 5, 1924 and was baptized on February 9, 1947.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, two sons, one daughter, mother, four brothers and six sisters.

He was ordained an Elder on May 4, 1952 and an Evangelist on May 2, 1965.

Funeral services were officiated by Brothers Thomas Liberto and Paul Liberto.